



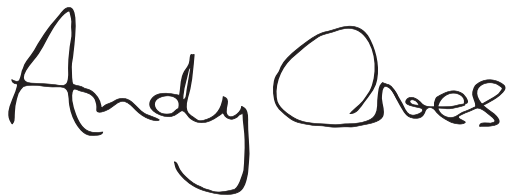
## Introduction

It is an enormous privilege for me to captain The Royal Liverpool Golf Club in 2006, especially with the return of The Open after such a lengthy absence and, of course, with the publication of this wonderful book that provides an insightful and fascinating history of the Club.

The duties of the Captain are to be the Club's ambassador and figure head, representing it both at home and abroad; a responsibility I am looking forward to undertaking. I believe passionately that Hoylake has a unique place in the history of golf and it is truly one of the cradles of the game.

I've played golf since I was 13 and been a member of Hoylake since 1975. At one point for two years I was chairman of the committee in charge of competitions, which was again a terrific honour. I am extremely lucky to be a part of a marvellous team, which has worked tirelessly to improve the course and the clubhouse. They have been committed to attracting back The Open, which is another historic milestone in the Club's long history.

We are all delighted that the *Mighty Winds ... Mighty Champions* book has come at a timely and appropriate moment to celebrate the distinguished traditions of this great club, which has had such an influence on the game at all levels. I know it has been a 'labour of love' for all those who have made valuable contributions.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Cross". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*Andrew Cross, 2006 Captain, The Royal Liverpool Golf Club*