



Right: His Royal
Highness
The Duke of York
Overleaf: 10th hole



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Hoylake commands a particular place in my golfing life. It was over the famous links of Royal Liverpool that I played my first full public game of golf whilst serving in the Royal Navy as Flight Commander on *HMS Campbelltown*. We were made most welcome under a standing arrangement by the Club for naval golfers visiting Liverpool.

Since that happy introduction to this historic Club, I have returned to play there on many occasions and I am now very proud to be its Patron.

I was pleased to inaugurate my annual Duke of York's Young Championship at Hoylake in 2001 with the willing co-operation of the Members. The event takes place after all the other junior tournaments have taken place across Europe in October. I played in a pre-tournament game with the author of this book, Joe Pinnington, when on the first hole we were hit by an almighty hailstorm. Putting through lying hailstones we continued to play with towels over our heads to protect our ears. I am pleased to say that we continued our game throughout the storm!

Hoylake holds many happy memories not only for me but also for many people over the years and I am delighted that its history is being re-written. This is the first update since 1932 and it is entirely appropriate that this book should be published the year The Open Championship returns to Hoylake after an absence of 39 years.

I know that this splendid publication will help fellow golfers understand the very special place that The Royal Liverpool Golf Club holds in golfing history.