



COMMEMORATIVE

ON DISPLAY AT THE RYDER CUP

GUN

Golf and shooting sports mix well and no doubt many of our readers will be keeping an eye on the results from the upcoming Ryder Cup (October 1-3). Host venue is the 5-star Celtic Manor Resort, across the pond in Wales. Set in more than 1400 acres of panoramic parkland, the Celtic Manor offers, in addition to world class golfing

facilities, a shooting school, fishing, tennis and mountain biking.

With its links to shooting, a specially commissioned shotgun will be on display during the Ryder Cup to celebrate the sporting links between shooting and golf.

Specialist gunmaker, Holloway & Naughton of England were commissioned to create the bespoke 12-bore game gun.

The gun features intricate engravings from the world-renowned Welsh engraver, Phil Coggan. His images include a detailed portrait of Samuel Ryder, the seed merchant who created The Ryder Cup back in 1927. Also, depicted in gold, is a Welsh dragon, national symbol of Wales and a bald eagle to represent the American visitors. The Ryder Cup itself is featured on the top lever in the finest detail. A striking European flag is blued onto the trigger guard accentuated by gold stars.

As well as its decorative appeal, the finished product is also a sporting shotgun of exceptional quality. "It's a work of art but also a fully functioning sporting gun hand-built to the very highest specifications," said Andrew Harvison, Managing Director of Holloway & Naughton. The gun represents more than twelve hundred man-hours of effort in its production. There's a beautiful feel to the gun which has been enhanced by the wonderful, detailed artwork of Phil Coggan. It was a real honour to have been granted this commission and we are very proud of the end result – the sort of quality shotgun that is not made very often these days."

Featuring a 12-gauge sidelock action and a single inertia trigger, the shotgun has demiblock 30-inch barrels and a tapering solid rib.

Simon Gibson OBE, Chief Executive of Wesley Clover, the holding company that owns the resort, said: "Celtic Manor's reputation as a world-class golfing venue will be cemented when it stages The Ryder Cup, but shooting is another popular outdoor pursuit we offer our leisure and corporate clients. Many people enjoy both sports and there are certainly similarities between the two. The importance of technique and maintaining your powers of concentration are key elements of shooting and golf. The gun is a celebration of Wales hosting The Ryder Cup for the first time and the Welsh and

British craftsmen involved in its design and construction have created a truly magnificent shotgun worthy of the occasion."

Bespoke Guns

Holloway & Naughton is a traditional bespoke handmade gun maker, whose origins date back to 1909. The company has an enviable reputation. In 1995, Andrew Harvison began designing a complete new range of guns, driven by an acute attention to mechanical detail, along with visual design, and achieved by expert craftsmen. This translates into guns with exceptional handling characteristics, combined with extreme artistic beauty. His efforts were recognised by the industry when the company was awarded the Highly Commended Best New Gun 2006 at the Shooting Industry Awards. With new product launches imminent, the international presence of the company will undoubtedly continue to expand.

(www.hollowaynaughton.co.uk) ■

