

GOLFING BONANZA

By Mark Edmonds

August Bank Holiday 2007 proved to be a bumper weekend of activity for Barkisland Cricket Club and its members.

The weekend started on the Friday with the club's inaugural golf day, held on a beautiful summer's day at West End Golf Club in Halifax. A total of 40 players, including actor Stuart Wade who played Biff Fowler in Yorkshire soap *Emmerdale*, met for early morning coffee and bacon rolls before teeing off from 10am.



The players were split into ten separate four-balls, and then competed against one another under the Stableford scoring system. In short, this scoring system is based on the player's handicap with the par for each hole adjusted accordingly. The best two scorers for each hole would count for the group, with the highest group points total for the 18 holes being declared overall winners.

As the players made their way around the course, they were treated to free drinks (a certain brand of beer, mostly!) from Clare, representing sponsors Carlsberg Tetley, based at the 11th hole. On top of the free drinks, Carlsberg Tetley also gave away cash prizes and a selection of other items, including golf bags, to the winners of the day.

After all the groups had completed their rounds, everyone settled down to a traditional pie-and-pea meal, followed by a prize presentation for the winners. Well, we say winners, but most of the prizes ended up going to a certain Chris Elliott!

Although in the past he had been assistant professional at Wetherby Golf Club, Elliott hadn't played a round of golf in over a year and was playing off a handicap of eight. However, that didn't stop him going round the par-67 course (from the back tees, no less!) in a scintillating 66 – just two shots off the course record. This of course gave him the highest individual score for the day with 45 points.

On top of that, he also won the following:

- Longest drive
- Best front 9
- Best back 9
- Best team score (along with Andrew Fraine, Bob Airey and Alan Herring)
- Nearest the pin on one of the par-3s

As for the other prizes, Andrew Fraine and Jamie Summerscales won the 'nearest to the pin' challenges on the other two par-3s. Everyone had a great day, and due to the success of the day, the club are looking to make the golf day an annual event.

Barkisland CC would also like to thank their generous sponsors for the day – Eurotrail, GB Chemical Solutions, GB Construction Supply Group, Southdale Homes, Halfway House – Zimbabwe, and of course Carlsberg Tetley.