

GIMA Press Release

June 2017



GIMA Charity Golf & Activity Day report: a day of rain, sunshine, networking & healthy competition

Last week, suppliers and retailers from the garden retail industry came together for a day of fun, team building and networking at the GIMA Charity Golf & Activity Day, raising much needed funds for Greenfingers and St.Richard's Hospice.

The 2017 event marked the first time that Kwik Cricket and the Laser Clay Shooting Challenge were added to the mix, opening the event up for more industry colleagues to get out from behind their desks for a day of team building and fun.

In total 17 teams entered the annual golf competition, and another two completed the rivalry over on the Kwik Cricket and Shooting pitches.

On the golf course, the biggest prize on the day was over the 18 holes. It was a fiercely fought competition but it was the team from **Grange Fencing** who retained their winner's title, taking home the trophy for the second year running. Coming up a close second was **Smart Garden's** A-team, with the **Mr Fothergills** team following behind in third position.

As always, the golfers had not just their handicap to beat, but a number of other prizes up were for grabs keeping the competitive juices flowing. The winners of all the prizes from the golf course included Steve Harper, James Mitchell, James Parr, Steve Ainscough, Simon Neat, Jerry Walker, Phil Swainston and Raoul Curtis Machin, who all successfully beat the pro. Each of these lucky winners took home a voucher for a 'four-ball' at Telford Golf and Country Club.

There were also several spot prizes available, the winners of each receiving a bottle of champagne and sleeve of golf balls. The winners were:

- Nearest Pin 3rd Hole - Pete Bunker
- Nearest Pin 11th Hole - Chris Owen
- Nearest Pin 16th Hole - Andy Bestwick
- Nearest Pin in 2, 8th Hole - James Mitchell
- Longest Drive 14th Hole - Dave Kearsley
- Straightest Drive 18th Hole - Derek Bunker

The competition was equally fierce over on the Kwik Cricket and Shooting pitches in Lilleshall, the cricket club of Colin Wetherley Mein of Vitax. The first time these events have been added to the roster, participants were unsure to begin with but quickly discovered their talents for both the cricket and laser shooting. Like the golf, these events also included a sense of friendly competition with Andrew Peers winning the shooting challenge, and a team made up of colleagues from **Cadix, Kelkay, Glee, Bathgate** and **PetQuip** winning the overall challenge.

Aside from the fun, there was also a serious element to the day, and that was to raise funds for two most deserving charities – Greenfingers and St Richard’s Hospice, the latter being selected as GIMA’s 2017 charity by GIMA president, Chris Ramsden. The total fund raised will be revealed at the GIMA Awards on July 13th, Celtic Manor.

Talking about the Golf & Activity Day, **Vicky Nuttall, GIMA Director** said: “What another fantastic event. The weather may have been a tad unpredictable but nothing we aren’t all used to! It was so great to see so many retailers and suppliers coming together for a day of networking, friendly competition and fun. I’m sure Greenfingers and St Richard’s Hospice are going to be overjoyed by the endless generosity of all those that attended.

“Our thanks go to everyone who attended, as well as all the staff at the Telford Hotel & Golf Resort, and Lilleshall Cricket Club. Here’s to next year!”

A full gallery from the day can be found at www.gima.org.uk

Pull out box

The GIMA Golf Day results

	Points	Company
1st.	89	Grange Fencing
2nd	87	Smart Garden A
3rd	82	Mr Fothergill’s Seeds
4th	82	Growise B
5th	81	Woodlodge
6th	78	Westland
7th	78	GIMA
8th	78	Zest 4 Leisure
9th	77	Vitax
10th	76	Growise A
11th	75	The HTA
12th	73	Cadix
13th	69	Forest Garden
14th	64	Gardman
15th	58	Ascential Events
16th	57	Smart Garden B
17th	40	Bathgate Silica

Ends.

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