

## London Stationers visit to East Herts on 8<sup>th</sup> June

Following our visit to the wonderful Felixstowe Ferry where we experienced the joys of true links golf, great weather and excellent hospitality, East Herts gave us a magnificent parkland challenge.

It was obviously going to be a very tough day as on arrival the greenkeepers were busy ironing the greens resulting in a stimp rating of 12 (the average used for pro golf tournaments !!)

Still we were up for the challenge and the morning nine-hole competition was won by Mr. Stride and his guest Alastair Tainish with a score of 26 which may not sound too high but trust me it was in view of the conditions!

After a hearty lunch of ham, double eggs, and chips the brave sixteen took on the full eighteen holes including a nearest the pin on the eighteenth set by the professional who must have had a very weird sadistic sense of humour. One hundred and eighty yards protected by a bunker across the whole front of the green with one each side and the pin sitting a very cosy sixteen feet behind the front one. Needless to say, he had gone home by the time we arrived to attempt to win the wine.

However, Warren Evans met the challenge and actually managed to stay on the green. When asked how he played the hole with such skill he said, a I quote, "I took my four iron, closed my eyes and swung". A lesson to us all!!!

Nearest the pin in two was a no contest as nobody managed to stay on the green long enough!!

The main competition was won on very low scores.

Warren Evans third on 27, Richard Johns second on 29 and embarrassingly yours truly on thirty points. (eat your heart out Stridy!)

Chris Lee's guest John Penn won the guests prize, and as promised I will not let you have the points which should tell you something!

Course was great, weather even better and to quote Eric Smith "the best food in living memory".

Unluckiest player of the day goes to Peter Jones who after hitting a rather magnificent drive ended up on the back edge of a bunker poised four feet above the sand. Played a lovely shot without falling backwards only to find he had played David Cox's ball and therefore received a two-shot penalty. This was followed on the next hole being attacked by the red kite bird scarer whilst attempting to chip onto the green.

Finally, it was really good to see some faces missing at recent events and particularly to Nigel and Liz Tollit for sponsoring what turned out to be a most memorable day.

Next event Guildford, which I promise will be a great challenge on a magnificent course.

Thanks to all.

Your Captain