

CHESHIRE COUNTY GOLF PARTNERSHIP

Press release

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For immediate release

CAPTION: Former Manchester United striker Dwight Yorke was at Styal Golf Club on the day a group from Mums in the Know enjoyed a special golf taster session as part of the Get into golf campaign

MUM'S the word when it comes to joining the drive to take up golf in Cheshire.

A group of ladies who follow the website Mums in the Know – which helps highlight potential activities for parents and their families - enjoyed a free taster session at Styal Golf Club as part of the nationwide campaign to help people give the sport a go.

Free taster sessions and discounted golf lessons are available as part of the scheme which the Cheshire County Golf Partnership oversees at clubs across the county.

Styal GC – which is based in Station Road – laid on a warm welcome for the newcomers with coffee, pastries and a time for chatting in the clubhouse before their introductory golf lesson with PGA professional John Watson.

And the relaxed atmosphere made for a fun time, with organiser Alex Uprichard explaining: "There was a lot of hilarity as balls intended to go one way, went another!

"We generally broke every rule in the book of how to swing a club. However, with the excellent care of our coach, it wasn't long before several of the mums were driving the ball a good 100 yards.

"We were all amazed by how much fun we were having and how, once you hit a great shot, how addictive it was to try and replicate it or improve upon it."

And the mums who took part agreed.

Mum Steph Smith, from Sale, said: "It was a very relaxed, friendly affair (a world apart from my perception of a 'snooty' golf club!). I have already signed up for the course of five further lessons and am really looking forward to giving my husband a run for his money on the driving range."

Marie Mikkelsen, a mum of two from Styal, added: "My view of golf has always been that it's something men do to escape the family for a few hours at the weekend and while that is still the case, I now understand why! It's a highly addictive, competitive and challenging sport that almost anyone can do."

Macclesfield mum of two Liz Thomas said: "Before I went along, I thought of golf as boring and something that only men enjoyed playing. However all the mums had a really good time and I am definitely going to take some more lessons."

Craig Thomas, county development officer for the Cheshire County Golf Partnership, said: "This kind of event goes to show how easy it is to give golf a go – and how much fun it can be.

"A lot of people have entirely the wrong impression about the sport and the clubs. Once they take the plunge, they find that the clubs are more than welcoming, that expert coaching is available to help them get to grips with the skills required to play and that golf provides a healthy activity with a strong social side to it.

"It is a sport that can be played by all ages and abilities and there has never been a better time to take up the sport because the clubs are making it so easy with free taster sessions, discounted golf coaching and membership deals."

Melanie Flude, regional development officer for England Golf, added: "This kind of event shows how golf can be included as a fun activity for any kind of organisation or business.

"Whether it be youngsters from the brownies or scouts, a group of work colleagues or members of the increasing number of networks on social media or the internet, a visit to your local golf club can prove to be a real eye-opener about how much fun the sport can be."

Get into golf is a national campaign to inspire new golfers run by the England Golf Partnership through its network of County Golf Partnerships, which work to grow the game.

Get into golf opportunities include free or low-cost beginner courses with PGA professionals. They are a fun and sociable way to start golf – and a great way to make new friends.

To find your nearest centre visit getintogolf.org and look at the activity map or call 0800 118 2766

For more details on the work of the Cheshire CGP visit www.cheshiregolfpartnership.com

Mums in the Know is a network of local websites and social media channels, connecting mums to everything happening in their area for families, and is active in 15 UK locations.

For more information on Mums in the Know contact Alex Uprichard or Dawn Hayes on headoffice@mumsintheknow.co.uk

To view the different areas Mums in the Know is active in head to www.mumsintheknow.co.uk

Note to editors

The England Golf Partnership (EGP) brings together the amateur governing body, England Golf and the PGA, to grow the game with the support of the Golf Foundation and Sport England.

County Golf Partnerships, involving the county men's women's and professional organisations, are part of the EGP's Whole Sport Plan for golf and an integral part of its vision to make England the world's leading golf nation by 2020.

In Cheshire the partnership is supported by the Cheshire Union of Golf Clubs, the Cheshire County Ladies Golf Association and the Cheshire and North Wales PGA.

For more details of the activities in Cheshire visit www.cheshiregolffpartnership.com

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Mums in the Know is a network of local websites and social media channels, connecting mums to everything happening in their area for families.

The company is active in 15 UK locations - www.mumsintheknow.co.uk - and each area has its very own website, plus a Facebook and Twitter feed allowing Mums to receive daily inspiration of what to do that day with the kids.

Across their areas - which range from Wilmslow, Cheshire to Fleet, Hampshire- Mums in the Know are talking with 10,000 Mums on a daily basis just on Facebook and Twitter, while their websites are receiving more than 50,000 page views a month.

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