

# VETS LINE UP FOR SHOTGUN START!

THE annual Hearing Dogs Charity Golf Day at Bigbury Bay Golf Course in South Devon took place in mid-May and raised £4,400. Some 80 golfers lined up in teams of four at 10.15am, each team on a separate tee for a “shotgun start”!

Those golfing mathematicians among you will know that 20 teams on 18 tees doesn't compute, but this

was solved by placing two teams on two of the tees after a par five hole when there would be time for two teams to tee off! It worked beautifully and led to one of the smoothest rounds of golf in which I have been involved.

This shotgun start also had two other important effects: it attracted more teams, 16 more golfers than last year, and everyone finished at the same time. This meant there was no waiting

around for others to finish before the prize-giving, and equally importantly, everyone was there as a captive audience for the raffle and auction of excellent prizes. These were sponsored by local and national companies and

included a BMW Sports car for the weekend, a Brittany Ferries Golf Break voucher, and a string of local

restaurant meal deals.

The winners on the day were locals, a team from a letting company called Home & Student Link, but a veterinary team, Penbode Vets, of Devon secured fourth place.

Petplan entered two teams including vets Kenelm Lewis and Jonathan Nicol, but despite being in the winnings last year, didn't make it this time. Keith Dickinson of the Veterinary Insurance Agency entered a team which included

vet Roger Wickendon, himself and his brother Mark. Vets Geoff Holt, Peter Beynon and I had a great afternoon but were not within reach of the prizes!

The wonderful amount raised would not have been possible without the very generous sponsorship by firms including Petplan, Zoetis, Centaur Services, Henry Schein, the Veterinary Hospital Group in Plymouth, the Veterinary Insurance



*Penbode Vets of Devon took fourth place.*

Agency, Lilac Technology Ltd of TB Master, and Hill's Vet Essentials.

• Further information about the charity can be found at [www.hearingdogs.org.uk/](http://www.hearingdogs.org.uk/)