## Golfers tee-off to support autistic children and young people.

Golf enthusiasts are invited to take part in a charity competition at The Ashley Wood Golf Club in Blandford Forum, raising funds for Christchurch-based <u>Autism Unlimited</u>.



The Golf Day, on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May, is being headed-up by Tim Paginton, who has selected Autism Unlimited as his chosen charity for 2024, during his year as Club Captain.

Tim explained: "With autism in our family, supporting the neurodiverse community is something my whole family is passionate about. So, when it came to choosing a charity to support, I immediately thought of Autism Unlimited."

Autism Unlimited provides support through education, training and life skills for children and young people across the region.

Tim continued: "Carol, the charity's fundraising manager and I met to discuss raising funds and we agreed holding a Golf Day would be a great way to raise funds. I am thrilled to be running this and there is overwhelming support from the club and its players.

"Select Interiors Ltd generously came on as main sponsor and some fantastic raffle prizes have been donated from other clubs and local businesses.

"Now, we want to sign up as many teams as possible to come along, have a great day of golf and raise even more money for this brilliant cause."

Tim is looking for a minimum of 20 teams, which can be made up of family members, friends, workmates, and corporate groups. Players don't have to be members of the club.

Teams will be ideally made up of four people, although pairs are also welcome.

Club members pay £40, and non-members pay £55, and this includes their round of golf, plus a hot drink and bacon roll before play and a one course meal at the end.

"We also have a few holes still available for sponsorship from as little as £50, plus prize challenges during the day including Beat the Pro and Nearest the Pin", said Tim.

Raffle prizes will include food and attractions vouchers as well as golf related prizes and days at Ashley Wood and other clubs. The closing date for entries is 17 May.

Tim has already raised over £1k since the beginning of the year through various other golf events and raffles.

Carol Borwick, Fundraising Manager for Autism Unlimited said: "We are incredibly grateful to Tim, his family and everyone at The Ashley Wood Golf Club for their support and generosity.

"The money raised by this fun event will help us to continue providing quality education, care and support for people living with autism.

"Our very own Brew Crew – students from Portfield School and adult learners from our Futures programme who have been trained as baristas – has been given kind permission to be stationed at hole 14 where they will be serving delicious coffee to the teams from our pop-up horse box cafe."

For more information on the Golf Day and to sign up, please complete this booking form at: <u>https://tinyurl.com/mryk9p67</u> or contact Carol Borwick on: 01202 483360 or email: <u>carol.borwick@autism-unlimited.org</u>

Picture caption – GOLFERS WANTED – Andy Pipe, Tim Paginton, Domonique Paginton and Paul Hampson are looking for more golfers to join them in teeing off for a great cause.

Ends

www.autism-unlimited.org.uk

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