

was run by members guessing the length of the captain's inaugural drive.

It raised £110 for Yates' widow's nominated charity, the British Heart Foundation.

## Quartet drive in

FOUR new captains of Market Harborough took part in the traditional drive-in ceremony.

Victor Bowie was elected club captain in succession to Peter Webb. He was joined by women's captain Christine Pollock, seniors skipper David Smith, and Jon Mundy, who will lead the juniors.

## Big response

FREE taster sessions for families at Kilworth Springs proved a big success.

Thirty people went along to find out more about the game from the club's head professional, Michael Bent, fellow PGA pro Gary Coysh, and Zoe North, the former County girls' captain, who started her PGA training this year.

Bent said: "We were delighted by the response, especially in such cold weather.

"There were 18 youngsters between the ages of five and 12 who came to learn about golf from myself and Zoe, who has gained her level-one coaching qualification, and 12 parents who worked with Gary in our state-of-the-art studio."



**WINNERS:** Glen Gorse women, from left, back row, Pam Skidmore Moira Page Harriet Hewitt Lorraine Penrice (team captain); front, Jenny Hall, Rebecca Hovell

# Stephens storms to home victory with a birdie blitz

**MATT STEPHENS** made home knowledge count when the annual County Alliance Christmas meeting was held at Kirby Muxloe.

The club assistant was in sparkling form, finishing as the leading professional with a seven-under-par 64, including nine birdies in a total of 43 points.

Conditions were tough, with a bitterly cold and strong wind lashing the course, but Stephens was seven clear of runner-up Matthew Cort (Rothley Park) with 36 points, and Scraptoft's Neil Parker third with 35.

Stephens' birdies came at the second, sixth, eighth

and ninth holes to go out in three-under, and he then birdied the 10th, 13th, 14th, 15th and 18th.

He said: "Despite the tricky weather, I was hitting the ball in pretty close, within eight to 10 feet of the hole, and sank some good putts."

Amateurs Clive Patrick,

Chris Lawrence, Robert Moreton and Alec Jacklin were first overall with 85 points. They were one ahead of another home club assistant, James Cushing, with Michael Wells, Ian Quick and Mark Quin-Jarvis.

Amateurs John Garrett, Michael Remington, Jason

Tebbutt and Richard Evans were third on 83.

There was a tie on 81, resolved on Alliance rule, which saw Lutterworth pro Lee Challinor, Mick Treacy, David Archer and Fred Walker-Smith finish fourth, from Cort, Harold Adkin, Steve Draisey and Robert Sirrell in fifth.

# Wolstenholme picks up Rookie of Year award



**HAPPY:** Gary Wolstenholme is Senior Tour top rookie

**FORMER** top Leicestershire amateur Gary Wolstenholme has been named European Senior Tour Rookie of the Year.

Wolstenholme started on the Tour just after celebrating his 50th birthday in August last year, and soon won the Czech Open.

He had turned professional two years earlier, but was not eligible for the Rookie of the Year award until this year.

Wolstenholme finished fourth in the Tour Order of Merit and had nine top-10 finishes.

Last weekend, he finished

sixth in the final Tour event of the season, the MCB Tour Championship in Mauritius, where he hit 70-69-74 for three-under-par 213.

He played his final round alongside American Tom Lehman, the 1996 Open champion, and South African David Frost, who were first and second respectively.

Wolstenholme knew he needed a good finish with Welshman Mark Mouland also battling for the Rookie of the Year crown. Mouland finished 14th in the Order of Merit.

Wolstenholme said: "I knew

going into the final round I had a chance to finish fourth on the Order of Merit and qualify for the US Senior Open. 2012 is going to be an exciting year."

Senior Winter Open Stableford tournaments continue to be well supported at Kilworth Springs, where an order of merit is being run in conjunction with the two divisions for which competitors' best three scores count from the nine divisional events.

Glen Gorse members did well in the latest round of Division K. Keith Dobney amassed 41 points to win after a tie with

clubmate Peter Hubbard. Dave Pretty was third after a tie on 39.

In round three of Division S, there was a four-way tie on 41 when B Thomas was top from Victor Lee, R Johnston and Ian Ferguson, all on countback.

Wishaw's Alan Fox (21) led round two of Division K after a tie on 40 with K Hunt (Purley Chase). In round two of Division S, Glen Jones notched 44, with Bredon Sharby second on 42 and Les Gray third on 41.

For more information, contact the Kilworth Springs pro shop on 01858 575974.