

Winners Gareth & Emily



Kirsty Girdler, Gareth Davenport & Emily Wise

After the trail blazing Georgia Hoodless's fantastic performance led the way at the North Cumbria finals in March the Silloth Tennis bandwagon headed South for the full county finals at Kendal Leisure Centre and returned laden with trophies as another two County titles were added to our collection.

Having been part of the current Tennis set up from the very start it was fitting that after years of hard work and learning both Gareth Davenport and Emily Wise would end their reign in Mini Tennis Red as County Champions and that's what they did after taking the respective singles titles in an exhibition of skill, tactical nous and fighting spirit.

Not that they had it easy, far from it. With an initial field of 116 players and after both players were runners-up in the regional event at Carlisle it was always going to be a tough one to call and with the very best of what is a traditionally strong south Cumbrian field to contend with on their own patch in Kendal they knew that only good performances would see them through.

After fellow Silloth qualifiers Jared Cole, Joel Baker, Reece Blake, Adam Story and Greg Ramsay had put in some excellent performances, yet were unable to qualify from their respective groups it was left to Gareth to fly the towns' flag and after coming through some very tough knock-out matches with style it was down to the final and a match up with the regional runner-up from the Barrow competition Garth O'Brien. On paper it was tight, yet Gareth never looked like losing and always looked to be well in control and with a deft forehand completely

wrong-footing his opponent he was there, the County Mini Tennis Red champion for 2005.

In contrast to Gareth's lone foray past the group stages Emily had familiar company alongside her as both Georgia Hoodless and Abbeytown's Kirsty Girdler powered through with Caroline Graham being narrowly pipped at the post. In fact it was



very familiar company for Emily, as she had to negotiate her way past both Kirsty and Georgia en-route to the final with the semi final match against Georgia being an epic affair as both players traded blows in an exhilarating match that ebbed and flowed both ways as Emily came back from behind to close



out a 10-7 win. With the toughest opponent out of the way it was felt that the final would be slightly easier and so it proved, as South Lakes' Jade Pattinson had no real answer to Emily's mighty forehand as she closed out a 10-7 final win to take that County crown back to Silloth, with Kirsty taking the consolation trophy back to Abbeytown for good measure.

Three Legged Golfers



George and Davie's sponsored three legged golf challenge.

Silloth golfers and best mates George Storey and Davie Lightfoot have just got back from Largs Golf Course in Scotland, the home course of Sam Torrance the Ryder Cup Captain, and raised cash for the towns rugby club in the process.

The sponsored event was a three legged golf challenge, to play 18 holes with their legs tied together makes a three legged golfer a strange but wonderful sight. We got a lot of funny looks from other golfers but we always do something new.

Each golfer would take alternative shots and the total score would be added up over the full 18 holes, remarkably they both kept their jackets on all the way round. This would be a tough task for

the normal golfer but not these two, no-way, Fred Storey's number one and number two proved to be a brilliant team going round the course in a Scottish record of 323 shots and 5 hours 45 minutes. The amazing fact is they were still sitting together in the bar afterwards - a pair of scissors sorted that problem out...

George was overjoyed and as for Davie it was a piece of cake for him, he said "no problems, was it George, although I thought we were doing two rounds not one".

Next year the dangerous double act are planning a sponsored bike ride, on a tandem of course, the venue yet to be decided. Jimmy Lettice said "well done to both lads a brilliant achievement from a brilliant team, the A Team".

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