

## GolfBIC donation much appreciated

The Golf Foundation is “hugely thankful” for the excellent fundraising efforts and also goodwill shown by organisers and delegates of ‘GolfBIC’, which took place as part of the BTME conference and exhibition in Harrogate in January.

Presented by the UK Golf Course Owners Association (UKGCOA) and the Organisation of Golf and Range Operators (OGRO), GolfBIC featured industry leaders debating key issues as part of a major networking opportunity for golf industry professionals.

A key element to the event was a charity reception and dinner, which was co-hosted by the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association (BIGGA). A total of £3,425, raised in an auction and the ‘heads and tails’ game, was donated to the Foundation’s HSBC Golf Roots programme.

Brendon Pyle, Chief Executive of the Golf Foundation, said: “This was a fabulous effort and we are hugely grateful for all the industry professionals who put their hands in their pockets all for a great cause, helping to encourage the next generation of golfers.

“We would like to offer particular thanks to Colin Jenkins of OGRO, Andy Lloyd-Skinner of UKGCOA and Jim Croxton of BIGGA for their great support this year. These organisations really care about the sport.”

The Foundation wishes to thank Marc Hayton, Andrew Burbridge, Richard Haygarth and David Nelson for their excellent contributions during the charity auction.

## Durham tribute to volunteers

The Durham Golf Development Group’s third Development Awards presented 16 prizes on a gala night in January.

Major volunteer awards included: Young Volunteer of the Year – Jordan Pout (Durham Golf Development Group). The 18-year-old combined his work at Durham New College with supporting a number of junior golf projects, including the flagship Race2Rockcliffe competition.

Volunteer Coach of the Year – Jason Rhodes (Bishop Auckland). The Level 1 coach and parent has supported his club’s PGA Professional in delivering beginner coaching to juniors and supervising competitions.

## Sandiway GC members “a fantastic example” of ‘£2 per member’

**Members of Sandiway Golf Club in Cheshire have shown their support of junior grass roots golf by agreeing to add an optional extra £2 to their membership subscriptions and raise £1,000 for the Golf Foundation.**

By agreeing to this simple but important £2 addition to their subscriptions, Sandiway GC members are making a highly significant contribution to the charity. Though supported by leading golf organisations, the impact of the Golf Foundation’s work is limited by the resources available. However, the charity’s national programme HSBC Golf Roots, which creates a player pathway from school and community golf to the golf club and regular play, is enjoying successful results that can be even further improved with greater funding.

Brendon Pyle, Chief Executive of the Golf Foundation, said: “With the assistance of golf club members this charity aims to create 10,000 new regular junior players per year by 2018 and encourage over 50,000 juniors to go through the gates of a golf club.

“This is why the ‘£2 per member’ subscription option is a genuine winner. For

the price of a post-round cup of coffee or less than the cost of a golf ball, club members can make a massive difference to junior participation at a stroke; it really is that simple if the will is there.”

Brendon added: “Sandiway Golf Club offers a fantastic example of how club members care about encouraging the next generation of young golfers and they deserve great credit. We now want members from far more clubs to read this and understand the simple fundraising opportunity that can be created nationally if more clubs added £2 to member subscriptions.”

Anthony Roberts, General Manager at Sandiway Golf Club, said: “The Committee were more than delighted to support junior charity the Golf Foundation and including the optional donation at our membership renewals time was an excellent idea.”

Helping the Golf Foundation in this way is straightforward. Club managers can go to [www.golf-foundation.org](http://www.golf-foundation.org) now and find a specially created template letter which they can download to send to their members and present the case for ‘opting in’ and adding £2 to their annual subscriptions.



Sandiway GC Captain Thomas Cunningham (right) and General Manager Anthony Roberts (left) present the donation to Golf Foundation Chief Executive Brendon Pyle