

# pin high

*Sir  
Henry Cooper*  
**JUNIOR  
MASTERS**  
CHARITABLE TRUST

**30 St Mary Axe, London EC3 (otherwise known as 'The Gherkin') was the spectacular venue for a reception for sponsors and supporters of The Sir Henry Cooper Junior Masters Charitable Trust in November.**

The event was held to say a big "thank you" to our current sponsors, donors and supporters, and to invite potential sponsors to become involved with the charity, its work and its flagship event, The Sir Henry Cooper Junior Masters Golf Championship.

Guests enjoying the wine, canapés and spectacular views included Hugh Robertson, MP, Minister for Sport and The Olympics, the late Sir Henry's sons Henry Marco and John, comedian Adger Brown and Anton Du Beke.

Other luminaries included representatives of the newly created England Golf (formed with the merger of the English Golf Union and the English Women's Golf Association).

**"Would you like a Gherkin with that, sir?"**

One of the highlights of the night was the announcement that élite U18 girl golfers will be welcomed to the Sir Henry Cooper Junior Masters Golf Championship from 2013.

A full round up, with pictures, follows inside.



The Trust is incredibly fortunate that **Hunton & Williams** very generously offered their conference suite in The Gherkin free of charge for the evening. Sir Henry Cooper Junior Masters Trustee, Linda Felmingham, passed on the Trust's immense thanks to the firm, whose generosity made the whole evening possible.

[1] **Alan Ridge**, Chairman of Trustees, welcomes guests, watched by the event's host, BBC Sports presenter **Karthi Gnanasegaram**.

[2] Over 100 guests came to The Gherkin [3]

[4&7] **Hugh Robertson MP**, Minister for Sport and The Olympics, chats to the audience



[5] Members of the **Management Team** enjoy the calm before the coming storm!

[6] **Jonathan Bell**, 2008 Sir Henry Cooper Junior Masters Champion and bursary recipient.



[8] **Adger Brown**, comedian, recalls his friendship with Sir Henry Cooper.

[9] **Margaret Berriman**, English Women's Golf Association with **John Petrie**, CEO, The English Golf Union

[10] **Peter Knight**, **David Burdis** and **Jenny Knight**,

[11] **Henry Fairweather** and **Dan Naudo**, The London Golf Club, chat to **Karthi Gnanasegaram**, BBC Sports

[12] **Tony** and **Susan Bourke**, Marquee Magic, chat with Alan Cheeseman

## GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS...

The Trustees and Management Team of the Sir Henry Cooper Junior Masters have long been discussing the introduction of élite U18 girls into the tournament. They have always believed that girl golfers would add considerably to the quality and style of the event, not to mention showcasing enlightenment!

The first stage was to increase the number of days of the tournament from two to three days, and thus the overall number of players taking part, from 72 to up to 135 players. This they achieved in 2011.

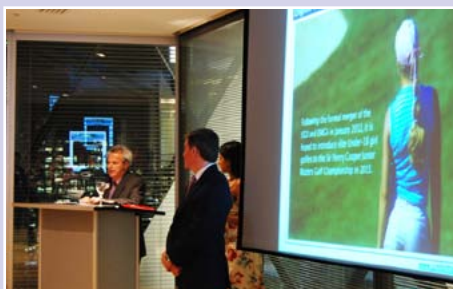
The second step was the formal merger of the English Golf Union with the English Women's Golf Association. This has now been agreed and will take effect from 1st January 2012, creating **England Golf**, one national governing body to represent all amateur golfers in England.

It was with great pleasure, therefore, that the Trust was able to announce the introduction of girls into the 'Sir Henry Cooper' from the 2013 tournament.

You may wonder why the delay? Well, the Trustees feel it is important that all aspects of this decision are fully thought through, any 'bugs' ironed out and systems tested.

Indeed, meetings have already taken place between the Trust and Directors of the English Women's Golf Association, which have thrown up considerations of which we were previously unaware. All surmountable, but requiring careful thought.

However, to test our systems, we are hoping to invite up to six high-profile U18 girl golfers to take part in the 2012 tournament from 21st to 24th June.



(Right) **Charley Hull** (15) the English Strokeplay Champion and winner of both the 2011 English Women's and Girls' Orders of Merit.

Photograph:  
leaderboardphotography.com





**Henry Marco Cooper**, his wife **Amanda** and **Sian Cooper**, wife of John, chat with **Anton Du Beke**.



**Susie Horner** gets the Strictly treatment!

## OUR MAIN SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS:

Guests were told of the Charity's need to raise in the region of £50,000 per annum in order to be able to award bursaries to deserving young golfers, develop its community initiative **"Showcasing Excellence, Inspiring All"**, aimed at younger children from the age of five, and to stage the tournament itself - without which neither of the foregoing would be possible.

The **Showcasing Excellence, Inspiring All** programme enables children and young people, through golf, to develop the attributes that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

Golf places strong emphasis on developing personal skills such as honesty, respect, co-operation, perseverance, concentration and self motivation; our programme then adds opportunities to develop leadership skills and a sense of responsibility.

The programme's close link with The **Sir Henry Cooper Junior Masters Golf Championship** gives participants the opportunity to meet and follow the very best young golfers close up, experiencing the effort, commitment and desire of top young golfers from around the world.

The Charity has been awarding **bursaries** to deserving U18 golfers since 2003. These help promising players with expenses such as travel and accommodation, coaching and entry fees. Past recipients include Oliver Fisher, Sam Hutsby, Jonathan Bell and Toby Tree, amongst many others.

Guests at The Gerkin were urged to consider sponsoring all or part of the charity or to continue their existing support. Clearly, it is very tough in these times of economic uncertainty for a small charity to raise funds, but these young people need the sort of start that the world of golf, through our charity, can give them.

If you feel able to help, please contact Alan Cheeseman:

[alan@juniormasters.net](mailto:alan@juniormasters.net)

**The Sir Henry Cooper Junior Masters could not exist without the generous support of Sponsors and Donors, and the Trustees thank them all. Please support them! Just click on their logo**

However, it was not all business at The Gherkin! After the formal presentations, one of the stars of Strictly Come Dancing, **Anton Du Beke**, was on hand to chat with guests and explain the finer points of ballroom, much to the delight of the ladies!

And at the end of the evening a number of guests went up to the top floor bar and enjoyed spectacular views over London with their drinks.



Guests enjoyed the view from the top of The Gherkin!