



PHF Worlds 2015 Programme



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Pauls Foundation Continues To Grow

It's been an exciting year of growth for the Paul Hunter Foundation with 15 new projects being commissioned across the country supporting the on going work undertaken in previous years.

It was shortly before his passing in October 2000, at the young age of 27, that Paul together with his wife Lindsey, had set up the Paul Hunter Foundation with its main aims being to "give disadvantaged, able bodied and disabled youngsters an opportunity to play snooker" led by North Lancs Training Group's Chris Lovell and a team of snooker coach's and volunteers, Paul's Foundation has gone from strength to strength achieving outstanding results, in reducing anti social behaviour and crime related incidents, promoting the game at grass roots level but most importantly what Paul wanted to achieve- getting kids of the streets to play free snooker.

Chris Lovell says "It's a huge team effort by everyone involved and it truly is a special time when you see kids playing for the first time and the joy they get from potting a ball and the smiles on their faces when they receive their first snooker cue or win their first medal and that's down to Pauls vision and legacy, its widely said that he would have been a World Champion at snooker but his impact on the game at grass roots is quite incredible and all the team are so proud to be involved.

The amount of comments, emails and support mostly when we don't expect them is unbelievable Together with the fondness and unique stories about Paul that people tell about Paul truly are something special.

Sunday 26th April sees Paul Hunter Day, which brings together over 50 guests of Pauls Foundation together with a repeat of the 1985 World Snooker Final Final Frame with two great supporters of the Foundation Dennis Taylor and Steve Davis and dependant on playing commitments this will be referred by another big supporter of the Foundation Shaun Murphy.

The Foundation has also donated full size snooker tables to:

- Sheffield Park Academy
- Sheffield Inclusion Centre
- Sheffield Springs Academy
- Carlton Youth Centre

These have been fitted by Robert Reid, of Robert Reid Snooker, who can be contacted on 07546973944.

Here are some stories of this season's delivery to date...

Paul Hunter Foundation brings Snooker Coaching for Youngsters to Newton

Newton Sports and Social Club has become the home of the PHF Junior Cue Club which specialises in coaching children aged from seven to sixteen in the skills of snooker and cue sports lead by WPBSA Snooker Coach Danielle Findlay.

Newton Sports and Social Club recently started the PHF Junior Cue Club in an effort to encourage and teach the children to take up and learn the basic skills of the game and improve maths skills using functional snooker.

Danielle arranged for The Paul Hunter Foundation to bring their Roadshow to Newton where the Cue Club players and family members were treated to an afternoon of fun and games on the snooker tables by Steve Mallender.

At the end of a thoroughly entertaining session the children were thrilled to be presented with a special Paul Hunter Foundation snooker cue and case.

The parents commented:

"it was a thoroughly enjoyable eve and a fantastic opportunity for the kids"

"Ryan was delighted to receive his very own snooker cue and to win a medal and a certificate"

"Reece rushes home now to get his homework done so that he can go to play snooker"

They are all now looking forward to a trip to the World Championships on Paul Hunter Day





Guisborough Conservative Club in North Yorkshire opened its doors to the towns young people in November 2104 with the support from The Paul Hunter Foundation. WPBSA World Snooker Coach Steve Rutter and lifelong friend Mike King had worked on a long term plan to ensure that the youngsters of Guisborough would have the opportunity to play snooker on full size tables without having to travel miles from their homes.

After approaching the PHF and accessing funding a meeting was set up between Steve and the clubs committee. The outcome of the meeting was fantastic and it was agreed that the club would open early on a Sunday morning to accommodate the snooker sessions.

Steve and Mike, along with the club produced leaflets and distributed them to the nearby schools.

The first week's session attracted two boys but through word of mouth and more advertising by week four we had ten boys all ready to enjoy their Sunday morning with their new found mates.

All the boys were given polo shirts and brand new cues.

This continued right through to the final and competition week where the boys competed in the 6 red challenge, the 60 second challenge and technical cueing challenges. The winners collected trophies whilst all were presented with certificates and medals.

The boys, who are aged between 8 and 12, are now attending every week as part of the Guisborough Cons Snooker Academy extremely proud to be seen in their PHF polo shirts.

Thanks to Chris Lovell and the PHF the future of snooker in Guisborough North Yorkshire looks to be good hands and that can only a massive positive.

Quotes-

“The committee fully endorses the setting up of the snooker academy through the initial ten week Paul Hunter Foundation sessions.

The club is pleased to give youngsters a chance to try something different and keep them off computers/x boxes

The club benefits both in the short term and hopefully the long term if kids keep enjoying the game as they have been doing so far.

We are also pleased to be able to offer this facility to children in the town “

Judd White (Chairman Guisborough Conservative Club)

“Jamie has thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of the snooker sessions. He got involved through a friend, and it has given him a fun new reason to bounce out of bed on a Sunday morning!

He loves being part of the Guisborough Cons Snooker Academy, and is proud to wear his Paul Hunter Foundation t shirt!

This opportunity has given our kids a chance to progress in something they are passionate about, and without Steve Rutter and his team, this is something Guisborough couldn't have otherwise offered. “

Phill and Sarah Cresswell (parents)

“We became involved with the club when we received a leaflet through my son's school asking if he would be interested in joining the Paul Hunter Foundation. When we went Steve and Michael the coaches were brilliant and made my son feel confident to play, he was provided with a polo shirt and a snooker cue; he went for 10 weeks then became part of the snooker academy. Dylan thoroughly enjoys going and he received a new snooker cue. My husband is in the process of joining the conservative club to take Dylan to practice.”

Claire Moore (parent)

My son Jack has been coming to the Paul Hunter Foundation Snooker sessions with Steve Rutter from day one. Jack and all the other young boys are really enjoying the sessions. In fact his dad and I are joining the club where they play so that he can get more and more experience of the game. Other parents and I are really pleased for the opportunity that you have given them because I don't know of any other clubs like this in the area that offer such a great experience. I can see my son growing up and always enjoying playing a game of snooker either in a team or just socialising.

Louise Claypole (parent)

If it wasn't for the PHF and Steve Rutter setting the snooker sessions up in Guisborough, Fletcher may not have got into snooker and not given the opportunity to progress further in this sport that he thoroughly enjoys. Hopefully one day he may go as far as Paul Hunter did.

Louise Matthews (parents)

Menstone Snooker Club in West Yorkshire has recently hosted sessions for boys and girls aged 6-16, funded by the Paul Hunter Foundation.

David Horrix who's led the sessions said:

There has been a great response with over 40 juniors taking part and enjoying this introduction to the game which involves some coaching and lots of fun games. Paul Hunter used to play snooker within a couple of miles of the club so its very apt that the sessions should take part in Menstone and I'm sure Paul would have been delighted by the enjoyment that the youngsters have had playing snooker.

The Paul Hunter Foundation came to Menstone club on the 21st March with Chris Lovell, Neil Ormerod and Chris Melling , Pro Player and Chris Melling presented all the juniors with superb cues and cases plus polo shirts to mark their participation in the sessions.

Running the Paul Hunter Foundation sessions from Menstone club has been a really great step forward for the club and in addition to increasing junior participation will in time strengthen the game in the area.

Menstone Club is set to become the place for juniors to play snooker in the area and much of this will be down to Paul Hunter who continues to inspire and support juniors to play the game that he loved.

Following their ten-week funded programme the Paul Hunter Foundations session's will continued to be sponsored by local businesses.

Quotes:

“The staff and directors of Menstone Club are delighted with the success of the Paul Hunter Foundation programme and look forward to a continuation of the programme in the future”

Josh (Manager of Menstone Club)

“Its been great fun and I intend to continue player snooker in the future”

Ben (14 years old)

“My dad plays and I intend to beat him soon!”

Aimee (12 years old)

“It’s a great programme and gets the kids off their computers- well done!”
Walter (parent of Liam)

“Can I have another go please!”
Harry (7 years old)

“As well as the youngsters enjoying themselves their has also been some good play and a few of the juniors have great potential to play at a high standard.”

“All clubs that are serious about their long term sustainability should run a Paul Hunter Foundation programme as this is the most effective way to include juniors, increase membership and strengthen the game the area”
David Horrix (Club coach)

The youngsters will visit the Crucible on Paul Hunter Day on Sunday 26th April 2015.



Pictured at the recent road show are professional Chris Melling, Chris Lovell and the youngsters.

Paul Hunter Foundation supports disability snooker in Bristol

In January 2014 the Bristol County Sports Club opened its doors to a new snooker group of players who had not played the game before.

It followed a call from local support services to create opportunities for people with learning disabilities to get out more, socialise and take part in meaningful activities. Snooker ticks all those boxes and more.

The Paul Hunter Foundation stepped in to offer support, starting with funding for free sessions to enable everyone to play. Later, the foundation donated polo tops and cues to those who had developed a lasting passion for the game.

The proof of snooker's appeal was evident from the beginning, as fourteen players turned up for the first session! They enjoyed a mix of coaching, trick shots, time challenges and competitions, leading to plenty of cheering and laughter.

Fifteen months on and the group is well established. New skills have been learnt. New friendships have been formed. A number of players have developed greater independence in getting to and from the sessions and more social confidence within the club.

The group recently enjoyed a trip to the Welsh Open, once again funded by the Paul Hunter Foundation. For many it was the first experience of snooker at the top level and a fantastic day out from start to finish.

The group is now firmly established, led by a local WPBSA World Snooker coach and two volunteers. New players continue to join and an additional group looks set to form in future to meet the demand.

Comments:

Jamie, player: "The snooker group is awesome. I've made friends and improved my game. I've also been practising snooker on the Ipad!"

Adam, player: "It's fun. I've met new people. I look forward to it and really enjoy the trick shots."

Phillip, player: "I enjoy the help and coaching. It was good to see top players too. We want Steve Davis to come down!"

Debs, parent: "A fantastic group. Connor really enjoys coming to the sessions. His confidence has grown. The group gives each member loads of support and there's lots of cheering, helping to encourage everyone. A big thank you to the Paul Hunter Foundation in supporting the group."

Jo, support worker: "Everyone enjoys these sessions, learning new skills and meeting up. The trip to the Welsh Open was enjoyed by all. An awesome group!"

Bob Hill, coach: "This is my favourite group. It's a privilege to coach every player here. The peer support is fantastic and they have all taken on the coaching advice

really well to develop their games. The format works brilliantly too. We're so thankful that the Paul Hunter Foundation offered us its support, which has started, developed and established something that is valued locally and fulfils a need in the lives of these new snooker stars!"

The PHF Cue Zone Snooker Club takes place fortnightly with a two-hour session of coaching, trick shots, group games and competitions aimed at young adults with learning disabilities. Players are referred by the Brandon Trust, Bristol Community Learning Difficulties Team and other local disability sector organisations.

For further details about Bristol's Cue Zone Snooker Club for adults with learning disabilities please contact Bob Hill, WPBSA World Snooker Coach – email: thesnookercoach@gmail.com, telephone: 07876 184 774



The group with Bob Hill at the Welsh Open.