

## GRANTS HANDED OUT



**The Bill McLaren Foundation is delighted to announce our latest grants to Duns RFC, Glasgow Hawks and aspiring Rugby Coach Connor Blackmore.**

The Bill McLaren Foundation are pleased to support Duns Rugby Club with a grant awarded for the extension of their rugby development program into Berwickshire primary schools. Through the targeting of primary school pupils younger girls will also be encouraged to get involved in rugby when gender differences are not so marked and self image and external social factors are not barriers to the game.

Glasgow Hawks aim is to create an all inclusive community club which embraces West Glasgow and introduces and develops rugby in 15 primary and three secondary schools in the Drumchapel, Knightswood and Scotstoun area. These coaching activities will take place in the local community and, working with Glasgow Life and the local police, will be supported by a series of workshops addressing issues of drugs/alcohol misuse, gang culture and pursuing a healthy lifestyle. The aim of the project is to engage young people in positive structured team activity whilst educating and informing them of the dangers of gang culture and the positive effects of leading a healthy safe lifestyle.

"This is what we're about," says Linda Lawson,

Bill's daughter and one of the Directors of the Foundation. "We've all been looking forward to the time when we were able to give to causes we believe in. It's a pleasure to be able to support ambitious clubs like Duns and Glasgow Hawks and to bring rugby into lives of children. The Foundation wish them well in their future and everything they're trying to achieve."

Connor is receiving funding towards the SRU's Community Rugby Coach Programme Year 2 where he will plan, co-ordinate and manage local rugby programmes that contribute to the development and growth of rugby in Scotland. Connor will visit nine schools in the Angus area coaching and developing children's rugby skills from five years up to 16 years of age under the guidance of the local Rugby Development Officer. Brian Renwick, Grants Director

at the Foundation, said: "As a charity we are keen to support individuals as well as clubs and organisations, Connor is our first individual to receive financial support to enable him to continue in his Modern apprentice, we are confident he will continue to develop as a development coach."

**Looking for presents? From scarves and jumpers to DVDs to books and rugby shirts - go to [www.billmclarenfoundation.co.uk/shop](http://www.billmclarenfoundation.co.uk/shop) for more information**



## CARBON FINANCIAL PARTNERS LIMITED PROUD TO SUPPORT THE BILL MCLAREN FOUNDATION

**In many ways Carbon Financial Partners Limited and The Bill McLaren Foundation are the ideal fit.**

The company has in a short time built great respect within the industry and has integrity at its core, just as Bill McLaren had and did in both his teaching and commentary days.

So, when Gordon Wilson, Managing Director of the company, was approached by the rugby charity to get involved with them it was a fairly easy answer for him to give.

Gordon, who in his own playing days turned out for Moray and RHC, said: "Bill McLaren was a great man and a legend to all Scottish rugby supporters. The work that the foundation does to promote the sport to youngsters and create an ethos of respect and fair play is to be admired and supported and we are keen to help however we can."

Gordon now helps to coach youngsters at Perthshire on a Sunday and greatly enjoys it - the club usually having over 100 enthusiastic children down on a weekly basis.

In terms of the business, Carbon Financial is only six months old, but with an experienced team at the helm things are going well and it looks set to be



Gordon Wilson

an exciting 2012.

Linda Lawson, Bill's daughter and Director of The Bill McLaren Foundation said: "We are delighted that Gordon and his company have agreed to become the event sponsor for The Voice of Rugby Dinner at Prestonfield House on February 24 on the weekend of the Scotland France match and also for our golf day to be held at the prestigious Renaissance course in East Lothian on Wednesday,

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May 23. The Foundation looks forward to working together with Carbon Financial Partners in the years ahead in what I'm sure will be a successful relationship."

*Carbon Financial Partners is one of the UK's leading independent financial planning practices with offices in Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Perth.*

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