



Calling All Golfers! Make a real difference to your local community at the 29th Annual Charity Golf Am-Am

**Golf fundraiser aims to raise €15,000 for local Cork charities
Over €250,000 raised for the local community to date**

Wednesday May 20th 2015: The 29th annual Rotary/MSD Charity Golf Am-Am, Bandon's local charity golfing fundraiser, takes place again this July at Bandon Golf Club. Bandon Golf Club plays host to two days of golf with Ladies Day taking place on Wednesday, July 1st and men's team participating on Friday, July 3rd. Having raised over a quarter of a million for various charities and community groups in Cork to date, this year's competition is aiming for its largest attendance ever with a target of 150 teams and raising €15,000 across the two dates.

The event supported by MSD, with local leadership from the company's facility in Brinny, has supported 40 charities over its 29 years in existence. Some of these charities supported by Rotary/MSD Charity Golf Am-Am include; Cork Simon Community, Aid Bandon Children, St Michaels Centre, Funky Fish, ARCH Club, Bandon Hyperbaric Oxygen Centre, St Brogans Special Needs, St Vincent de Paul, Lourdes Special Needs, Men's Shed Bandon, Convent Special Needs and Bandon Community Hospital.

Speaking at the launch, Robert Merrick, President of Bandon Rotary Club; *"Bandon Golf Club is home to one of the finest courses in Ireland and every year we look forward to our annual Rotary/MSD Charity Golf Am-Am, over two days on this amazing Cork golf course! We have an ambitious target this year of €15,000 and are calling on all golfers across Cork to dust off their golf clubs and register for our charity fundraiser in July!"*

Barry Mulcahy, Site Manager of MSD's facility in Brinny, said: *"We are delighted to support this local event year on year that provides much needed support to the local community and over 12 local charities and community organisations. MSD is committed to not only helping improve health and wellbeing in our communities, but together with our employees and local partners, we are privileged to support projects that make a real difference. Over the past two years alone MSD has contributed over €4 million to support worthwhile and sustainable causes across Ireland."*

Adding comment, Dermot Kavanagh, Director of Cork Simon Community, said, *"MSD has been an ongoing generous supporter of Cork Simon and the people we support. None of our services for men and women who are homeless are fully funded – support from companies like MSD is crucial in helping us deliver the right housing and the right supports for people who would otherwise have nowhere else to turn. We're very grateful to Bandon Rotary and MSD for their help and support in this important event, and also for their ongoing support throughout the year. It's helping people who have lost everything to turn their lives around and start leaving homelessness behind them."*

The Bandon Rotary Club charity event takes place on Wednesday, July 1st, and Friday, July 3rd; women on the Wednesday and the men on the Friday. The women's competition is for teams of three, members are @ €10 per person, visitors @ €15. The men's competition is for teams of three @ €150 per team. Prizes will be awarded to top three teams across the two days, of which include golf Bags, putters and coveted golf clothing from the Bandon Pro Shop. The award ceremony will take place after the events evening refreshments. The timesheet is now open and may accessed online at www.bandongolfclub.com or non-Bandon Golf Club members may book through Paddy O'Boyle (PRO) at 023 88 42224.

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Notes to the Editor

About MSD

MSD, known as Merck in the United States and Canada, has operations in more than 140 countries. In Ireland, MSD employs over 2,000 people across its five sites in Dublin, Carlow, Cork, Tipperary and Wicklow. Its extensive Irish operations encompass manufacturing, commercial and marketing facilities.

MSD is a leader in healthcare, dedicated to helping the world be well through a wide range of innovative health solutions. This includes the development, production and distribution of prescription medicines, vaccines and biologic therapies as well as animal health products.

MSD's commitment to research and to increasing access to healthcare across the world is demonstrated by clearly focused policies, far-reaching programmes and life-enhancing partnerships.