

# The Chronicle

St Andrew's, the world's oldest youth club  
Summer 2018



## 50p a night buys opportunities and experiences

St Andrew's Club continues to offer local young people a safe, secure and supervised place to come and to develop vital skills and experience opportunities to build a positive sense of citizenship. At only 50p a night for young people aged 9-14, this provision is priceless. Many of our members live locally and come from homes on tight budgets. Here are some of our recent highlights, with an introduction by Stephanie, part-time youth worker:

*"St Andrew's is like family to me. I went to the Junior Club from 7, Senior Club from 9, volunteered when I was 15 and am now a paid part-time youth worker, working four evenings a week. My attitude wasn't always good. Things were difficult. I lost my Mum two years ago and when I felt I was losing my way the Club helped so much. But I know my Mum was proud of me and all the opportunities I took at the Club. From Level 2 youth work to Snow-Camp apprentice. I now organise the trips out and try to find places that are both fun and not too expensive. I hope our next trip is rock-climbing - I will be trying to encourage everyone who thinks they can't do it!"*



Stephanie

The new photography course has a massive waiting list.

Members learn both the theory behind the lens and do lots of practical work, including editing. See our two 'official photographers' at the Speaker's House on page 3.



Charlotte inspires her footballers to get fit and play with confidence. She has also introduced training to support the girls in areas that affect their everyday life, e.g. 'how to handle bullying behaviour'. Here they are off to play a friendly against the Harrow Club - which they won! Read an interview on page 3 with Harrow's youth leader Eamonn, former member at St Andrew's.



Table tennis is a year-round popular sport. Skills were honed by training from Dan, Head Table Tennis Coach at Greenhouse Sports followed by success in the Jack Petchey Table Tennis tournament.



### ST. ANDREW'S SUMMER BONANZA 2018

EVERY YOUNG PERSON'S IDEAL  
SUMMER IN ONE PLACE



Alec Wizard House,  
12 Old Pye Street,  
Westminster,  
London, SW1P 3DG  
020 7222 5510  
www.standrewsclub.com  
23/07/18 - 17/08/18  
11:30am - 8:30pm



Led by Burcin, the team has planned an amazing Summer Bonanza from 23 July-17 August. Our thanks to

Octavia Foundation, Young Westminster Foundation and William Shelton Education Charity for their funding. A full report will be in the next issue.



# Message from our Chair

*According to a March 2018 report by Sian Berry, Green Party Member of the London Assembly, 'from 2011 to date, there has been a 44 per cent youth service budget cut, with the average London council taking £1.5 million out of youth services and 800 full-time youth service posts across 22 London councils gone. At least £1.2 million is being cut from 15 councils in 2018/19 budgets'. Despite these drastic cuts, St Andrew's Club continues to thrive, thanks to funders old and new. Our dedicated youth workers, innovative programmes, and old favourites help the next generation of young people stay safe, engaged and challenged whilst building self-confidence, respect for themselves and for others. Come and visit us to see for yourself. Thank you.*

Elizabeth Cuffy

## Focus on Employment and Training

In addition to the planned activities programmes, we provide learning and training for older members who want to gain hands-on work experience. The Club's youth development programme identifies members 16+ to help as volunteers one evening each week. Guided by senior staff, they can progress to paid junior staff through to full-time youth worker. 80% of our youth workers were once members. The youth programme empowers members: they feel motivated in applying for jobs; more confident to take up a position of responsibility as well as developing their understanding of the world of work and developing their practical skills. Just see what Stephanie said about the Club on the front page. As well as a regular Jobs Board in the Club, we are now embarking on a partnership with the Prince's Trust to refer members, where appropriate, to their range of fantastic development programmes.



Our partnership with Snow-Camp has helped over 100 inner-city members experience the world of snow-sports. Amina (left) is part of the latest Excel Programme. She went to Italy in March.

“It was a life-changing experience. From not knowing anything about skiing to passing my BASI Level 1 Instructor course. Coming from an inner city background I had never thought about setting foot on a mountain! I have learnt so much more than just to ski. I have made new friends and learnt to push myself to achieve. I hope to get a place as a Snow-Camp apprentice.

I have been able to get this far because of help from St Andrew's Club. I hope they are able to continue to give me this financial support as I could not afford it alone.



Our partnership with the Society of Motor Manufacturers & Traders (SMMT) continues with the Greenpower Electric Kit Car project. Twelve members are learning about engineering and technology through building their own electric car kit. Last year the team finished building the car and raced it in September. This year they are focusing on improving the aerodynamics of the bodywork to finish higher up the table.



Ian Mwangi has been a member of St Andrew's for many years.

“I really enjoyed the Club as a teenager. I was encouraged to try new things and experiences by the youth workers. This gave me confidence and I was voted Club member of the year when I was 17. The Club helped me get my SIA (Security Industry Authority) licence so I could work in the security business. I still attend Club when I can to use the gym and meet up with old friends.

# Interview with Eamonn O’Keeffe, former member

by John Rhodes, Trustee



## There are no limits.

Eamonn O’Keeffe played football, badminton, snooker, table tennis - and endless Garage and Jungle tapes - at St Andrew’s in the 1990s. A number of his very successful St Andrew’s football team came from the Abbey side, which famously beat Notts Forest 6-0. He vividly remembers St Andrew’s coach Steve Leacock, with his infamous team talks, and the badminton coach, Pat’s 3 word training instructions: ‘Up there’ and ‘Easy’.

Now in his late 30s, Eamonn has always lived in Pimlico. The Club was somewhere he, his sisters and nephews connected with others from different areas and schools. His first-generation immigrant parents worked all hours to keep the family afloat.

Ten years ago, after earning a lot of money ‘in all sorts of ways’, he decided he didn’t want that kind of life. So, encouraged by his partner, he offered to help Jim Bull, leader of Churchill Gardens youth club. As a DJ and then working for the entire summer holiday programme. Over the next six years he took NVQs and then a degree covering youth work, community

development and management. Eamonn now leads the Harrow Club Senior youth programme, and has been heavily engaged with local community activity, particularly following the Grenfell fire that tragically killed 5 club members.

## What is his message?

**“There are no limits. Grab the opportunities life throws at you. The only failure is in not trying and make the most of the all the support the Club leaders can give you”.**

If you are a former member of the Club and would like to share your story of what the Club meant to you, contact us at [info@standrewsclub.com](mailto:info@standrewsclub.com).

## STOP PRESS!!

We have a place in the 2019 Virgin London Marathon. If you would like to run for the Club contact Annette at [annette@standrewsclub.com](mailto:annette@standrewsclub.com).

In April, the Club was privileged to hold a reception at the Speaker’s House, generously sponsored by Careys Foundation. We were joined by our family of regular givers and others new to the Club. A key message was the importance of regular gifts to the sustainability of the Club’s income. These enable us to plan positive activities for young people, such as our new Photography Club. Read our website News for more. Become a regular giver to be sure of your invitation to our next special event at The Supreme Court on June 27th 2019. Contact [annette@standrewsclub.com](mailto:annette@standrewsclub.com) for details.



St Andrew’s Club launched its Westminster 100 Club in May - a fantastic way to demonstrate commitment to the local community whilst benefiting your business, and uniting your team. Hosted by Tim Guinness of Guinness Asset Management, he encouraged local businesses to donate or raise a minimum of £500 each year. Contact [annette@standrewsclub.com](mailto:annette@standrewsclub.com) for details. Search Westminster 100 Club on the website.

Join local supporters John and Glynis Billett on Thursday December 13th for their Christmas Community Event in support of the Club at St Stephen’s Church, Rochester Row, SW1. Supported by Knight Frank, this will be an evening of diverse entertainment and fellowship followed by a food and drinks reception in Westminster Kingsway Catering College in Vincent Square. [Visit our website homepage to book tickets.](#)





## A gift for the future; a gift of sustainability



Leave a gift in your Will to help future generations of young people at St Andrew's Club. Local supporters Denice and John Fennell-Pond hope to encourage others: **"We are so impressed with the difference the Club makes to local young people growing up in this area, that we have pledged to leave a legacy from our estate to continue its wonderful work,"** says Denice.

Another way to support the future of St Andrew's Club is with a gift or legacy to the John Scott Fund. This independent charity, is a growing fund, with a particular mission to provide some long term financial security to the Club. Named after a previous Chairman, John Scott, who gave great support to the Club and whose positive influence is still felt today, the John Scott Fund is a segregated account held within the Master Charitable Trust of Messrs Hoare Trustees (part of Hoare's Bank) and has been established by friends and supporters of the Club. Contact **Annette** at [annette@standrewsclub.com](mailto:annette@standrewsclub.com).

## ★ Thank You to Our Supporters

Our special thanks for gifts of £5,000 or more received since February 2017 include Bennett Lowell Ltd, Careys Foundation, The Childhood Trust, #MyWestminster Fund, John Lewis Partnership, John Lyon's Charity, M&G Investments, Newman's Own Foundation, Schroder Charity Trust, Swire Charitable Trust, Nigel Scott Will Trust, Octavia Foundation, Rose Foundation, Wates Foundation, Westminster Foundation and William Shelton Education Charity.

Thank you to all our Trustees, Advisers, Individuals, Corporates, Trusts, Foundations and Livery Companies who help make St Andrew's Club the precious community asset it is today. Please keep supporting us - we couldn't do it without you!

### Other armchair ways to give



Shop through the Giving Machine or SmileAmazon online. Every purchase generates a free cash donation for St Andrew's Club at no extra cost to you. Join at [www.TheGivingMachine.co.uk](http://www.TheGivingMachine.co.uk) or <https://smile.amazon.co.uk>. St Andrew's Club is listed on both. It's quick and simple to sign up and start giving for free on one or both!

### Rent our space

The Club has a large indoor, sprung floor Sports Hall; a theatre room for drama, meetings or exercise classes; and a smaller studio with mirrored wall. Wi-fi is available throughout the building. Booking prices are competitive; availability is mostly during the day. Please contact [Linda@standrewsclub.com](mailto:Linda@standrewsclub.com) to see if we can help you.

### ✓ to keep in touch with this precious community asset

Thank you for being part of our community. We want to be sure we can keep in touch with you about the impact of our work in the local community as well as send this regular Chronicle and occasional event invitations. Follow the link 'How you would like to hear from us' on our website to express your personal preferences at any time.



### In the next issue of The Chronicle ...

- Report on the Summer Project
- More memories of the Club from a former member
- More members' activities and achievements

"It can be tough for a young person growing up in South Westminster. Around 700 members depend on us each year in our 'neutral' environment, that isn't part of any one housing estate. Help us give local young people in Westminster the chance to thrive and give back to society through the varied youth programmes at St Andrew's Club – a local charity and the world's oldest youth club, which has been making a priceless contribution to the local community for over 150 years". **Elizabeth Cuffy, Chairman**