

Avon Youth Club

ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17



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Milestones

Avon Club is a voluntary Organisation and registered Charity, established to give young people further opportunities of increasing their potential through effective use of their leisure time.

Through a structured programme of positive activities, the Club strives for high standards of behaviour, encouraging self awareness in a caring environment. In this environment members can broaden their horizons, be challenged about their attitudes and undertake new experiences to assist with their social awareness, development and role in the Community.

1953	Founded as Avon boys club and opened by the Duke of Gloucester	2009	Clubhouse further developed to include : Training kitchen, art room, dance and fitness centre, and learning centre.
1978	Extended the club house with the addition of a sports hall		
1990	Introduced girl members becoming Avon Club for Young People	2009	Holiday Clubs started, with first open access summer club being used by the police making 300 referrals in 6 weeks and reducing incidents in the community by 75%
1995	Outdoor sports court constructed, shared with neighbouring primary school	2010	Avon Club awarded unique Quality Mark
2003	With £50k Neighbourhood Regeneration Funding, complete refurbishment of clubhouse	2011	Oasis Academy Brightstowe start to use Avon Club
2005	With £10k from Prince's Trust, leaders , members and probationers built new garden on disused land	2013	Avon Club becomes a participating partner of Young Bristol
2007	Joe Lee, as leader of ACYP elected 1 of 5 'UK Young Citizens of the year' by Rotary with a documentary of the Club appearing on BBC Newsround Chairman and Leader invited to the Queen's Garden Party at the Palace.	2014	Two members went on a Tall Ships voyage
2007	Letitia McCabe, Junior Leader, elected to Junior Youth Parliament	2015	Natasha Cumber becomes Club Leader. Club creates a new vegetable and herb garden.
		2016	Bristol University Innovation Team of 8 students work at Avon Club
		2017	10 deserving young people supported to go on holiday at Barton Camp

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Committee

Management Committee Members

- Delphine Lyddall (President)
- David Sutton (Chairman)
- David Addison (Vice Chairman)
- Ray Anstice (Hon Treasurer)
- Brian Dunster (Hon Secretary)
- Natasha Cumber (Club Leader)
- David Enticknap (Trustee)
- Steve Price (Trustee)
- Helen Price (Trustee)
- Lee Williams (Young Bristol)
- Mark Pepper (Lawrence Weston Ambition)

Staff Team

- Natasha Cumber (Club Leader)
- Corinne Ludwell (Deputy Club Leader)
- Hayley Dyte (Assistant Leader)
- Ethan Dyte (Assistant Leader)
- Karen Jenkins (Domestic)
- Sue Jenkin (Volunteer)
- Mark Ludwell (Volunteer)

Club Supporters

- Young Bristol
- The Tudor Trust
- Lloyds TSB Foundation
- John James Foundation
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Henry Smith Charity
- Quartet Community Foundation
- Lawrence Weston Community Action Group
- High Sheriff's Bristol Youth and Community Action
- Grow Wild - Kew Gardens
- What Happens Next - Seed to Celebration
- Van Neste Foundation
- Bristol University Innovation Team
- Police Commissioner's Community Action Fund
- Clifton Rotary Club
- Clifton Inner Wheel
- Henbury Golf Club Ladies Section
- Bristol Severnside Inner Wheel
- Severnsiders
- The Lions
- Bristol Cabot Choir
- Pink Elephant Club
- Sebright Printers
- Cattie Lodge

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Chairmans Report

I am delighted to report that Avon Youth Club continues to move forward successfully in providing a vibrant club for an increasing number of young members of our Community in the Inner City of Lawrence Weston. Working in partnership with Young Bristol and other local organisations we offer a wide range of activities and experiences, responding creatively to the needs of our young people so that they may realise their capabilities and enjoy themselves in a safe, challenging and engaging second home.

Once again we are indebted to our Funders for supporting the essential work of the Club, this year we would like to thank the Garfield Weston Foundation, the Tudor Trust, John James Foundation, the Henry Smith Charity, the Clifton Inner Wheel and other supporters as listed by our Treasurer for their invaluable funding for the members of Avon Youth Club, we are most grateful for their support. To ensure that we also have a role in fund raising we have taken part in a charity swimathon led by one of our own Committee Members – Steve Price, who is more renowned swimming the Channels around the UK! Our Leaders have also taken part in a charity abseil down one of Bristol's highest buildings, gaining additional funding.

We are fortunate to have an outstanding Leadership Team; Natasha, Corinne, Hayley and Ethan, who have all been members of the Youth Club, have real enthusiasm, boundless energy and commitment to provide an interesting and challenging programme for the members, so that they can develop and achieve their ambitions. This year we have continued to work closely with the international students from Bristol University, providing a fascinating insight to life around the world and sharing each other's cultures.

We are open 4 nights a week with a full programme of activities for an average of over 30 members an evening and also run daily holiday clubs between terms of the local schools for over 20 local young people. A most important part of our programme is to use the outdoor facilities provided by our partner Young Bristol who have a wide variety of challenging activities:

High Ropes – Test courage and team work climbing high into the trees, plenty of exhilaration. **All Aboard** – getting your team onto a platform 10 metres from the ground, swinging through the trees on climbing ropes. **Tree Abseil** – climb to the top of the tallest tree in the forest and then abseil down with the help of an instructor.

Team Building Challenges – climbing and abseiling the famous Avon Gorge.

Archery and Bush Craft – Learning to shoot a bow and arrow, building shelters and outdoor cooking.

Canoeing and Kayaking, even designing and building your own Raft all in the Historic Bristol Docks at Young Bristol's Poole's Wharf Activity Centre.

Orienteering and Navigation - all to develop new skills and team-work.

This year we are developing the second phase of our healthy eating project by working with the young company 'What Happens Next'. We have further developed our garden moving on from

growing our own vegetables to include herbs and fruit shrubs, having a wormery hub and a rainwater harvester, created with the members and running workshops to teach the members all aspects of market gardening, maintenance and healthy eating.

We have continued our project to provide holidays for deserving youngsters who will benefit from a break at Barton Camp in the hills of Somerset run by the Bristol Children's Help Society and sponsored by Clifton Rotary Club. 5 Young Members visited Barton Camp last year and their letter says everything –

'Thank you very much for letting us go to Barton Camp. We really enjoyed it. Our favourite bits were going in the swimming pool, having seconds and thirds to eat, meeting Helen and making new friends.'

'It was really fun when we went into the woods for a walk and there were cows in the way and when we went tobogganing. Specially thanks to Jo for showing us how to make pom poms and to the chef for making the food.'

'Thank you for letting us have a night time swim in the dark and letting us have sweets and a party. It was so good to go away.'

'Thank you for letting us go, we would like to go again.'

A so worthwhile experience, we have already booked 10 places for deserving young people for the summer this year.

A highlight of the year was our Annual Presentation Evening for the members and their parents. This year run by our own Steve Price, an ex- member of the Club and now a successful business man, who entertained us all with a colleague, guitars and rousing music, then helping the leaders with the awards to the members, before issuing a challenge for everyone to get involved with music.

Finally, I would like once again to thank all the Management Committee for all their efforts to ensure that the Club provides an exciting, challenging centre, with a special thanks to our Treasurer Ray for his tremendous fund raising in keeping the Club viable for the future. Thank you to all our generous supporters and especially Young Bristol for their much valued partnership, it has also been pleasing to see the Community taking a greater interest in the activities of their children at Avon Youth Club, please do come to our events and see them challenging and enjoying themselves. As always we will continue to maintain our excellent club for the benefit of all our Members

David Sutton
Chairman



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Club Leader's Report

This year we have looked carefully at the programme that we offer the young people who attend Avon Youth Club and look at how they grow and develop as individuals and have made some changes. There has been an increase in the young people attending by promoting the club to local primary and secondary schools and also to the local community. The Club has continued the important indoor and outdoor sports with the help of Bristol City Community Sports, we have extended our arts and crafts activities with the help of Young Bristol's Creative Arts Programme including graffiti, mosaics, murals and photography. Hannah ran an exciting 6 week dance course involving the young people in street dance, creating new routines and producing a dance performance to show at a number of events. We are also upgrading our gym equipment to ensure our fitness routines are right and the members working together.

Our garden has been replanted with vegetables and shrubs and the young people enjoy the chill out areas and are learning to maintain the gardens and enjoy growing, picking new produce and then cooking with the help of marrows, peppers, rhubarb and apples, all helping with their healthy eating projects. The International students from Bristol University have continued to work with us and bring new and exciting ideas to the sessions engaging well with the members and telling us all about their different traditions and cultures.

We have used Young Bristol's exciting outdoor water facilities at Poole's Wharf enjoying Canoeing and a number of our members attended a 6 week Kayaking course which they all passed at level 1 qualification, which was a great achievement. We also spent time at the high ropes centre, climbing and abseiling the tall trees with good instruction. Some of our people attended a Snow Camp

at the Gloucester ski and snow boarding centre, gaining accreditations and will soon move onto the next level which could open job opportunities in the future.











We have been involved with the Linkage Summer programme for all ages where we welcomed new and old members and their extended families, as a result of the event we will look forward to doing the same again soon.

We have also had an open night for parents and carers to see and join in with the activities of their youngsters, which was enjoyed by everyone.

The Young people joined with our committee members in a charity swimathon and our leaders and young people took part in a 150 foot charity abseil from the roof of one of Bristol's highest hotels to raise funds for our activity projects. Both events were really enjoyable and worthwhile. Finally the holiday clubs held between school terms have been very successful with lots of young people attending with fun packed programmes designed for all ages, they certainly enjoyed themselves.

Natasha and Corinne
Leader and Deputy Leader



HOLIDAY CLUB	MORNINGS	AFTERNOONS
Monday 24-07-2017	Breakfast Dodge Ball 	Lunch - Painting Picture frames and money boxes 
Tuesday 25-07-2017	Breakfast Quick Cricket 	Lunch Bingo 
Wednesday 26-07-2017	Breakfast Egg Game 	Lunch Hamma Beads 
Thursday 27-07-2017	Breakfast Cake Making 	Lunch Rounders 
Friday 28-07-2017	Breakfast Day Trip - Archery 	Day Trip - Archery Pick up from the Youth Club 

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Financial Report

Firstly I am pleased to thank all those who have helped us financially throughout the year.

Of course, I need hardly stress how essential it is to maintain a strong financial base if we are to continue to run a successful, meaningful and beneficial club for the young people and the local area we serve. Our sincere and grateful thanks go to Young Bristol, The Tudor Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, The John James Foundation, Clifton Rotary Club, along with the Cittyie Lodge, LW Development. Mrs C.M Jones, The Lions Club and not forgetting those who took part in the charity Swimarathon led so admirably by our new committee member Steve Price. I must not forget too The Henry Smith Charity for whilst their grant did not feature in our accounts to 31 March 2017, the first instalment of their grant has since been received. Without the help of you all we would have great difficulty in providing the variety and beneficial activities for our young members and you can be assured that the funding we receive is most carefully managed and used to maximum effect.

We maintain a careful eye on our expenses and although our total outgoings of £42747 were £177 more than the previous year this was against rises in wages, cleaning costs, telephone and a large increase in maintenance and repairs. Despite these heavy costs we did manage to finish the year with a net surplus income over expenses of £3312 thanks to Grants received. Our running costs continue above £40000 and I see little prospect of this changing. I did change our energy supplier last year and this will make a modest difference but our maintenance and repairs are likely to remain high in view of the age of the building and outside grounds we have. Our remaining aim is to have a working balance at the end of each year to see us through the coming three years but with a final free balance of £35128 we are well short at present.

I said in my Report last year that we cannot relax in our efforts to continue to seek funding and of course that remains. Whilst we are currently in a reasonably strong financial position that can easily change and we recognise that. So it is essential that we do not let our focus on finances slip.

I am fortunate to work alongside a strong and active management committee all of whom have individual responsibilities within the Club and we all have regular contact with our dedicated, enthusiastic team of Leaders. This formula makes my job easier in maintaining a sensible management of our funds.

Ray Anstice

Hon Treasurer

Ray



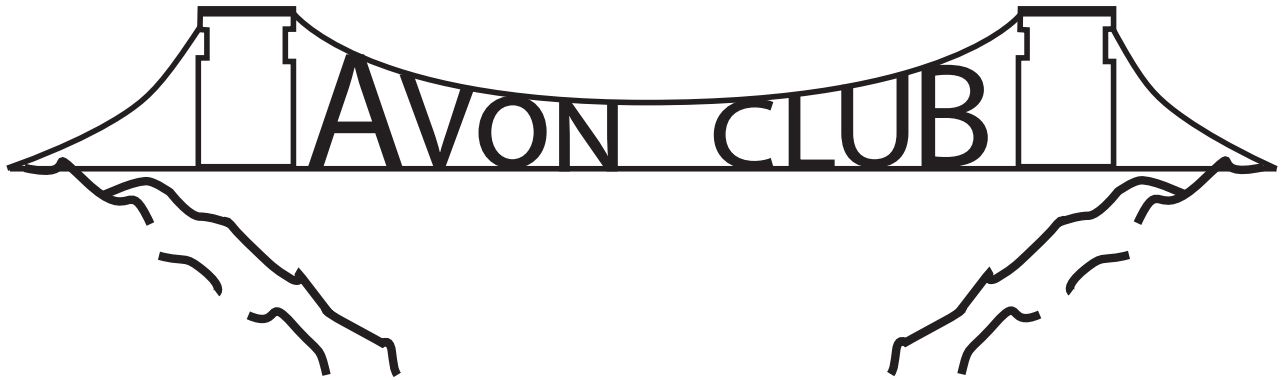
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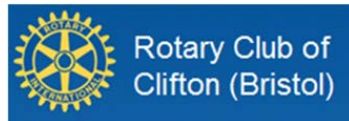


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Our Sponsors



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