

# Avon Youth Club

ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16



# Avon Youth Club

## Annual Report 2015/16

### 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

**1978** Extended the club house with the addition of a sports hall

**1990** Introduced girl members becoming Avon Club for Young People

**1995** Outdoor sports court constructed, shared with neighbouring primary school

**2003** With £50k Neighbourhood Regeneration Funding, complete refurbishment of clubhouse

**2005** With £10k from Prince's Trust, leaders, members and probationers built new garden on disused land

**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.

**2007** Letitia McCabe, Junior Leader, elected to Junior Youth Parliament

**2009** Clubhouse further developed to include : Training kitchen, art room, dance and fitness centre, and learning centre.

**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%

**2010** Avon Club awarded unique Quality Mark

**2011** Oasis Academy Brightstowe start to use Avon Club

**2013** Avon Club becomes a participating partner of Young Bristol

**2014** Two members went on a Tall Ships voyage

**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

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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)
- Martin Sisman (Trustee)
- Lee Williams (Young Bristol)
- Mark Pepper (Lawrence Weston Ambition)
- Joe Lee

### Staff Team

- Natasha Cumber (Club Leader)
- Corinne Ludwell (Deputy Club Leader)
- Hayley Dyte (Assistant Leader)
- Barrie Williams (Assistant Leader)
- Jim Allmark (Pastor, LW Christian Fellowship)
- Karen Jenkins (Domestic)
- Sue Jenkin (Volunteer)
- Mark Ludwell (Volunteer)

### Club Supporters

- Young Bristol
- The Tudor Trust
- Lloyds TSB Foundation
- John James Foundation
- 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
- Henbury Golf Club Ladies Section
- Bristol Severnside Inner Wheel
- Severnsiders
- Bristol Cabot Choir
- Pink Elephant Club
- Sebright Printers

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### Chairmans Report

This year the Club has continued to flourish. Our weekly attendance has risen to 120 with the addition of new members. Our focus has been in providing a wide range of activities using a number of Bristol organisations working with our outstanding Leaders and we have used the funds from our special Trust Funds both carefully and effectively. Once again we must thank The John James Foundation, the Tudor Trust, Lloyds TSB Foundation and the High Sheriff's BYCA fund for their invaluable funding to ensure that we are able to carry out the essential work with the Young People of Lawrence Weston. We are most grateful for all their support.

We are absolutely delighted with the strong relationship that we have formed with Bristol University. Last year we became involved with the University Social Innovation Programme, with a group of undergraduates carrying out a detailed analysis of the operation of the Youth Club, resulting in a first class Action Plan for the future. This year the University set up 2 teams of 4 volunteering undergraduates who on 2 evenings a week attended the Club and ran planned activities, enabling the existing leaders to carry out smaller necessary group sessions.

Most of the students are international from China, Mauritius, Spain, Italy, Poland, and other countries, creating great interest on a world-wide basis, into different cultures for the members, many of whom are rarely able to take holidays and certainly not abroad, at the same time providing the Students with an important view of life in our inner cities.

This has been a great success, much appreciated by our young members and leaders producing the following results:

- Given the Leaders more time to spend in smaller groups of young people
- Provided more structure for activities
- Provided new opportunities for the members to develop different skills
- Given an insight into university and new life opportunities
- Encouraged learning through play.

We intend to continue working with the University in the new term starting in October and develop these activities.

Additionally, we have established a regular Monday sports night with the Bristol City Community Action Group. Also we run a regular Wednesday programme with Young Bristol's Creative Arts group, who have involved the Club in Bristol's green environment programme with the importance of recycling and music appreciation. Our holiday clubs are run between each of the term breaks, with a full daily programme of interesting activities inside and outside the Club with sponsorship from the High Sheriff's Bristol Youth and Community Action.

After 5 very successful years, the local Oasis Brightstowe Academy who have used the Club facilities for its less formal daily classes receiving outstanding Ofsted ratings are unable to carry on with this activity through their financial constraints. However they will look to keep this essential contact with the Club where many of their pupils still attend.

A highlight of the year has been our annual Presentation Evening, which for the first time our audience exceeded 100 people with 30 parents attending. The awards were presented by the Dr Joanna Chambers, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Bristol and Julia Dauben, the Principal of our adjoining Oasis Longcross Primary School and a local successful Business man Steve Price, as a previous member of the Club, spoke to the members on their opportunities for the future.

Looking ahead, we have organised for 4 deserving young members to have a holiday at the outstanding Barton Camp during the next half term. We also intend to move to the next phase of healthy eating and further develop our fine vegetable and herb garden.

I would like to thank our Leaders Natasha, Corinne and Hayley for their enthusiasm, boundless energy, and commitment to providing such an interesting and challenging programme for the members, so that they can develop and help achieve their ambitions and to learn and enjoy themselves. Thank you also for the constant support of our Assistants Sue, Jim and Mark who do so much to make the Club so welcoming for all the members.

Finally, I would also like to say a big thanks as usual to our Management Committee for all their efforts in ensuring that Avon Youth Club remains viable, providing our young members with a safe, challenging and engaging second home. Thank you to all our generous supporters and especially Young Bristol for their valued partnership for our Club. It has been gratifying to see the whole local Community, especially the parents and carers take more interest in the Club and supporting our events. Please do come and see your children enjoying themselves. As always we will continue to maintain our excellent club for the benefit of all our Members.



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### Club Leader's Report

In the year 2015 / 2016 there have been many changes and new exciting activities that the club has participated in. The year has flown by, all the leaders have been busy making changes with regard to the activities that the young people participate in on a daily basis.

There has been an increase in membership with a good variety of ages due to us promoting the club to local primary and secondary schools as well as the local community. The club has continued all the important activities such as indoor & outdoor sports as well as arts and crafts sessions and healthy eating project.

Oasis Brightstowe were using the building for a number of years to educate their students who were finding it difficult to attend main stream school which was a great success. However the needs of the school have changed and they have decided to use the club as more of a reward centre for the students.

'What happened next' was a great success when they refurbished the garden and planted lots of plants and then held a garden party. We have continued replanting and maintaining the garden and the overall upkeep and we have enjoyed many homemade rhubarb crumble pies.

Howdens have kindly donated new units for our refurbishment of our new art room. We have worked closely with Young Bristol whose Arts Team delivered some excellent creative arts sessions educating our members.

We have used Young Bristol's exciting facilities at Pooles Wharf for canoeing / sailing and at Leighwoods archery

and tree climbing / abseiling. We have worked with outside organisations, we were involved with Linkage summer programme for all ages, this was a great success. We had welcomed new and existing members with their extended families as a result of this event. We will be looking at doing this on a more frequent basis.

Bristol City community sports have ran a sports session once a week to encourage young people to participate in sports.

We are looking forward to welcoming the Innovation University students back who bring inspirational ideas for the young members, whilst they are studying at university. This year I would like to thank all the leaders and volunteers and the committee for their hard work, dedication and professionalism in dealing with our members.

This is what makes our club a fun, safe place for all our young people to attend.








**Natasha Cumber – Club Manager**



Natasha Cumber



Corinne Ludwell

HOLIDAY CLUB	MORNINGS	AFTERNOONS
Monday 01-08-2016	Club for all ages Club open from 1.30 – 3.30 £1 Entry Fee per family	Club for all ages Club open from 1.30 – 3.30 £1 Entry Fee per family
Tuesday 02-08-2016	Breakfast 10.30-11.00 Free Play - Baking Cakes 	Lunch Free Play - Mini Games 
Wednesday 03-08-2016	Breakfast 10.30-11.00 Free Play - Dodge Ball 	Lunch Free Play - Bingo Games for prizes 
Thursday 04-08-2016	Breakfast 10.30-11.00 Free Play - Hamma Beads 	Lunch Free Play - Skittles 
Friday 05-08-2016	<b>Day Trip - Archery</b> Meet at Youth Club 9.30am ready for the coach	<b>Day Trip - Archery</b> Pick up from the Youth Club 

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## Financial Report

Although our year to the end of March 2016 produced a deficit of £649 in terms of Income against Expenses it was on the whole a satisfactory year. In the previous twelve months we had been able to secure excellent grants enabling us to establish a secure cash capital base serving to maintain an effective and varied programme and renew equipment. There was also important maintenance work to be done and our building, in and out, is never without problems. It is important that we retain an adequate reserve to meet unforeseen property repairs and general maintenance. We were able to increase this reserve to £14000 and leave us with a free working balance of over £29000.

We know that we cannot relax from seeking funding every year especially if we aim to continue expanding the Club and providing a beneficial and effective programme for all our young members.

There will always be surprises demanding fresh initiatives and attention. We met one such surprise early in the start of our new year. The local academy school who for the past few years have rented our premises for special teaching sessions have been forced for financial reasons to discontinue this as from next September. This is a sad development for us not only because of the loss of substantial income but also the very close contact we enjoyed with the school. We strongly intend to maintain our contact which is all part of our constant aim to integrate as closely as possible with the local community.

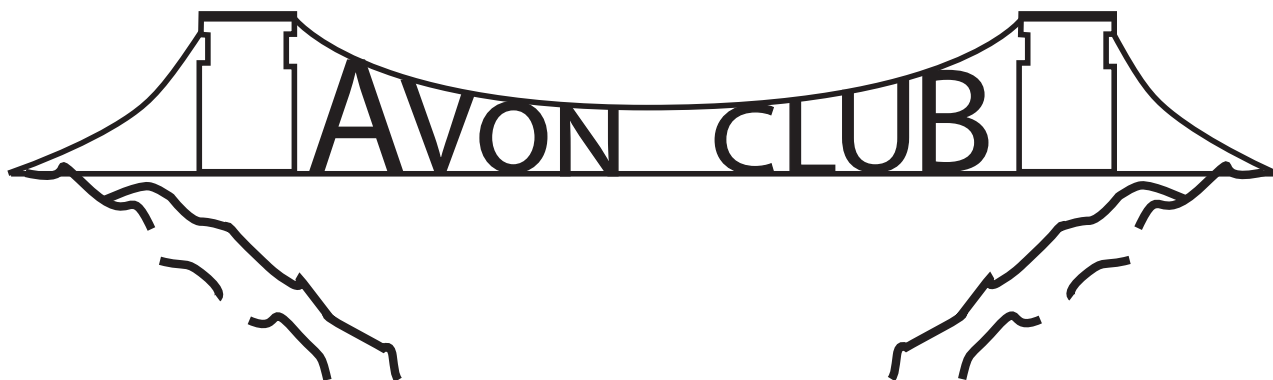
We will work hard over the coming months to replace this loss of income and we know this will not be easy. The budget forecast I produced for the Club shows that we need to raise around £30000 if we are to stay on course to provide for the young people we serve, a youth club all can be proud of and which will be of benefit to all.

**Ray Anstice Hon Treasurer**

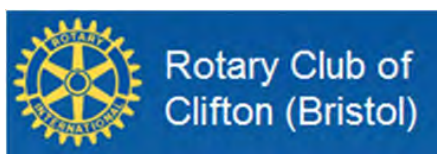


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## Our Sponsors



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