

# Avon Youth Club

ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19





# Avon Youth Club

## Annual Report 2018/19

### 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	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%
1978	Extended the club house with the addition of a sports hall	2010	Avon Club awarded unique Quality Mark
1990	Introduced girl members becoming Avon Club for Young People	2011	Oasis Academy Brightstowe start to use Avon Club
1995	Outdoor sports court constructed, shared with neighbouring primary school	2013	Avon Club becomes a participating partner of Young Bristol
2003	With £50k Neighbourhood Regeneration Funding, complete refurbishment of clubhouse	2014	Two members went on a Tall Ships voyage
2005	With £10k from Prince's Trust, leaders , members and probationers built new garden on disused land	2015	Natasha Cumber becomes Club Leader. Club creates a new vegetable and herb garden.
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.	2016	Bristol University Innovation Team of 8 students work at Avon Club
2007	Letitia McCabe, Junior Leader, elected to Junior Youth Parliament	2017	10 deserving young people supported to go on holiday at Barton Camp
2009	Clubhouse further developed to include : Training kitchen, art room, dance and fitness centre, and learning centre.	2018	Developed our own up to date live website

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Annual Report 2018/19

## Committee

### Management Committee Members

- Delphine Lyddall (President)
- David Sutton (Chairman)
- David Addison (Vice Chairman)
- Ray Anstice (Hon Treasurer)
- Helen Price (Hon Secretary)
- Natasha Cumber (Club Leader)
- Brian Dunster (Trustee)
- Steve 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)
- Martin Clarence (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
- What Happens Next - Seed to Celebration
- Van Neste Foundation
- The Bars & Jim Maggs Charitable Trust
- 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
- The Bristol Lions
- Bristol Cabot Choir
- Pink Elephant Club
- Sebright Design & Print
- Cittie Lodge

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## Annual Report 2018/19

### Chairman's Report

We are pleased to report that Avon Youth Club has had another successful and innovative year, continuing to provide an essential service to the Lawrence Weston Community in the Inner City of Bristol through its young people, in this our 75th year. Lawrence Weston has a large old deprived housing development which faces a host of challenges. The level of inequality is marked with educational attainment, crime, obesity and ambition all being issues addressed by the Community. Our Youth Club is situated at the heart of the area, next to the Oasis Primary School, with a shared outside court and is an essential asset providing a safe haven and many opportunities which would otherwise not come easily to the Young People and Community. We are one of the few independent Youth Clubs remaining in Bristol.

We have maintained our four nightly open access sessions for a very lively group of 180 members in the age group 8-15 who appear at differing times involving them in a variety of different indoor activities in an old renovated Clubhouse with a training kitchen for healthy eating, a creative arts room a keep fit centre, and 2 club rooms for sports games and other activities and events. We also have a number of outside activities, kayaking, high ropes climbing, caving, snow-boarding and recently paddle-boarding with the help of Young Bristol, our Federation of Youth Clubs. In addition we continue to run regular holiday clubs on a weekday basis between school terms, to allow parents to pursue their work, knowing that the youngsters will be engaged in development activities in an interesting and safe environment in a young people-led Community Youth Club.

We are as always indebted to our funders for supporting us in providing the necessary £40k each year to run our exciting activities and operation of our Club. This year we would like to thank the John James Foundation, the Henry Smith Charity, Young Bristol, Brunel Lions Club and Clifton Rotary Club and all our other generous supporters for their invaluable funding for the young members of the Avon Youth Club, we are most grateful for their support. We also take every opportunity to raise our own funds through our involvement in Clifton Rotary's Swimathon and various club raffles.

Our outstanding Leadership Team of Natasha, Corinne, Hayley and Ethan (who has recently left to take up full time work and we thank him for his contribution), all who have been Members of our Youth Club, continue to have real enthusiasm, boundless energy and commitment to an ever changing, interesting and challenging programme for the members, so that they can develop and achieve their ambitions. In addition, our 3 Junior Leaders have grown into their positions in helping with activities and by working with Young Bristol meeting regularly with other clubs to promote new ideas and share competitions and have developed great enthusiasm and determination.

We have continued our project to provide holidays for deserving youngsters who will benefit greatly from a break at Barton Camp in the Mendip Hills run by the Bristol Children's Help Society and their volunteers. The camp has many facilities with an outside swimming pool and a slide much enjoyed by the youngsters, a gymnasium used for many activities, a study area and a local pursuits centre, an outstanding position on the hillside with glorious views and hikes but most importantly – wonderful care and encouragement. 8 young members took advantage this year and came back brim full of exciting stories and hoping for the same next year! Their comments reflect this:

*I really enjoyed going to Barton Camp, there were lots of things to do, I met new friends and went swimming and I thought the story that Jenny (one of the Leaders) read to us called 'Dandruff' was so funny. The staff are all good and friendly. The beds were really comfy, midnight swimming was so cool, the food was yummy especially the breakfasts. I would like to go again if I can.*

With modern communication systems we now feel it necessary to provide a small Multi Media Centre to help with the best use, control and understanding of social networking by converting an existing enclosed storeroom and installing communication systems generously funded by a local family Trust.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Management Committee for all their efforts to ensure that the Club provides an exciting, safe and challenging, sustainable centre. I would like to thank Brian Dunster for his many years as a very efficient Club Secretary and agreeing to carry on as a Trustee and now to thank Helen Price for taking over the position so successfully and maintaining our website informing everyone about our Club and forthcoming activities [www.avonyouthclub.com](http://www.avonyouthclub.com)

Thank you to all our supporters and especially Young Bristol for their valued leadership and partnership. It is always good to see the local Community take an interest in the activities of their children, we would still like to see more of you at our open events.

As always, we will continue to maintain our excellent club for the benefit of all our Members.

**David Sutton**  
Chairman





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## Annual Report 2018/19

### Club Leader's Report

We have enjoyed seeing many more new members join Avon youth Club, where young people participate in various activities in a safe and friendly environment. It is good to see new friendships being created amongst the young people and getting to meet their families. The past few years we have been fortunate to get funding to send young people to Barton Camp, which is an action packed weekend away for young people to experience lots of varied activities, enjoy daily swimming and meet new people. The feedback we get is always positive and beneficial.

This year we have really tried to get out and about in Bristol and the surrounding areas by using Lawrence Weston Community transport. Once a month the Bristol Youth Clubs visit Broadplains youth club to meet up and discuss and try out various new challenges such as high wall climbing, boxing sessions and other group activities. These meetings are a fantastic opportunity for leaders and young people to meet each other and find out what is happening in different areas. As a result, 'Youth Voice' has been formed to discuss programmes which can be shared amongst the clubs, we are proud that 5 of our young people are on the committee and that the young people are running activities in their own clubs, becoming role models for the Club members.

We were lucky enough to take the young people to a Pantomime, Mother Goose starring our very own Trustee, Steve Price. We all had a great evening, many of them for the first time, it was a delight to see their faces light up in amazement at the antics and was a rewarding occasion.

We have been running holiday sessions throughout the school holidays and have been fortunate to be able to provide packed lunches for all the young people averaging 25 who attend the daily sessions and the surplus for the evening sessions at the youth club. This was only possible due to the 'Feeding Bristol' organisation who not only donated the food but also prepared the

lunches and delivered daily. We continue to use the facilities that Young Bristol have such as kayaking, climbing and caving, the young people love these activities being often their first experience and allows them to overcome their fears and obstacles helped by the instructors giving lots of support. We also maintain our own garden growing vegetables, fruit and herbs which the young people take pride in. Rhubarb tarts are delicious and go down a treat.

Our arts awards are nearly complete, which have involved working alongside older people at Granville care home, engaging the club in conversations with the residents, enjoying time out at the Community Farm, gathering litter at the local park, and visiting Bristol's museums. Paddle boarding has become our latest activity at Clevedon Marina, being instructed by a local teacher, giving the young people confidence in themselves in the water.

Finally the club has had a makeover, where we have had a graffiti artist working with the young people taking their ideas, teaching them how to spray paint and creating a fantastic mural on the front entrance of the Club and in doing it taking an ownership of Avon Youth Club.

I want to thank the dedicated staff that we have, without them all the above would not be possible.

**Natasha and Corinne**  
Leader and Deputy Leader



#### SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB / WEEKS 1-4

Monday 22nd July Breakfast AM	Tuesday 23rd July Breakfast AM	Wednesday 24th July Breakfast AM	Thursday 25th July Breakfast AM	Friday 26th July Breakfast AM
 Dodge Ball	 Cake Making	 Beep Test	 Rounders	 Day Trip Caving
PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
 Mini Games	 Cricket	 Bingo	 Pool Tournament	 Day Trip Picking up @ 9.30 drop off at @ 12.00

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Annual Report 2018/19



## Financial Report

Last year I referred to the pressures on the Club's finances resulting from the increased activities and variety of such we provide for our young members. In a sense these are good pressures because they reflect what we do and the dedicated hard work of our leaders. The financial pressures do not abate and if we are to continue to run an exciting and fulfilling independent youth club we have to fund the work we do. Raising funds is difficult and time consuming especially with the modern trend to demand applications on-line rather than by general post as in the past Understandably this is to combat the extensive use of paper. We recognise and support this trend. Of course it means a fresh and new skilled approach on our part especially in the current financial climate. Nevertheless we maintain very good relationships with our funders and supporters and continue to be extremely grateful for the support they give.

Following a previous year of costly maintenance and repairs 2018/19 proved somewhat easier financially with total outgoings of just short of £39000 compared with £54000 for the previous year. On average over the years it costs around £40000 p.a. to run Avon Youth Club if we continue to provide an interesting program of activities which certainly remains our intention. I will need to focus harder on fund raising over the coming months. The school holidays' program when the Club is open daily Monday to Friday maintains its high importance to us and will be continued but it costs more than £5000 annually and is highly worthwhile.

I express again our very sincere appreciation and gratitude to those large grant giving Trusts and all the individuals and organisations who give us their support. Without you all we could not function to the extent we are currently able to do.

**Ray Anstice**

**Hon Treasurer**





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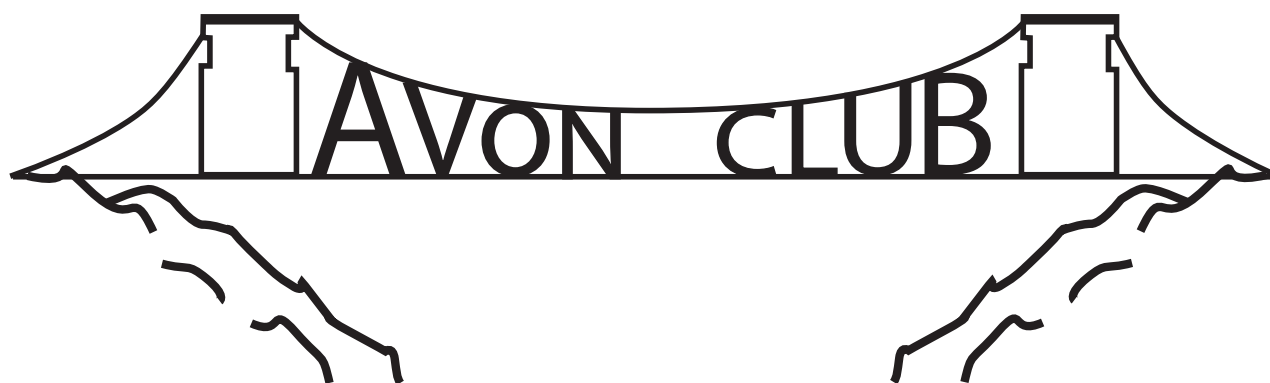
Annual Report 2018/19



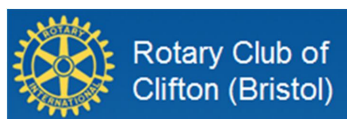


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Annual Report 2018/19



## Our Sponsors



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