

The Chronicle

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



150 YEARS

Autumn 2016

Message from our Chair – Elizabeth Cuffy



Welcome to The Chronicle – now in its 133rd year and nearly as old as St Andrew's Club itself. We are extremely proud that our 150 years have been recognised over the summer by both the No 10 reception for the Club hosted by the Prime Minister and the award of a London Youth Quality Mark. I wonder what the Victorian early readers of The Chronicle would make of the Club today? The range

of fun and exciting activities may have changed but the mission of the Club is the same – to develop the knowledge, attitude and skills of each young person supported by trained youth workers through engagement in creative, educational, recreational and sporting activities. Read on to find out how we do that.

My No 10 Downing Street Experience by Michael Dornelly

12th of July, was one of the best days of my life. I arrived at the Club suited and booted, with my tie clip on perfectly. As I walked the 10 minute journey from the club to Number 10, the feeling was surreal as I had only ever walked past the great old house and never imagined I would one day be a guest invited inside to deliver a speech.



Club members Chelsea, Michael, President Lord Selborne, Prime Minister David Cameron, Club Manager Paul, Chair Elizabeth, Club member Elo-Mei. Copyright Zoe Norfolk

As I walked up the two small steps and entered the black door, I felt a feeling of belonging. I was overwhelmed with excitement and joy, but not nervous of where I was and its prestige. The gift of opportunity is something I believe I possess, in essence I've been very lucky in my life, and luck fell on me once again as the 12th of July was also the Prime Minister's last day in office.

My speech was to follow that of Mr Cameron's, and as I was waiting and listening to him my heart began to beat faster than ever before. I'd never known anything like it; my legs started to shake and my steps began to feel heavy as if I had ankle weights on.

However, my character helped me through and from the feedback I believe I represented what the Club is about, and what it does so well for young people in and out of the local area.

I left the building with a smile on my face and my mother prouder than she has ever been before. That for me this was one of the biggest victories and moments of my life.



Michael giving his speech. Copyright Zoe Norfolk

Michael's mother looking proudly as the audience listens appreciatively. Copyright Zoe Norfolk

Highlights of the Summer Programme

Thanks to John Lyon's Charity and TriBorough Children's Services the Club once again ran an exciting and successful four-week Summer Programme – an incredible provision for local young people, keeping them safe, entertained and challenged.



Self-Expression under the Limbo bar

With trips to Thorpe Park and Flip Out Trampoline Park, fun kitchen activities of Master Chef and Bake Off challenges and whole Club activities of Limbo competitions and Friday outdoor waterfights. On Fridays everyone went home happyand wet.

Girl, Boy and Club Member of the Year 2016

Congratulations to Chelsea, Harry and Hamza, whose popularity, approachability and dedication to St Andrew's Club has earned them this year's top accolades. See our website for full details.



Chelsea, Harry and Hamza with all the other prize winners on Presentation Night, July 2016

The Chronicle:

A Monthly Record of St. Andrew's Home and Club.

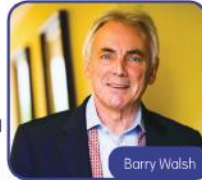
150 years serving the community "From Boys' Clubs to Youth Clubs"

Youth clubs form part of an intricate patchwork of the bedrock of modern Britain. As Britain's - and indeed the world's - oldest youth club, St Andrew's Club is uniquely placed to tell a part of this little known story. Clubs like St Andrew's have been important social drivers, helping to improve the lives of those who have to struggle more. They underpin local communities and are a catalyst for individual achievement.



Barry was a young member representative on the management committee in the 1960s; became the Under 16s football coach; and, starting in 1992, has served the Club as Chair on three occasions for a total of some 15 years.

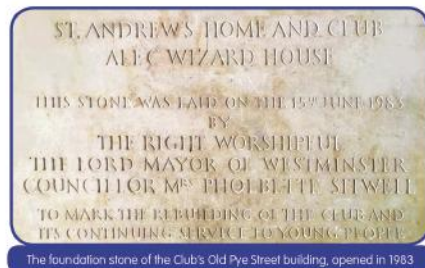
Our website carries more about a recent interview with Barry (visit the News section) including his meeting the great actor, John Neville, at the Fortune Theatre on a Club outing. It clearly made an impression. He got his first real job working for Sir Bernard Miles at the Mermaid Theatre. 'I met some wonderful characters, including Jonathan Miller, William Trevor, Sir Michael Redgrave and, most memorably, Edna O'Brien.'



Forty-five years on, Barry now lives with his wife - a childhood sweetheart - on the outskirts of London. He writes full-time after publication of his first novel, The Pirnlico Kid. Along with a family and a successful career, he has remained hugely involved with the Club and seen it through both good and difficult times. Asked what he is proudest of, Barry thinks and then modestly responds that he feels that 'I helped keep things going.' He most certainly has.

A gift in your Will today could benefit the Club in years to come

The home of St Andrew's Club is Alec Wizard House, Old Pye Street, named after a former 'home boy', chairman, president and supporter, Alec Wizard, whose wife Irene left the Club a legacy to help continue its work. We are truly grateful for the generosity of anyone who leaves us a gift in their Will, whatever its value - every little does indeed help. Today's gifts in a Will can help us be here for future generations of local young people.



Come and join in the 150 years' celebrations

- 29th November - 5.00pm:** Evensong at Westminster Abbey with a special mention of the work of St Andrew's Club.
- 3rd December - 10.00am:** 6k Santa Fun Run in Battersea Park. Join in and help raise funds for our work.
- 3rd December - 12.00 noon:** Christmas Fayre at the Club. Cards, presents and more on sale, with seasonal refreshments. Come dressed in your Santa outfits from the Santa Run!
- 12th March - evening:** St Andrew's Club Reunion at Churchill Gardens Residents' Association.

We turn 150 this year, and the Heritage Lottery Fund project to mark this milestone has uncovered a wealth of information on our unique community institution. We have put together an exhibition, which you can visit to explore our incredible history as one of London Youth's founding members and reveal our never before seen historic collection for this special occasion.

The interesting, interactive exhibition will feature The Chronicle, the Club's in-house magazine, alongside six exhibition boards on the history of St Andrew's Club from its origins in the industrial revolution to one of modern Britain's most dynamic youth clubs.

Archival material has been preserved through digitisation, a process which has captured each and every archival image and document held at the Club that we will share on our interactive website. A short film produced with broadcasters, free posters, educational booklets and more will feature on our new, online learning space. Users can share their memories and stories of St Andrew's Club in a contributions section.

Youth clubs across London will feature in this collaborative effort to mark the youth movement over three centuries. The exhibition will be on from October 24th, 2016 at St Andrew's Club, after which it will travel to the City of Westminster Archives Centre in 2017 when mobile elements will be available to youth clubs across London.

For all enquiries, please contact info@standrewsclub.com

Barry Walsh: Over 50 years' commitment to St Andrew's Club

Barry Walsh was one of the members carrying the St Andrew's banner at the Club's 100th anniversary in Westminster Abbey, and will be there in November for the 150th. He credits the Club for introducing him to the theatre, camping, football coaching, and a world beyond his early Pirnlico home in Lillington Street. Barry says that, together, his home and the Club gave him a clear sense of the 'right thing to do.'

Why we love St Andrew's by Ella-Mei and Chelsea

Throughout the years of coming to St Andrew's Youth Club, we have realised that it has been very useful to our everyday lives; cooking, social skills and friendships. It has helped the members and us to become more confident and take any opportunities that we are given. As members of the Club for many years, we have really appreciated the help and care we have received from the staff. We can also say that the staff have been very supportive and encouraging towards the younger and older members.



Ella-Mei and Chelsea, our Rowing Reporters, Photographed at No. 10 Downing Street. Copyright Zoe Norfolk

We have recently asked some of the younger members of the Club how they felt and what they enjoy about it and the outcome of the responses was very pleasing.

Frankie, 12 said

"I really enjoy meeting my friends after school and chilling out at the youth club."

Ella, 12 said

"It is very enjoyable and has great opportunities."

Deni, 11 said

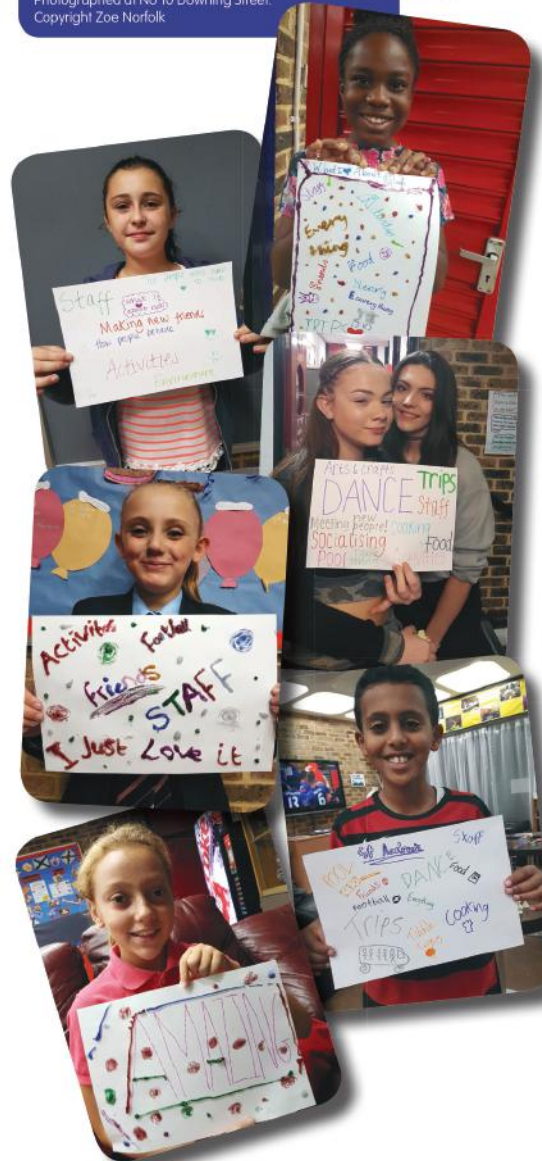
"It is really fun and they take us on trips. It is also a good way to meet new people."

Joanna, 14 said

"I like Club because it's fun to meet my friends after school."

We love that there are many great activities that involve everyone. Activities like cooking teach us the simple skills for a healthier lifestyle and prepare us with skills for our life ahead. Other activities such as arts and crafts, football, dancing etc are activities that everyone really enjoys and are happy to be a part of. Each of these activities has helped the younger and older members feel easy around each other and given us simple social skills to communicate with new, old and different cultural members. We feel so grateful to be given opportunities that have passed through the Club and we join other clubs such as Snow Camp; this has really encouraged members to get out their comfort zone and experience new things that don't revolve round the centre of the St Andrew's Youth Club.

Overall, each of these different examples are the reasons why everyone, including us, love St Andrew's Youth Club!



Thank you to our supporters

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. We couldn't do it without you!

Get involved

Visit our **refreshed website** and read our latest news at www.standrewsclub.com

Join our **150th anniversary regular giving appeal** and help us to continue to plan our work to give every young person in Westminster, and many beyond, the chance to thrive and become more engaged with their local community through the exciting, varied and relevant youth programmes at St Andrew's Club. Donate a single or regular gift through our on-line giving platform BT MyDonate on our website.

A monthly donation of £35* or a single gift of £400* will help pay for a young person to benefit from a year's membership of all Club activities, helping them not only to 'stay out of trouble', but build self-confidence, respect for themselves and for others, learn vital skills and experience opportunities to create a positive sense of citizenship. We think that what the Club offers its members and the local area is priceless. A donation form, with the important Gift Aid declaration, can be downloaded from our website.

*Plus the additional 25% Gift Aid which we are able to claim if you are a UK tax payer. Visit the website for different levels of monthly giving. Every gift is valued.

As part of our 150 years' celebrations, we'd love you to **fundraise by taking part in a sponsored event** and naming St Andrew's Club as your beneficiary. Visit our website to see the types of events you could take part in – walking, running, cycling or obstacle courses. What about taking part in Battersea Park's Santa Run on 3rd December? We highlight a few but the list of events out there is endless. If you would like to find out more, please contact annette@standrewsclub.com.

Are you a local business?

If you want to give back and make a difference, please contact annette@standrewsclub.com to find out benefits your support could bring, both to young people and to your company.

Shop through the Giving Machine



When you are buying Christmas presents, making travel arrangements online or ordering for the office, buy through The Giving Machine which will allow you to generate cash donations to St Andrew's Club without it costing you a penny. There are over 8,000 schools and charities taking part in this program, with the successful causes raising £1,000s every year at no extra cost to their supporters!

Shopping online via The Giving Machine at your favourite shops will generate a free cash donation with every single purchase. With stores like John Lewis (a wonderful St Andrew's Club supporter), Amazon, Ebay, M&S, NEXT, Tesco and Sainsbury taking part with hundreds more, you are bound to find what you want.

Please join our new giving community by visiting www.TheGivingMachine.co.uk and join to support St Andrew's Club; it's quick and simple to sign up and start giving for free.

Keeping in touch

If you would prefer to receive future issues of The Chronicle by email, please fill in your details in the Contact Us form on our website and title it 'Please add me to your email list for The Chronicle'. Or email info@standrewsclub.com. Thank you.



St Andrew's Club members showing their appreciation in the sports hall.

Donate to us through



The free online donation service



Join the Santa Run in Battersea Park on 3rd December.



Club members holding bags of cookery ingredients supplied by Boeing

In the next issue of The Chronicle ...

- President's Reception at the Club
- Evensong at Westminster Abbey
- London Youth Quality Mark for the Club
- More reports on members' activities and achievements

"It can be tough for a young person growing up in South Westminster. Over 700 young people depend on us each year in our 'neutral' environment, that isn't part of any one housing estate. Help us give every young person in Westminster, and many beyond, 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 150 years." Elizabeth Cuffy, Chairman

Registered Charity Number 1103322

St Andrew's Club, Alec Wizard House, 12 Old Pye Street, Westminster London SW1P 2DG
T: 020 7222 6481 E: info@standrewsclub.com W: www.standrewsclub.com