

WELCOME TO THE NOVEMBER 2013 EDITION OF THE BOYS CLUBHOUSE NEWSLETTER. IN THIS MONTHLY PUBLICATION WE HOPE TO SHARE WITH YOU INFORMATION ON OUR ACTIVITIES, COURSES AND PROJECTS.

**A LETTER RECEIVED:** Only a matter of years ago, I was a **victim** of the streets. Having left the schooling system and then **failing** to maintain a daily work routine I found myself involved in activities that, looking back now, were **embarrassing** and **shameful**. Having been **rejected** by **society** I had nowhere to turn and could barely face the coming day, let alone my future.

I can still remember the great **joy** that I felt during my first week with "The Boys Clubhouse". Feelings of **acceptance** and **encouragement** with **no judgement** from the team as a whole fuelled me to go back to my **studies** and slowly **reintegrate** with society.

After **years** of delicate care and help from the **Clubhouse** staff, I am now **happily** married with a beautiful daughter and **training** to become a **teacher**! Every bit of possible support to TBC received is treasured and put to immediate use, saving yet another soul.

Many thanks to TBC for giving myself and the world a better future!

CM

**Fundraising Events: Skydiving at 13,000 ft:** Our thanks and appreciation goes to Mrs Shaya and her two grandchildren for their courage and commitment in taking to the skies. After months of careful planning they finally took the plunge on a beautiful August day, at a site just outside London. This was completely their own initiative. Beginning with a small idea the Clubhouse helped them to make it a reality and they raised £5,000 for the Boys' Clubhouse.

**New Business Programme:** With many of our clients desperate for jobs and the employment market being so difficult to break into, the Boys Clubhouse has now launched its very own business enterprise. Running an in-house, online, Ebay shop, we have started by selling small items and plan to expand of the next three months. The boys are mentored in the skills to run the business; learning vital skills such as resourcing products, valuing them, controlling stock, listing and sending products to consumers all over the UK and overseas.

All the boys were interviewed and suitable candidates chosen. After two months successfully trading we are now looking to expand this project. It is hoped that the business will eventually be able to employ more of our clients - enhancing the skills that they are best at - on full time basis. This project will create 8 jobs in the first year, going some way to solving the youth unemployment crisis in our community. We are actively looking for companies to donate items that we can sell online. Help has been received from the Rothchilds and the Vail Foundations for this project.

**V.I.P. Visit:** MP Mike Freer came to visit one of the Monday night Learning Programmes and was happy to see The Clubhouse in full swing. He took time out to talk to the boys about their lives and to understand the topics they were learning. He was left with a lasting impression and spoke in glowing terms about the importance and value

**Activities:** New weekly activities are planned for the winter months. With some of our clients spending a lot of time in an unproductive way, these trips will be designed to help them "get up and get out" and hopefully to engage with others in a positive way, eg. helping in residential care homes.

**Mazel Tovs:** Mazel Tov to our learning volunteers Yaakov Tatz and Yanki Leibowitz for their recent births of baby girls. They give up their time in the evening to come and learn with the boys in a 1 to 1 setting. We wish them both only simcha and nachas from their own family.

A big Mazel Tov to Rabbi Dove, our clinical consultant, and his family on the recent marriage of his daughter Naomi.

**Programmes:** On Thursday nights we hold 2 options, a **Pool Tournament** at our HQ for our under 18 group. We also hold, at the home of Rabbi Nooky Chissick, a **Cholent + Kugel Shiur** for the older boys (some of whom have just returned from Yeshiva). These programmes give us an opportunity to move our clients up to a more focussed setting when the time is right.

**Work Placements:** Many of our clients require jobs to give them stability in their lives. To date we have helped set up many boys with job opportunities that they have grabbed with both hands.

We thank the community for giving our boys a chance and helping them become successful members of

**Israel:** Lolu Hibbert and his team in Israel are doing a sterling job to nurture older clients who have moved there to study and grow. These young adults attend a variety of yeshivas and vocational programmes. Maintaining the mentoring relationship is vital for

these boys to succeed in whatever they chose to do in the future.

**Website Update:** Our new look website has been launched. [www.theclubhouse.biz](http://www.theclubhouse.biz) please visit this to find out more about the services we offer.

**Project Smile:** Our 4 inflatables continue to inspire and inject happiness into weddings and other occasions. The boys are always very excited to participate and have done shows on request including dancing at weddings and entertaining the elderly at Schonfeld Square. Weddings have been proven extremely popular and requests are coming in. The advantage of these costumes is twofold. The boys get to expend their energy in a useful way and at the same time they bring happiness to themselves and other people. We thank our donors, including the London Borough of Barnet for their help.



**ADVERT:** Are you in dispute with your utility suppliers? Are you locked into an unfair gas or electricity contract? Do you really know the hidden charges paid for your utility supplies? Let us see if we can not only reduce your current costs but get you refunds too. Call us today on 020 8449 6510 for a free appraisal by our sponsor. The Boys Clubhouse will receive 20% of all fees earned on the referral.