



WELCOME TO THE FEBRUARY 2014 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: TBC is a lot of things to a lot of people. To me, it will always be a safe haven where I can go and speak to honest, caring and sympathetic people for hours on end. Being in a position now where I am both fully independent and have dealt with all the hardships that were once an obstruction to any future plans, I still very much value what TBC has done for me and for what they continue to do for kids that are in similar positions to that which I found myself in throughout my teenage years. TBC continues to reach out to teens from all family types. They have a more than skilled army of counsellors that very readily adapt to any challenge they are faced with. I am now living away from TBC yet still maintain close relationships with many of the counsellors and some of my peers from 'back in the day'. I am still blown away with the care and devotion that they show to both their new and existing teens, that I regularly hear about.

Personally, I cannot wait till I am in a position where I will be able to give back to TBC. I am and will always be proud to say that I was part of TBC.

Sincerely, Eli

Website Update: Our new look website has been launched. www.theclubhouse.biz please visit this to find out more about the services we offer. You can now also donate online by following the links provided on the website.

Mazel Tovs: Huge Mazal Tov to Eli Segal - one of our Monday night learning volunteers who got engaged to Gita Kraus. Eli has been a huge success at our programme on Bridge Lane and continues to give of his own free time to come and learn 1 on 1 with our boys. We wish him mazal tov and brocho on his upcoming move to Israel after his wedding.

New Business Programme: Our new Ebay Enterprise has escalated beyond expectation. With three of our boys now working on it full time, the project is achieving exactly what it was set up to do, namely providing employment for our clients and to bring in an income for the charity. We were fortunate to be able to take over a candle shop which was closing down. After securing the takeover, our boys set about stocktaking and cataloguing their huge range of candles and ornaments.

To date they have made 1170 sales, selling a huge range of items including candles, flags, games and oil paintings. The boys have an office of their own at our HQ and the productive environment this has created is spilling over to all the rest of those who attend our premises. This has given the boys a platform to express themselves in a positive and real business setting and with advisors and mentors readily available, these boys are flying. The positive effects are being felt all around The Boys' Clubhouse as our unemployment figures have now hit an all-time low! Feel free to visit our website at <http://sto.es.ebay.co.uk/Boys-Clubhouse> and see our progress.

Plans of expansion are underway to increase our product range and to that end we are networking with various companies to do just that.

V.I.P. Visit: The Boys' Clubhouse were honoured to host the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson at our HQ. The Mayor has wanted to visit us for some time now, but other pressing matters delayed him. As he was shown around the various projects held at the premises and played some pool with our clients, he clearly seemed to be enjoying his time there. He was notably impressed when touring the Ebay Enterprise Project and after cutting the ribbon, helped some of the boys to label and ship an item to a consumer. Afterwards he said, "It's fantastic - I'm very glad I came because the stuff I've seen is very impressive. It is clearly turning around the lives of people who need it and just talking to some of them, you hear some very powerful testimonials of how their lives have been turned around and improved."



Work Placements: We are grateful to 'Good for You' for offering some of our boys training opportunities. With many stores and warehouses around North West London they have begun training some of our clients and offering them work experience. We currently have 3 boys working with them full time.

Programmes: On Thursday nights we hold a 2 tiered option. We run 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.

We are working together with LJCC as they start a new programme called Gateway which will offer a range of vocational courses for those not in employment or education. These will include cooking, photography and even numeracy and literacy were necessary.

Project Smile: Our 4 inflatables continue to inspire and inject happiness into simchas 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 proven to be extremely popular and requests are coming in. The advantages 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 all our donors, including the London Borough of Barnet, for their help.

Painting a Wall: As a follow up to our successful graffiti course run at the LJCC one of our boys was inspired to showcase his abilities on a wall at our youth centre. With a deep message in mind he expertly portrayed how the arrival of Moshiah will help redeem all those souls enslaved to materialism.



Fundraising Events: Plans are underway for a Clubhouse Fundraising Dinner in May/June. A committee has just been formed and a choice of venues is being considered. Watch this space for further information.

Israel: We recently sent an older client to Yeshiva in Israel for the first time. Sometimes we find that the older they go, the more ready they are and in this case we have already heard tremendous feedback. Of course as always Lolu Hibbert and his team in Israel are doing a sterling job to nurture these 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.

Congratulations on 2 of our graduates who have just completed basic training in the army.

Activities: New weekly activities are in place for the winter months. These trips will be geared to those few who still have not found employment or training opportunities and will be designed to help them 'get up and get out' and hopefully encourage them to move on.

Shabbos Meals: We continue to provide meals and inspiration for the boys over Shabbos at the homes of our volunteers and are looking constantly for new people to host them.

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.