



THE BOYS CLUBHOUSE
WORKING WITH OUR TEENAGERS IN THE COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER - MAY 2014

WELCOME TO THE MAY 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: Dear Boys' Clubhouse,

I can't believe I am actually writing this letter. I never ever thought I would. My parents threw me out of home when I was 21. At the time I was bitter but looking back it was not their fault - I must have been impossible to live with. I spent some nights sleeping rough but then I heard that The Clubhouse had an emergency accommodation shelter so I contacted Ari and moved in. Initially I was feeling at an all-time low and spent all day in bed but slowly I gained some confidence and now I have a good job in the catering industry - which I always wanted to do and I have a reason to get out of bed each day.

Thank you YS

'Have a Sandwich' Project: Thank you to our volunteer Simchi Jacobowitz and Kosher Kingdom for organising surplus sandwiches and baked goods to be brought to our centre for the boys to enjoy. Many of our clients are living alone and have to fend for themselves. These food opportunities ensure that no-one ever goes hungry and that boys can get a good start to their day!

Mazel Tovs: Mazel Tov to Boruch Luftig on his recent marriage to Yael Provisor. The wedding in Manchester was a momentous occasion and was enhanced of course by our Nachman team.

Mazel Tov to Eli and Avital Tescher on the safe arrival of their first baby boy. We wish them much health and happiness.

Programmes: We are grateful to Laurence Field and the LJCC for always providing such an exciting variety of courses tailor made for our boys. In the past our boys have enjoyed graffiti and photography courses at their centre by Golders Hill Park. Together we are starting a new employability project. With some of our clients looking seriously into employment options we are beginning a new course called 'Ready to Work@'. This will help them to create Cv's, teach them interview techniques and train them in the art of being a good employee. At the end of the 5 week course the boys will be assisted to find work placements.

In addition some of our more musically gifted clients are starting a new DJ course at the LJCC centre. It is hoped that this will help them become more professional and give them a platform to get work in the music world.

Activities & Trips: In celebration of reaching the "1500 positive feedback" milestone, the boys were treated to a day out at Delta Force Paintballing in Hemel Hempstead. It was a day to remember with each of the boys receiving over 300 paintballs and 4 hours to use them in a variety of different tasks. It was a bonding experience for all involved as the boys had to work together in teams to fulfil specific missions.



V.I.P. Visit: Chief Inspector Andy Mariner, from Colindale Police Station visited our HQ to see first-hand the programmes we are running. He was noticeably impressed by the wide variety of courses, learning opportunities and work placements that we are offering and discussed possible avenues of funding for some of our projects.

Fundraising Events: On 26th June we are hosting our first fundraising dinner which will be attended by senior community leaders and some of the boys whose lives have been fundamentally transformed by our work. We invite you to be part of our on-going programme of saving lives and building futures. We would be honoured if you choose to attend our dinner and become part of our very special community. The setting will be as unique as The Clubhouse itself. Hosted against the backdrop of the Metropolitan Police Historic Fleet of vintage and iconic vehicles from the last six decades, the venue will be totally transformed into a showcase of Police memorabilia.

Work Placement: We are also grateful to 'Good for You' for offering some of our boys training and work opportunities. With many stores and warehouses around North West London, selling a vast range of supplies, it has begun training some of our clients and offering them work experience. We currently have 3 boys working full time for them.

Grants: Three year funding has been granted by the Samuel Sebba Charitable Trust to pay for support costs. This provides not only stability to the project but also a platform for further growth. Oxford and St George and The Percy Bilton Charitable Trust have also provided specialist camera equipment to enhance the presentation of goods sold on an ebay platform. We are again thankful to the Clildrens Aid Committee for its support with our under 18s;’ work. We have also a number of philatelic experts who know how to dispose of stamp collections - all proceeds to The Boys Clubhouse.

New Business Programme: The Ebay project is now entering its 8th month since inception. It continues to go from strength to strength. With over 3,500 items already sold the turnover is now averaging £1200 per month. A special milestone was reached when we hit 1,500 positive feedback responses from customers, demonstrating how the boys’ efforts have excelled beyond all expectations. We have had to expand our operations team. We now employ 3 boys to maintain a high level of service . We recently added a range of jewellery to our sales lines and are hopeful that sales will increase even further.

Purim:

At the Boys’ Clubhouse we made sure that Purim 5774 was a year to remember. A stage was erected on Purim morning, in the road, at Heather Gardens. Entertainment included a live 3 piece band and street dancing; all professionally managed by our boys. The boys also managed popcorn and candyfloss stands for community to enjoy. Some of the older boys drove around in an especially modified “Reliant Robin” car with a loudspeaker, calling on people from all over the neighbourhood to come and enjoy themselves at this event.

Later in the evening 2 groups went around collecting tzedakah from people’s houses whilst also entertaining families with the famous “penguin dance”.



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.