

# **Annual Report 2014**



#### Foreword

Since the demolition of our Station Road premises we have been working on plans to resurrect a suitable facility at Bigges Main, where our representative teams have their football pitches and changing rooms. Those plans will soon be made public as part of an Appeal to raise the estimated £1.2 million that will be required to give our young people a modern 21st century base.

We are under no illusions as to how difficult this task will be, especially in the current economic climate. However, if we want future generations of Tyneside youngsters to be able to benefit from the community resource we have provided to past generations in previous decades then we simply do not have a choice in the matter.

Occasionally, independent observers outside of the Club looking in can express our issues more eloquently than those of us who may be too close to the wood to see the trees. Such an observer penned the following words earlier this year...

"The famous names associated with Wallsend such as Alan Shearer, Lee Clark, Peter Beardsley and....Steve Bruce, have made the boys' club famous throughout the world."

What isn't so well publicised is that as well as providing a great environment for kids to play and progress at football, Wallsend Boys' Club is also at the heart of the community giving a lead to young people by helping to provide all kinds of programmes and activities away from the football side of things.

These other areas of our work may not get a fraction of the publicity the football side does, but arguably this is even more important, in that it helps the young people of Tyneside to get a better range of opportunities and to develop into the citizens of tomorrow.

The fame of Wallsend BC is sometimes a handicap because many people assume that due to our success we must be suitably rewarded with public funding. While various grants helped Wallsend to move to the new base in 2011 which included our first very own football pitches, the then still-used original premises on Station Road had to be demolished when one of the walls was found to be damaged beyond economic repair after high winds.

**Steve Dale - Chairman** 

### Welcome

2014 was another busy year for the club as we continued to deliver our youth provision to young people across North Tyneside. During 2014 the staff team changed and our activity programme expanded and yet we continued to deliver projects and events to our usual high standard.

Throughout the year the Boyza Bus has again proved to be an invaluable asset for our youth offer as it has allowed us to keep delivering our developmental activities in a number of 'hot spot' areas no matter what the weather.

We are still on the lookout for new premises which will enable us once again to deliver centre based youth provision and some new and exciting projects. We hope that we will have more to say on this during 2015.

We have also been working hard to join up our projects and programmes with other organisations who share similar aims, in order to improve the range of activities and opportunities available to young people.

Securing funding is always a critical factor in helping us achieving our own aspirations as an organisation, and while we continue to be supported by a number of charitable trusts we are always looking out for new ways to increase our income. So if you think you can support us in anyway or know of anybody who might want to invest in our youth activities please contact me at: manager@wallsendboysclub.org.uk 077024 96131 As always we will endeavour to continue to offer the young people of North Tyneside we work with the best possible service we can.

**Dawn Convery - Club Manager** 



### Whickham Thorns

A rigorous full day of events was organised at Whickham Thorns for our young people. The first activity that they took part in was snow tubing, which they really enjoyed. It involved tubing down a synthetic snow ramp at full speed which was definitely their idea of FUN. Following this, the group took part in an Archery Challenge which tested a completely different type of nerve. Hard exercise was next on the agenda when the young people took part in a full assault course over half a mile. By the end, everyone was left exhausted but with big smiles on their faces, a sure sign of enjoying their achievement. Following a short lunch break the whole group participated in the most daunting challenge of the day, the High Ropes challenge. Complete with helmets and safety harnesses each one of the group took turns to climb to the summit before their 'Leap of Faith'. An excellent way to finish off an action packed day and a great effort by everyone who was there.

## Kirkley Hall

This was a fantastic experience for 8 young people who took part. Firstly, the young people were given a great health and safety talk, learning about risk assessments and the number of possible hazards they might be facing throughout the day. After being fully kitted out with a helmet, safety harness and ropes, each one of the young people had a full action packed hour on the zip wires, including flying over a small gorge, which they particularly enjoyed. After the zip wire, there were team building exercises and practical challenges,



which involved the young people work together in a team; this was in the form of a problem solving assault course. The young people all developed their team building and leadership qualities by helping each other to overcome the obstacles and work out the correct methods needed to succeed in each task, this proved an excellent way to finish the a fun filled day.

### Adventure Sunderland

Another excellent and action packed full day of water sport activities for the young people involved. It was a new experience for the lucky young people involved; unfortunately numbers were restricted

to just eight participants for health and safety reasons. No doubt we could have filled the places many times over given its popularity. Everyone who did attend was kitted out with helmets and life jackets, then given a dry

learning curve on the correct methods used in kayaking

before then entered the water. Once in, they learnt and developed skills in oaring, balance and moving in the kayak. The afternoon session revolved



around learning how to surf, starting from a lying down and then into a kneeling position before eventually standing up on the board trying to manoeuvre the waves, which some of our young people actually managed.

The whole day was a fantastic way for everyone to increase their confidence, develop their knowledge and learn new team building skills.

# Street Games Multi Sports Festival 2014

A very early start on a Tuesday morning in August saw a coach load of young people start their journey to the Street Games Multi Sports Festival at Sports City, Manchester. Spirits were high as we arrived at the venue where we were given our Street Games wrist Bands and allocated our bright pink t-shirts! The venue was impressive and offered a wide range of sports which ensured there was something for everyone. Activities included indoor and outdoor Athletics, Basketball, Handball, Table Tennis and Volleyball court. Throughout the day our young people participated in these activities and a host of others such as American Football, Climbing, Cricket, Football Challenges, Ice Skating, Lacrosse,



Orienteering, Rounders, Rugby, Smoothie Bike, TriVolle and Frisbee, On the concourse these was Athletics, Canoe, DJ Workshop, Fencing, The day was a great success with lots of opportunities for all the young people and staff to try new sports and have fun, competing amongst themselves and with others.

Taster Drop-In Sessions were particularly enjoyable, particularly and sports and activities that were new.

All participants received a free football at the end of the day which put a smile on everyone's face and although it was a tired bunch that made their way back, the bus was still noisy all the way to Wallsend. See our Street Games Album for more photos!

## **Horse Riding**

In April a group of young people went to Murton Equestrian Centre to brush up on their horse riding skills. They started by getting to know their horses for the day before going straight into a lesson in the indoor arena. This involved a slow walk before building up into a trot, firstly with the aid of a volunteer guiding the horse, then on their own. A few of the girls were a bit hesitant at first, particularly those new to horse riding, but as the lesson went everyone started to relax and to really enjoy themselves. So impressed were the girls that they immediately started to fundraise in order that they can participate on a more regular basis.



## Clay Pigeon Shoot

The 2014 annual Northumberland Clubs for Young People
Clay Pigeon Shoot was once again a great success. This was in
no small part due to the fantastic instructors who built such a
good rapport with every single young person. Each group of three
worked their way around the series of traps which released the cla

worked their way around the series of traps which released the clays at different angles. Once the group had warmed up a tournament was organised to see who the best shots were. At the end of the day a special trophy was given to the most improved young person, and this went to Wallsend Boys Club's Naomi Kendall. Well done to her and a great day out for all. We are certainly looking forward to the 2015 event and making sure we defend our trophy.



## Go Ape

A fantastic and thrilling day out was had by all who participated in the Go Ape Day in April at Matfen Hall. As soon as the safety talk was finished our group of monkeys took to the tree tops and swung from branch to branch, albeit yelling and screaming a bit in the process! They negotiated ladders, pullies, Tarzan swings and zip wires and used every muscle in their bodies to pull themselves along the tree line. The course consisted of five levels, one being the smallest and five the largest and most difficult. Starting off on level one everyone was fine, although on level 2 one of the group, Katie had her doubts about the Tarzan swing. After a little bit of encouragement she managed to plunge across and catch the net on the other side. Three of the team all ended up a bit scruffy after landing on the wood chip at the bottom of the zip lines, much to everyone else's amusement. Levels four and five started to test the stamina of even the hardiest of the bunch, with different

options to negotiate the course being tried out. By the end, everyone managed to jump off the big Tarzan swing and complete the long zip wire on level 5, all with big smiles on their faces as they finished. Such was the success we immediately started planning a trip over to the lakes to do the tree line tandem zip wires.

## Sailing Trip

THE EVENT OF THE YEAR!! THE SAILING TRIP 18th Aug

What an AWESOME Adventure, 32 hours on board the Sailing yacht the FARAMIR. We started by boarding the yacht at the Royal Quays Marina, welcomed by an excellent group of staff, showing tons of friendship and patience. Even the parents were allowed to have a look on board, which went down well with some embarrassed young people.

After quick goodbyes and nervous farewells, we all sat around the large table for introductions and to learn the safety drills. Everybody on board was issued with waterproofs and life jackets, given a tour of the boat before learning how to tie knots for the rigging. The staff were particularly good, making us feel welcome and ensuring we kept busy, with the three leaders and the young people



being divided into three groups for duties. Then it was time for the hard work, putting up the huge sails, using brute power and learning how to tie off, before we headed out to sea. The whole experience was awesome, friendships were built, basic sailing techniques were learnt and the group grew in confidence. There was no doubt that the young people and the leaders really enjoyed themselves, apart from the odd person being a little sick. There was time for a bit of relaxing on deck as well as for a spot of fishing. Some of the girls tried to put on a bit of make-up but soon gave up as they were wind swept within minutes. Cooking was

equally a tricky task, trying to make food for twenty people on a boat that most of the time was on a tilt with the weather. Returning back was even more exciting, the severe weather and gales made the ship rock even more, feeling like it was about to topple over. There were a few wet people due to the waves coming on board. The trip was a fantastic experience, great fun and extremely educating for both the young people and the leaders. There were certainly lots of memories to be taken away, for many of the young people it was a 'trip of a life time'. Big thanks to Cirdan Sailing Trust, the Faramir and its crew, Dawn (Skipper), Paul (Mate), and Vince (Bosun). Thanks for the experience; we hope to return again soon.



## **Accounts Summary**

# WALLSEND BOYS CLUB NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2014

# 7 EXAMINERS FEE

The independent examination work conducted during the year constituted a fee of £NIL (2013 - £NIL).

#### 18 TAXATION

As a charity, Wallsend Boys Club is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charitable company.

#### 19 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

	Unrestricte d Funds £	Restricte d Funds £	TOTAL £
Tangible Fixed Assets	218,441	1,060,695	1,279,13 6
Current Assets	339,608	18,126	357,734
Current Liabilities	(1,624)	-	(1,624)
Net Assets at 30th June 2014	556,425	1,078,821	1,635,24 6

#### 20 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

By the very nature of the charity, and its activities, trustees may become involved in the provision of services. Otherwise there are no other notable transactions involving trustees with related parties during the year.

### How To Help.....

We are always looking for general funding for staff, equipment, venue hire and general running costs and would value any support your





organisation can offer. You could even sponsor a specific project such as our Girls Group or Young Volunteers project.
Or you could attend one of our various fundraising events throughout the year, including our Annual Dinner.

#### **Volunteers**

The club welcomes volunteers of all ages and has survived over the last fifty years due to local people offering their time, ideas or always looking to develop and widen our Information on our volunteer roles is website.



abilities. The club the generosity of expertise. We are volunteer base. available on our

#### **Donate**

Donations help sustain the valuable work the club does in the local community. If you would like to

donate to the club or fund one of our projects please contact the club manager:



If you are interested in any of the above please contact the club manager <u>manager@wallsendboysclub.org.uk</u>

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