

# Shrewsbury House Annual Report 2013



**Pictured on a wet and soggy February Saturday, this group of club members were on their first residential weekend with the Shewsy. As one would expect, no one wanted to go on the walk but all said they loved it once it was over and done !**

## **Report of the Chair of the Board of Management**

Shrewsbury House has delivered another great year of enterprising youth work and quality outcomes with our young people. However we measure our outputs and outcomes, and doing this is a difficult task in informal education, we know that we have supported young people to build their self- confidence and make smart choices. In addition, we know that our work has prevented several from sliding into drug, crime and violence apprenticeships which await many of those, without work, who do not access strong support and guidance at an early age.

The extraordinary strategic issue is that this preventative work remains so undervalued by government. Rightly we have a counter terrorism force that works to prevent that horror. So too, budgets for health and education are ring fenced, but so little is afforded into the fields of preventative work with children, young people and families. It is no surprise that we pay a heavy price for the consequences of such short term thinking. "Invest to Save" used to be a common mantra, and indeed a funding stream, but it seems to be a distant memory now.

In the Shewsy's 110<sup>th</sup> year we face familiar issues and challenges, reducing funds from Government into youth work, a hard pressed local Council facing painful budget cutting choices and here we should express our thanks that our 2013 – 14 settlement has been maintained at the same level as last year. We face a huge challenge both to "earn" our keep and also fund raise like never before. Our finance sub- committee has been reconvened and taken urgent action already. We can report that for 2012 – 2013 we have reduced our overall spending by about 20 %. We will make our way with a mixture of wise and careful reductions and a massive effort to raise more funds from our own ex members and grant making trusts.

The Shewsy's contribution to the voluntary sector remains outstanding. All of our management comes entirely free and I would like to pay tribute to our Board who put such great time and effort into that management. Without it we would go under. And in club, nightly, we recruit, train and deploy people who help out in club at no cost to the club. Club would be a poorer place without their input and support.

We are 110 years old, the longest, continuously serving youth and community centre in Liverpool. We are in good heart and strong spirit and we thank you for your love and support for the Shewsy.

***John Hutchison, Chair, Board of Management***

# Report of the Club's Team Leader

Shrewsbury House opened for business on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1903 and was 'besieged by a howling mob of hooligans' as recalled later by the first missionary Digby Kittermaster. The 'howling mob of hooligans' became the first members of the club and although not all stuck at it, the ones that did, learnt to respect themselves and others and set the precedent and standard which we carry on 110 years later.

Thousands of young people and hundreds of staff have benefited from what the club has offered for over a century. The rhetoric of 'pull together', 'aim higher' and 'people matter more than things' resonate throughout the club and informs our practice to this day. We may not be besieged by 'a howling mob of hooligans' anymore and new members quickly learn to appreciate the value the club has on their lives - but the challenges remain. Data on deprivation gathered from the Church Urban Fund ranks the parish 12691 out of 12706 parishes in England. This means that the parish is among the most deprived in the country. Life expectancy for women is 72, for men 68 and 58% of working age adults have no qualifications. The inevitable corollary lowers aspirations, confidence, self-worth and a belief in striving to achieve and give more in life. The Shewsy, since its inception, has confronted the issues of poverty and deprivation by placing itself in the heart of the Everton Community and letting people know it is there for them. Our members voluntarily walk through the door knowing they will be challenged for using inappropriate behaviour or language whilst at the same time being treated with understanding, compassion and a wider appreciation of the social factors affecting their lives.

Yet, the Everton Community is surely one of the richest places on earth.

My name is John Maddocks. I am 73 years old. I first attended the club in 1950 when I was 10. Before I started coming to the club I'd just roam the streets or if we had money we would go to the cinema – or picture house as it was known then. There was The Roscommon known as the Rossy and on Langrove Street there was the Tivoli known as the Tivvy. There were still a lot of bombed properties at the time and we would play in derelict houses. We used to take wood to burn on the fire when we got home. There was not much money around and sometimes I went hungry. My mother was a single parent and held down three jobs

which took its toll on her. I used to look forward to Fridays because we had comics and sweets. Christmas was like a glorified Friday



***John Maddocks, who is part of the Archives group that meet every Friday morning in the Club. The group have created valuable pieces of work over the past few years and continue to wade through the Club's collection of documents and photographs. Any ex club member is welcome to join the group or contribute material to the archive.***

One of my best memories of the club is the generosity and kindness shown to me by the then club leader Mr Street. He once sent some of the older lads around to decorate our house. He also paid for me to go on an art course at the Liverpool College of Art. I felt really supported by the club in many ways but sometimes it was the warmth we shared and the toast we ate together that are the fondest of memories. Attending the club made me a better person and the camaraderie we shared was different in the club to that of the street.

My name is Luke Gilmore; I am 14 and started attending the club in October 2012. Before I came here I'd play footy on the streets with my mates or we would ride around on our bikes. Sometimes we would go swimming in the canal. I like coming to the club because I get to take part in lots of activities and the footy in the gym is more controlled than it is on the street. Everyone goes on about the club

being special and a great place to come - and it is. Going to Shewsy School has been my most memorable event so far. All the activities were great and the opportunities fabulous. We were treated like royalty and I would definitely like to go back there. Since I've been coming to the club I've made new friends and met really nice people like Henry”.



***Liverpool's Club member, Luke Gilmore, along with part time youth worker Michael Duffy, and Assistant team leader, John Dumbell.***

John and Luke's references to interacting with positive influential adults and acquiring friendship with strangers from differing backgrounds are testament to the longevity of the Shrewsbury House ideology- people matter more than things! The intentions, compassion, understanding and actions of Messrs Kittermaster, Street and their successors to the present day have informed Shrewsbury House practice for the past 110 years and it is on these shoulders that the current staff team stand.

Over the past year members have been on several residential experiences including the annual trip to Shrewsbury School where, as Luke said 'We were treated like royalty'. This year's trip had more activities on site which allowed for greater interaction between pupils, members and staff. The BBQ was a great success and our thanks to the

Head Mr Turner, Ms Burge and the staff and pupils for their time, effort and hospitality.

The curriculum for the coming year promises an offer of many opportunities and challenges for club staff and members and we have just implemented a new planning regime which should help our quality of programme. Next month our staff are cycling 127 miles along the Liverpool-Leeds Canal to raise money for the club and Medic Malawi, and an exchange visit to Dublin and Belfast is planned for the autumn. The summer programme has a varied selection of activities but the event foremost on Shewsy minds is the forthcoming women's European Football competition in Sweden. Shewsy youth worker and Everton FC Ladies player Toni Duggan, has been selected to play for England in the tournament. Toni has attended the club since the age of five and is a great source of inspiration for the entire community.

Statistically, Everton is classed as one of the poorest areas in the country; spiritually it has to be one of the richest. In my 3½ year tenure I have witnessed the impact the Shewsy has had on the lives of so many who have passed through its doors. The club is a conception borne out of a want to improve the lives of our fellow human beings. We, as adults, impart knowledge and experience whilst being receptive to the needs, wants and pressures to conform of present day youth culture. It IS hard for us to raise members' aspirations.

'The times they are a-changing' sang Bob Dylan fifty years ago and the pace of change increases year on year. Education, career opportunities and the way we socialise and communicate today has transformed totally since 1903. The Shewsy has met the demands placed on young people by societal changes, by continuing to offer and believe in the philosophy of informal education and messages of love, confidence and hope. The facilities, management, generous backup support, quality of staff and dedication of volunteers has enabled this club to offer life-changing opportunities to those young people who have voluntarily walked through these doors for 110 years.

***Dave Brereton, Team Leader***



*We are probably looking at future “Match of the Day” celebrities*

### **Recurrent themes ( edited) from Social Studies’ participants**

**NOT WHAT EXPECTED:** ‘surprised by’ ‘taken aback by’ ‘couldn’t believe how’ - phrases repeatedly used with reference in particular to the **warmth of the welcome** from adults and children, the standard of **musicianship**. ‘So friendly, despite our different social backgrounds’. ‘I was surprised, given the shocking statistics, how happy everyone was’, ‘how lucky I am going to Shrewsbury School when I looked at the resources’, ‘I fitted in easily’.

**LEARNING EXPERIENCES:** ‘learnt lots’, ‘good for Geography’ ‘Liverpool so varied’ ‘learnt about the economy’ ‘could see the contrast in housing’ ‘fascinating, if depressing, to talk to a judge .... ‘eye-opening’ **APPRECIATION** for the club and its staff: ‘fantastic job you’re doing’ ‘wish I could find the same community atmosphere at home and at school’, ‘Breo’s sessions got everyone thinking’, ‘good fun’, ‘easy to get on with the kids’ ‘makes you feel quite humble’. Helpers giving their time because they benefited from it as children

**FIRST HAND Q and A Sessions** with adults produced the most enthusiastic responses: ‘inspirational’, ‘enlightening’, ‘helped to show what it was like growing up here’, “I learned a lot and it touched me.”

**Finance Report: Finance Report:** A summary of the club's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2012 is set out below. A copy of the full accounts can be obtained by contacting the Club.

### **Income & Expenditure Account**

	2012	2011
	£	£
<b>Income</b>		
Donations	52,938	95,025
Rent, subscriptions and other club income	64,729	62,302
Grants	4,473	50,797
Investment income	58	145
	<u>122,198</u>	<u>208,269</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Wages and salaries	135,983	96,478
Property costs	32,986	45,304
Expenditure relating to grants received	4,356	35,249
Club running costs	41,898	30,332
Depreciation	19,006	17,352
	<u>234,229</u>	<u>224,715</u>
	-	
<b>(Deficit) / Surplus for the year</b>	<b>112,031</b>	<b>-16,446</b>



## Balance Sheet

	£	£
Fixed Assets	142,066	155,134
Debtors	17,071	27,713
Cash at Bank	174,996	257,906
Creditors	16,667	-11,266
	<u>317,456</u>	<u>429,487</u>

## Funds

Unrestricted – General	2,308	105,695
Unrestricted – Designated	302,725	312,725
Restricted	12,423	11,067
	<u>317,456</u>	<u>429,487</u>

## Income & Expenditure Account

The Club made an operating deficit of £122,198, compared to a deficit of £16,466 in the previous year. Income for the year totalled £208,269. Donations totalled £52,938 of which £26,900 came from the supporters of the Club from the O. S. community through the gift aid scheme. The Club is grateful for this continued support. Irregular and one off donations Totalled £23,323. Unrestricted donations were considerably lower than the previous year which included significant one off donations. Restricted donations were also significantly reduced at £3,715 compared to £29,745 in the previous years

Expenditure was comparative to the previous year, the increase mainly due to increased level of staffing to reflect the additional numbers attending club.

***Fran Croft, Treasurer***

## **Report of the Centre Warden**

The Shewsy is always full of stories, some hard, some brilliant, some to cry over, some to laugh with. Here are a couple of stories which tell of the Shewsy staff and atmosphere.

It was a phone call from a volunteer youth worker just outside Liverpool who had been advised to ring the Shewsy for advice about coping with some difficult young people at the club he was running. So I invited him down for a cuppa and took him across to see John Dumbell, Jade Cotton and Frank Kenny as they had their tea break between Junior and Senior Club. They welcomed the youth worker in, sat him down, offered him a cup of tea, and listened carefully to his story and his difficulties. They empathised with the issues he raised, asked questions about the young people and the club, and then offered all sorts of ideas and possible helpful ways through his problems.

At the heart of all they said was the importance of building good, honest, sharing, encouraging relationships with the young people and with agreed boundaries of respect. Here were Shewsy youth workers with great experience, totally genuine, real listeners, full of wisdom, and with wit and humour and a love of people. And willing to give up their tea break to help another.

The second story is of a club member who has become a club helper and is increasingly on television screens and in the papers. Last Week, Granada TV filmed Everton ladies footballer Toni Duggan in the Shewsy going about her work as a helper in Junior Club before she went off with the England Women's Football squad for the European championships. One of the Everton FC media team had called down with the Granada reporter and cameraman. Her email to me the next day said: "I was so impressed with the Shewsy. I've never been to a youth club quite like that where there's such an obvious unity amongst the community. I can see why Toni was so keen to return there in a working capacity."

The Shewsy is about people, and in our staff at the moment we are very fortunate to have some very special people, ably led and encouraged by Dave Brereton.

***Rev Henry Corbett, Warden of Shrewsbury House  
and Vicar of St Peter's and St Chrysostom's churches***

## Eddie Cartwright

Eddie Cartwright is something of an Everton and Liverpool legend. He stands in the pantheon of local stalwarts who were raised, trained and guided as much by the Shewsy club as any other factor in their lives. Born in 1940 and raised in an orphanage until moving to Wilbraham street as a 10 year old, Eddie recalls: "When I was trying to get into the Shewsy as a 12 year old you needed a letter from the Holy Ghost to get in the place! We were interviewed by the missioner and the members' committee and had to sign up to the rules, chapel...but we happily did that because we simply had to go there, it was a must"

"I was drawn into the place and all it stood for. It was unusual: with its people from elsewhere and habit of chapel and Christian teaching as well as being just a cracking club offering us everything you'd expect and all kinds of different activities and places to go, youth hostelling, walking the hills, midnight rambles and biggest of all the Whit weekend and summer camp at Shrewsbury school"

Eddie left school at 15, got a job on the railways and when aged 17 offered his help to run the club to the club leader, David Street. "He was a single minded ex Royal Marine commando and was good at working with young people, though he might not have recognised the term "Youth Work" ! He was great to me, gave me even more confidence, offered me solutions and new ideas, different ways of looking at life and the ways of the world. He also preached about God's love and I remember thinking to myself "I could do with a load of that".

"Club was open on Sundays in those days and I was drawn into St Timothy's choir and looking back I think choral music drew me towards a greater appreciation of what real Christianity was all about.... that and the preaching and friendship I was surrounded with. I was fascinated with how the preachers started out saying one thing and were able to move on to different points and conclusions. The Shewsy school choir used to come to St Tim's and the church was chokka when they were there. I even think the sound of the concert ringing out across Everton Brow was a great tonic and was welcomed by the neighbours who weren't in the church at the time. Maybe it was just something in me, but more likely I was being influenced and changed by what I was hearing and wanting for me and my life. I wanted a different kind of life

and a job different from the mill and the loading bay....and that aspiration was taking shape at the Shewsy”



One day, David Street arrived at Jacobs where Eddie was working, and announced that he was busy with a party of Shrewsbury school lads and would Ed open the Club that night? Eddie duly did that and in the course of the evening had to discipline young Smith (who was persistently causing the record player's needle to jump) by making his head cause a dent in a window of Georgian glass ! Not the perfect start, but Smith was ok ...and learned his lesson. David Street offered Eddie the same opportunity some weeks later with the request "Eddie, this time try not to put Smith's head through the window!"

Eddie did learn. He was getting a passion for doing something different, for standing up for the underdog. The Shewsy was influencing the orphan kid, trusting him, building his confidence, raising his horizons and opening his eyes in a very special way.

When Roger and Jenny Sainsbury arrived in 1963, Roger spotted Eddie's potential, chased him down to the Mayflower centre in London for a different experience and then took him on as paid boys club leader at the Shewsy. Eddie continued his training and also became resident in the Club. The frequent visits to the school continued and on one infamous occasion, the coach load of club lads who had spent the weekend at the school, with Eddie in charge, was stopped by the Police at the Birkenhead side of the tunnel. Eddie was ushered off the coach and received a call from the headmaster Donald Wright. "Have you got a pen and paper Eddie?" "I've got a pad headmaster" "Good, Eddie, you'll need it ...it appears that some of your boys have been on a shopping spree at our expense" He then proceeded to read out the very long list of items known to have vanished from school premises.

Eddie had to think at the speed of light; the next stop for the coach and its young occupants was the Club and then the safe sanctuary of home. Ed's response to the pressure was to climb back onto the coach, find an empty box and boom out instructions to all, that the box would be passed down the coach and filled with the stolen goods in the dark of the tunnel journey. Woe betide anyone who did not comply! There was more: the Headmaster had to make a second call and Eddie visited every home and called on Det Sergeant Hayes to finally enforce the return of the goods. It all worked out.

"When I look back at the Shewsy, as much as anything it was the very many folk from outside the area, lots of them from the school at some point, who made and continue to make, a huge difference to my life and those of many others too. I am in good touch with several to this day and it is the depth and strength of those relationships that I value so much. Those people through their action and attitude expressed their compassion for Everton people, their circumstances and their love of the club they so supported. "Go and do thou likewise" that's the Good Samaritan story isn't it? That sums it up. I never felt like a pauper with those people, I was respected and valued and I returned those feelings and that attitude. We were all proud to be a part of Shrewsbury House. I

hope I have given back to the club and the Everton area as much as I received. I have had the privilege to work with some great local people and places over the years and we have worked together tirelessly for the benefit of others in the community.

To stroll through those grounds at the school and to stroll the streets of Everton are two completely different life experiences and yet those places and people have been united through the Club for more than a hundred years, brought together and teaching and learning from each other. It's a tale of mutual respect and mutual advantage. That's the point. And that has got to be something that everyone should be thankful for"

***Eddie Cartwright was Interviewed in June 2013***

## **110 Years celebrations**

We are planning a week of activities to celebrate our 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This will be from 4 – 10 November 2013.

On Sunday, 10 November at 11.00 a.m. Bishop Roger and Jenny Sainsbury will be our guests with Roger preaching at the service.

You are all welcome to join in the party.

**Gift Aid Declaration**

**Name of Charity:** Shrewsbury House Youth & Community Centre

Details of donor

Title .....Forename(s) ..... Surname  
.....

Home address

.....  
.....

..... Post Code .....

I want the charity to treat

- \*the enclosed donation of £ ..... as a Gift Aid donation
- \*the donation(s) of £ ..... which I made on  
...../...../..... as (a) Gift Aid donation (s)
- \*all donations that I make from the date of this declaration until I notify  
you otherwise as Gift Aid donations
- \*all donations I have made for this tax year and the six years prior to the  
year of this declaration, (but no earlier than 6/4/2000) **and** all donations  
I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise, as  
Gift Aid donations.

\*delete as appropriate

**You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least  
equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the  
appropriate tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give).**

Signed:.....

Date: ...../...../.....

Please return to Derek Crompton, The Cottage, 17, Ashton Road,  
Shrewsbury. SY3 7AP

## Notes:

1. You can cancel this Declaration at any time by notifying the charity.
2. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that the charity reclaims, you can cancel your declaration.
3. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return.
4. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask the charity.
5. Please notify the charity if you change your name or address

## Contact us:

By phone            0151 207 0725

By Website:        [www.shrewsburyhouse.org.uk](http://www.shrewsburyhouse.org.uk)

By E mail :        [dave.brereton@shrewsburyhouse.org.uk](mailto:dave.brereton@shrewsburyhouse.org.uk)

By Twitter            [Shewsy Twitter account](#)    [@TheShewsy](#)

By Visit:            We are less than a mile from Liverpool city centre and Lime Street. Our address is 37, Langrove Street, Everton, Liverpool L5 3PE

Our staff will be delighted to welcome you and show you round the club.

- Our Team Leader is Dave Brereton. The assistant team leader is John Dumbell
- Our part time Caretaker is Roy McGaw
- Our part time administrator is Erica Hedley.  
Our Centre Warden Henry Corbett lives on site and can be contacted on 0151 207 1948 or E mail at [henry.corbett@btinternet.com](mailto:henry.corbett@btinternet.com)
- Our Chair of the Board of Management is John Hutchison  
Contact him on 0151 525 6899 or Email at [johnhutch2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:johnhutch2@yahoo.co.uk)

**Shrewsbury House is a registered charity (No1058694) and a company limited by guarantee ( No 3245123)**