

# Shrewsbury House

## Annual Report

### 2012



**A happy gang of some of the participants from Shrewsbury House, pictured at the start of last September's sponsored walk on the Long Mynd. It was a glorious, sunny, clear blue sky day and the whole school event was a triumph of planning and logistics. The walk raised the fine sum of £ 46,000 for the work of the Club.**

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

I want to echo some of what you will read in “our Henry’s” report further down the page. Shrewsbury House is so, so critical to the health of the Everton community. It is such a catalyst. It is the fuel in the engine, the lyrics in the song. I have watched the Club fairly close up for 40 years now and it has been at the heart of all the development, education and regeneration that epitomises the transformation of our little space in Everton. But more than that, it has contributed a huge amount to the emergence of Liverpool as an economic, artistic and social centre of excellence.

My evidence is as follows. Our people, members, staff, volunteers have consistently been involved in the most ground breaking schemes. The examples are partly mirrored by Henry’s list later on, but I would add that the Shewsy does a different kind of youth work to many places. We are not content to provide an activity programme for the body alone. We want minds and hearts and souls to see and think and feel differently and we try to provide the opportunities for that to happen at each and every contact. All our staff have learned to share this vision.

When I scan the partners significantly involved in the current action to develop the potential of Everton Park, most of them have their roots in the Shewsy. And it is the case that our partners in Everton Park are impressed by our ideas and action and as a result they support us strongly. The West Everton Community Council has it’s own roots in the Shewsy. Started in the late 60’s, it has grown up to be independent and doing wonderful, supportive and innovative community work since that time.

Malawi - who would dream that we were bothered about Malawi? We are, we know where it is, something of what it is like and we want to do more. We want our young people to go there, find ways of bringing their young people here, to join hands and work together for a better place and a better shared world. And building on Mark and Erica Hedley’s long standing support for an orphanage and a school there, we have started this process with staff member Michael Duffy’s remarkable 10 weeks recent trip and feedback providing a great talking point in the Club. The school also, is heavily involved in a scheme to support Malawi and I am intrigued to see if we can stack up a three sided long term project.

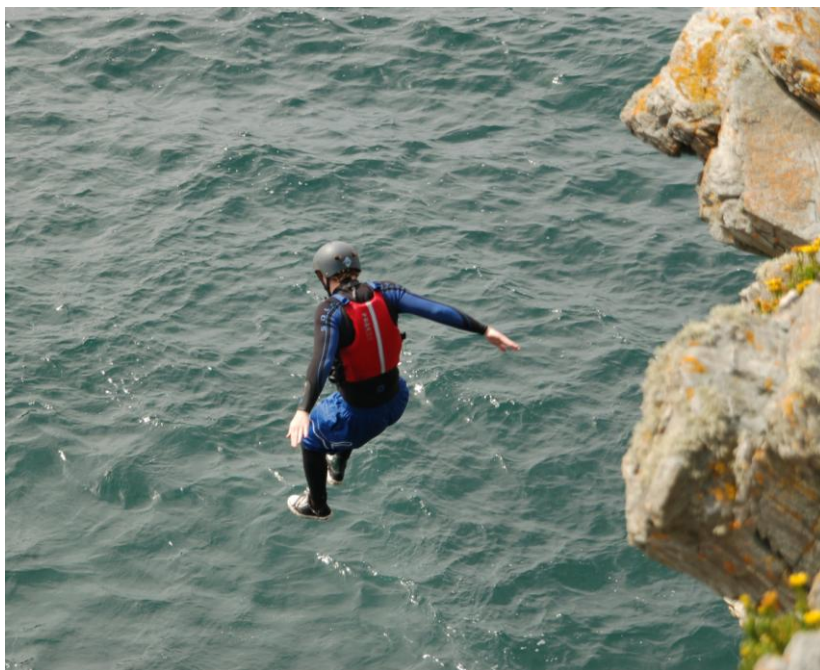
On the last lap of putting this report together, I called in to the Shewsy tonight and it was buzzing. I look pretty out of place in a youth club nowadays, but I do know that I am a little part of the salt and light that makes this a special place, and I am so grateful for that privilege.

*John Hutchison, Chair, Board of Management*

## Report of the Club's Team Leader

I was recently handed a booklet by the Club's Archive Team which documents a series of letters written during the Second World War by club members and Old Salopian Michael Nickson. The booklet, "*A Tribute to an Old Salopian*" articulates the affection, fondness and strength of the relationships that had been fostered at Shrewsbury House between members of the school and club during this time of global chaos and destruction. Reading the letters conjures up many images of the relationships and conversations that occurred at this time and the privilege that people felt at being associated with it. That privilege is still felt today by those of us who work at the club. The sense of pride that accompanies saying "I work at the Shewsy" complements the great responsibility we hold in serving the community.

Today, as we enter another period of nation-posturing, global economic uncertainty and high unemployment, our work at the club is as relevant as ever to support young people to achieve their full potential and make better informed choices in their lives.



***Sean Walsh takes his life in his hands on the Club's Coasteering trip last summer. What did he learn as a result? Some things about himself!***

Attendance numbers are good and the Shewsy has seen a steady influx of new members - both locally and from across the city, drawn to the club by its amenities, activities and warm welcome. With over 200 members and averaging 70 young people each day, the club continues to develop its core business of providing activities and learning opportunities that enhance the physical, mental and emotional needs of its users.

Discussion group sessions continue to make a great impact and we have had some notable guests in club such as ex-Liverpool player Howard Gayle who spoke candidly about Kenny Dalglish, professional football and racism. The actors Andrew Schofield, Paul Duckworth and scriptwriter Dave Kirby also put themselves in the 'hotseat' and shared some hilarious anecdotes of life on the film-set. Shewsy staff member Michael Duffy inspired current members to volunteer in Africa after recounting his 3-month experience in Malawi.

When I first started working at Shrewsbury House I was informed that Michael was no stranger to being barred from the club. Michael is a great example of how young people can turn their lives around given the right support. The visit of Atlantic Rower Mathew Mackaness was also an inspirational evening. Mathew, accompanied by Lord Best, visited the club on 11<sup>th</sup> August to show the film of the Atlantic Row and talk about his epic journey which raised over £40000 for the club. Members were genuinely overawed and the club is eternally grateful to Mathew and co-rower Charlie Marlow for raising such a substantial amount of funding for the club.

The past twelve months has provided many learning opportunities for the members of the club to participate in - and reflect and learn from these experiences. One of the great pleasures of informal education is being part of an experience where the incidental learning is often more relevant than the pre-set outcomes. Reflecting on the last year, it is pleasing to report that, although difficult to measure, so many of those sessions and activities have produced clear incidental learning for the participants.

The summer programme of 2011 gave members the opportunity to try out some adrenalin pumping activities such as white-water rafting and coasteering. This involves jumping into the sea from ever increasing heights and it proved to be a serious challenge for members and staff. The activity was combined with a camping and sea fishing trip that provided young people with the opportunity to learn skills in self-sufficiency and team work. The trip is still often mentioned in club and the memories and experiences will stay with participants for many years to come.

The autumn saw the inaugural International Peace One Day event and the Shewsy was a lead player in the football tournament played on Everton Park and the hospitality provided afterwards. The event was run in partnership with the West Everton community council, EFC in the Community, LFC in the Community and Unity and Edge Hill Youth Clubs. Ex-football stars Sammy Lee, Chris Lawler, John Bailey and Alan Irvine turned up to support and the latter gave a fine speech back at the Shewsy. We will be running a similar event in September of this year.

Female membership in the club has significantly increased and all-female residential took place at Kingswood, North Wales. The group participated in outdoor and indoor activities that challenged them both physically and mentally. The value of informal education in residential settings is often immeasurable but there is no doubt that they have a massive impact on the confidence levels and self-esteem of participants. I am forever fascinated and amazed at the talent possessed by the young people who we get to know in the club. Whether it is music, sport, art, creatively or academically, this talent is often latent until opportunities are provided to allow it to flourish and grow. The Shewsy provides these opportunities that enable young people to belong, develop and contribute within the local and global community.



***Liverpool's staging of "The Peace One Day" event in September was a first for us and we will repeat our lead role again in 2012.***

Michael Nickson did not return from the war and died near the French town of Caen. It is obvious reading through the letters that his death hit the boys of the club hard and the camaraderie, dialogue and friendship they shared is very evident as they fought against tyranny, social injustice and the right to co-exist. It is this tradition that we carry on in

the club as we address these issues at micro-level. The relationships that we foster locally, nationally and increasingly globally can prevent the ideology of intolerance and ignorance from poisoning communities and stifling democracy.

*One of my inspirations is this from Paulo Freire: "Without dialogue there is no communication and without communication there can be no true education"*

*Dave Brereton, Team Leader*

## **Report of the Centre warden**

"Everything in Everton seems to take 10 years" says my wife Jane, now a local councillor for the Everton ward and involved in community development action in the Everton area over the last 30 years. The housing campaigns of the 1980s fit that time scale as the tower blocks and maisonettes of the 1960s were replaced by much improved housing. So too does the remarkable residents' campaign that saved the excellent 1950s housing stock of Langrove Street. The Shewsy was heavily involved in and hugely supportive of that effort. The battle to save a health clinic and then work for a new Everton Road Health Centre also took around 10 years, and the fight to save a Primary School for the community and then to celebrate our new joint Church of England/Roman Catholic Faith Primary School just 200 yards away from the Shewsy on Prince Edwin Street also took nearly 10 years.

Mind you, the brilliant "In Harmony" music project with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic at the school, following the example of the El Sistema movement in Venezuela, only took a few months to get going and is proving itself a huge success as every child at Faith Primary is taught to play a classical instrument and grows in confidence and in educational achievement.

Now we are waiting for Great Homer Street's regeneration to happen finally, with the promise of much needed shops and jobs and some more housing. That has taken more than 10 years sadly. Local hopes and visions for the development of Everton Park are beginning to bear fruit from seeds and ideas sown back in the early 1990s and John and Hil Hutchison have been vitally involved in that alongside others.

But more quickly, Notre Dame Catholic High School is definitely moving from Everton Valley to Great Homer Street in September 2013 and from September this year will be taking boys as well as girls. That is good news for our area following the sad closure of Campion High School for boys and our links at the Shewsy with Notre Dame School are increasingly close





***Our very own Everton Park hosted the Little Girl Giant in a fabulous weekend for Liverpool commemorating the centenary of the Titanic***

So perseverance is the name of our game and many years ago Nellie Barker, stalwart of St Peter's Church and the Shewsy and now in Australia and in her 90s, identified that word perseverance as her favourite word, in her Bible and in her life. Certainly the Shewsy has a proud record of perseverance in the Everton community as we go into our 110<sup>th</sup> year. The values we seek to live by also have an enduring quality: to serve the community, to work with other organisations and agencies as friends and not as rivals, to encourage young and old in the development of their talents and gifts, to bring the bigger picture of a world and society of talent but also in need both to local Everton minds and to Shrewsbury School minds through Social Studies courses, discussion groups, trips, new experiences. Those values must persevere alongside our daily work in the Everton community. It takes 10 years? It never ends, and is of timeless, incalculable importance.

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



**Finance Report:** A summary of the club's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011 is set out below. A copy of the full accounts can be obtained by contacting the Club.

### **Income & Expenditure Account**

	2011	2010
<b>Income</b>	£	£
Donations	95,025	406,374
Rent, subscriptions and other club income	62,302	59,898
Grants	50,797	108,185
Investment income	145	63
	<u>208,269</u>	<u>574,520</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Wages and salaries	96,478	88,622
Property costs	45,304	46,553
Expenditure relating to grants received	35,249	31,275
Club running costs	30,332	28,192
Depreciation	17,352	8,065
	<u>224,715</u>	<u>202,707</u>
<b>(Deficit) / Surplus for the year</b>	<b>-16,446</b>	<b>371,813</b>





### Balance Sheet

	£	£
Fixed Assets	155,134	101,931
Debtors	27,713	61,218
Cash at Bank	257,906	301,687
Creditors	-11,266	-18,903
	<u>429,487</u>	<u>445,933</u>

### Funds

Unrestricted – General	105,695	110,094
Unrestricted – Designated	312,725	325,000
Restricted	11,067	10,839
	<u>429,487</u>	<u>445,933</u>

### Income & Expenditure Account

The Club made an operating deficit of £16,446, compared to a surplus of £371,813 in the previous year. The surplus in 2010 was mainly due to a legacy of £316,132 from the estate of the late Freddie Mann.

Income for the year totalled £208,269. Donations totalled £95,025, of which £53,043 came from the supporters of the Club from the O. S. Community. The Club is grateful for this continued support. The balance of donations received related to irregular and one off donations.

Expenditure was comparative to the previous year, the increase mainly due to increased level of staffing to deliver a better quality service.

### Balance Sheet

The Club further improved its facilities, spending a further £29,700 on the refurbishment programme started in 2010. In addition a further £38,850 was spent replacing both the heating and water systems in the Club's premises. All this expenditure was capitalised.

*Philip Turner, Treasurer*

## **Report of the President of the Old Salopian Club**

During my year as President of the Salopian Club I took the opportunity to visit the Shewsy in Liverpool, as my predecessor Hugh Ramsbotham had done. The last link I had had with it was in my last term at Shrewsbury in 1960 when the then School Missioner, David Street, had been interviewed in the Salopian Magazine, during the course of which he had said:

*"We are a very warm-hearted crowd of youngsters and we want everyone to feel that they really belong to something, that they are important as individuals, that they all have talents to develop and that they have a real contribution to make."*

While the Club's facilities have developed out of all recognition since those distant days, I found the Club still to be exactly that: the young people I met, the enthusiasm of the team leaders, the range of activities I witnessed and the vision of the management whose meeting I attended were all an inspiration.

The quality of the facilities, the excellent atmosphere I found, everyone's evident pride in the place and their vision of the future are all proof of what can be achieved through determination, strong leadership, and an enthusiastic, motivated team of helpers – all underpinned by the support which is provided by the School.

I was proud of how the Shewsy is sustaining the good name of Shrewsbury in Liverpool, and the whole Salopian Club should share that pride and not flag in its support for all that Shrewsbury House is doing in Liverpool and for all that it brings to the name of Shrewsbury.

*Richard Barber, President of the Old Salopian club, 2011*

## **Testimonies and Stories**

**Below are a selection of testimonies and stories from a number of our key supporters and also volunteers from our Board of Management**

As the Chief Constable of Merseyside Police I am delighted to contribute to the Club's Annual Report.

The young people of today are the future leaders of this great City and I am committed to ensuring that at every level my officers and staff work tirelessly with all our partners to ensure that together

each and every young person is provided with support, opportunity and positive role models.

Shrewsbury House Youth Club provides not only those key elements, but also a strong community based program for the young people of the area. When I visited the club I saw at first hand the great facilities and environment that is in place for young people in the area. The club provides an opportunity for young people to socialise safely and develop skills that will help them to progress, develop and achieve their potential. I am delighted and proud to be associated with the Club and I commend the young people of Shrewsbury House Youth Club who make it a thriving, positive and energetic place.

Merseyside Police and the local neighbourhood officers will continue to work with the Club and I look forward to my next visit.

*Chief Constable of Merseyside, John Murphy*

I first visited Shrewsbury House in March 1984 when I was still at Shrewsbury School.

I can clearly remember the warmth of the welcome, the hard-fought football games in the sports hall and taking my first trip to Anfield to watch Liverpool beat Benfica in the European Cup.

I could see then what an important place the Shewsy was within the local community and I never forgot it. When I was asked last year if I would become a Trustee, I had no hesitation in saying yes. In the short time I have now been on the Board of Management I have seen that the Shewsy is now more important locally than it ever has been. I hope that the links between the Shewsy and Shrewsbury School continue to become stronger – each takes great benefit from the relationship and would be a lot weaker without it.

*Andrew Jebb, Board of Management*

It's great to see the excellent community outreach and integration that is continuing at Shrewsbury House and St Peter's. Projects like the 'Shewsy' that are 'open doors' to the local community and young people in particular, are vital parts of the Church's vision and mission. I am delighted that the Shewsy Centre flourishes in Everton after more than 100 years service and I will do my best to ensure that the diocese continues to support this essential work.

*Ven. Ricky Panter, Archdeacon of Liverpool*

Jude "I love the Shewsy because I get to play footie and I've made lots of friends"

Hayley " I love the Shewsy because Jude gets to mix with kids of his own age and keeps fit"

Jude "I love the Shewsy because we play really good games"

Hayley "I love the Shewsy because Jude plays active games which teach him to try hard, share, have fun after school whilst I'm at work"

Jude " I love the Shewsy and we go on trips"

Hayley " Jude went on a trip to Chester zoo, lots of the children went at half term. Children who show good behaviour and attend the club often go on day trips as a treat"

The Shewsy is giving both Jude and I, a chance to develop our skills, as Jude is a member of junior club and I am a new member the board of management.

*Hayley (Board of Management) and Jude (age 7) Carroll*



***Jenny Sainsbury, Girls club leader in the 1960's, at last year's Summer Fair. Jenny is pictured with George Marsden, a member of the Club's archive team along with ex club girls local stalwarts Linda O' Shaughnessy and Carol Fearn.***

When I first visited The Shewsy in 1979 I was simply astounded by the obvious signs of neglect and poverty in Everton. There was a need to provide some support. Equally, the vitality and sense of humour and camaraderie within the Shewsy was something which I immediately really liked. Since that first visit I have become involved and although the external signs of poverty have in many cases been alleviated by new buildings and Everton Park, the need to support and help never diminishes. Neither does the amount I get back from the Shewsy: friendship; an awareness and some understanding of urban issues; coming face to face with inequality on a grand scale; and a continual grounding in reality. These are the values which make the link as important to the School as it is to the Club. It is both a pleasure and a privilege to be involved with such an amazing place. I suppose more than anything I identify with the Club's motto: people do matter more than things.

*Chris Conway, Head of Careers, Shrewsbury School*

My first contact with the Club was when I was a boy at Shrewsbury School in the 1960's. The 'Mission', as it was then called, was big in our consciousness at that time and many trips went up to Liverpool. Later when I returned to teach at Shrewsbury School I took on the role of running the annual May weekend visit, which in those days was a three day affair. My counterpart at that time was Peter ('Torchy') Brennan and we had many terrific weekends mixed in with some hair-raising episodes. I have also had two spells of service, one ongoing, on the Board of Management.

My involvement with the Shewsy has been a great privilege. It is a special and unique place and the long relationship between the club and school is a great gift to both and a vital part of the soul of Shrewsbury School

*Robin Brooke Smith*



## More News

The Friends of Everton Park are forging ahead with a series of remarkable initiatives and plans which are aimed at developing the unfinished business of the greenspace that has surrounded the Shewsy since demolition in the 1980's. Good housing we now have, although we need and plan more, but the park remains a little unloved and underused. It has at it's heart the highest point in Liverpool and under it's grass a remarkable history.

These are wonderful assets and the friends plan to make the most of them. Working in strong partnership with the City Council and Liverpool Vision, we are about to install a Heritage trail to bring the history alive, we are planting community orchards and we are running programmes of visitor attractions and events that would make any public space proud. Everton Park, it's not yet National Trust, but it is a secret national treasure.



*Nearing the end...two great servants of the club take the last few painful steps on the sponsored walk.....within the speed limit !*



## 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 28p 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.

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 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, make you a cup of tea 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 and you can contact him on 0151 525 6899 or E mail at [johnhutch2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:johnhutch2@yahoo.co.uk)

We would like to thank Mark Loudon for the photographs in this report.

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