

Shrewsbury House

Annual Report

2015-2016



Some Junior Club members enjoying healthy food and friendship in the Shewsy on a weekday afternoon.

Vice chair's report — Fran Croft

With our much respected Chair John Hutchison visiting his daughter and family in Australia, it is my pleasure to report that the Shewsy is alive and well and continuing to meet the needs of children and young people in the Everton area and beyond. And this is despite the difficult financial climate in the city that means that Liverpool City Council is no longer able to fund our Senior Youth Club worker and Junior Club worker as they used to. Now they are only able to afford to give us a modest contribution towards maintenance and sadly nothing towards the 2 salaries of Team leader and assistant youth worker. They would like to help more because they rate and respect the work the Shewsy does, but a 58% cut to their budget means they simply can't.

So donations, sponsored walks (as in the picture below), grants from Trusts, income we can raise ourselves, are all the more important, and very gratefully received.



Our team leader Dave Brereton is seen holding the cheque raised by the Shrewsbury School sponsored walk in September, with Headmaster Mark Turner, School staff members Nick David and Lesley Drew and some of the School pupils.

This report will keep you in touch with the work of the Shewsy through our Team Leader's Dave Brereton's article, and Warden Henry Corbett will give you an up-to-date flavour of the Everton area where the Shewsy has been based for our 113 years. The interview with Ryan Fitzpatrick is a reminder of the enormous value of trusted, checked volunteers, and the news item gives you some other headlines from the club. As always a report like this just scratches the surface. Do give us a ring and call in if you are ever in the area: you would be very welcome.

Team Leader's report — Dave Brereton

Since its beginning in 1903 the 'Shewsy' has provided the young people of Everton with life-changing opportunities. The vision of the then Head of Shrewsbury School Reverend Moss to open a mission in one of the most disadvantaged areas of Liverpool has paid immense dividends. From camping trips in Shropshire fields in the early 1900s to expeditions to Malawi in 2016 the club has come a long way since its humble beginnings



Some of the mixed Shrewsbury House-Shrewsbury School group who went to Malawi in the summer of 2016.

above a disused pub on Mansfield Street in Everton.

The relationship between school and club is as strong as ever with five Social Studies groups staying at the club for two nights and four day-visits from Year 3 pupils each year. As of next year, the club will be expanding its visits to the school to three separate occasions to give members a more in-depth taste of Shrewsbury School life. The club currently has just over 200 members aged 5-19 and we operate a service 4 evenings per week. In recent years, we have noticed many families struggling to provide balanced meals for their children due to being in poverty. The club

has responded by engaging local volunteers to prepare nutritional food for members for each session. This has made a massive difference and the club has been inundated with gratitude from parents for being able to provide this service.

Despite the area suffering from financial poverty, the local community is enriched with spirituality and camaraderie. It is these values that we promote at the club by providing opportunities for young people to contribute to their local community and wider society.

It is without doubt that we could not provide the much needed, quality youth provision to the young people of Everton without the support of Shrewsbury School and the Salopian community. The sponsored walk on 22nd September undertaken by pupils, school and club staff has raised a vital amount of much needed funding for the club.

In July of this year five members of the club joined with the school on the Medic Malawi Expedition. Led by youth worker Julie Fitzpatrick, the five fund-raised for 18 months to raise the necessary amount for the expedition. This was an amazing experience for the members and our thanks to those at the school for enabling this once in a life time experience. We hope to be able to offer the Malawi Expedition to current members in the future.



Club members Jess and Ellie fund-raising for the Malawi trip in Liverpool with helper Julie Fitzpatrick

Club members participated in an exchange trip to Ireland in November with the Talk About Youth Project based in Dublin. We have collaborated with this group several times during the last couple of years and have fostered a great working relationship with them. Club members gave an excellent account of themselves and enthusiastically engaged in the outdoor activities and Human Rights workshops.



Shewsy Senior Club member Demi rock-climbing

It is always pleasing to hear positive comments about the Shewsy from parents, supporters and stakeholders. The remarks are often coupled with plaudits on how fine a job we are doing in working with some young people who have some challenging issues in their lives. The dedicated and committed youth worker thrives in this environment and derives much satisfaction from making a difference in the lives of young people. To be in the position to offer life-changing opportunities and witness young people acquire and utilise often latent talents is immensely rewarding and worthwhile.

Warden's report – Henry Corbett



Things rarely stay the same for too long in the inner city. The picture above shows a now much more diverse club membership with all the educational and cultural advantages that can bring to our young people as they grow up and learn to live in a mixed, multi-cultural world. In the 1960s West Everton saw the pre-war terraced back-to-back houses being replaced by 17 tower blocks, in the 1970s came the rabbit-warren of the Radcliffe estate only to be knocked down at the end of the 1980s and now today 15 of those 17 tower blocks have gone to be replaced by well-planned good housing with the community, including the Shewsy, very much involved in the planning, the lay out and design.

As the area has changed in housing and to some extent in population,

Finance Report: A Summary of the club's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016 is set out below. A copy of the full accounts can be obtained by contacting the club (see back page for contact details).

Income and Expenditure Account

	2016	2015
Income	£	£
Donations and Legacies	99,209	94,694
Charitable activities	47,679	47,796
Activities for generating funds	31,739	22,373
Investment income	22	38
Total Income	178,649	164,901
Expenditure		
Charitable Activities	209,130	189,921
Total Expenditure	209,130	189,921
Net Income / (Expenditure)	(30,481)	(25,020)
Transfers between funds	—	—
Net movement in funds	(30,481)	(25,020)
Reconciliation of funds:		
Total funds brought forward	255,154	280,174
Total Funds carried forward	224,673	255,154

Balance Sheet

	2016	2015
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets	71,214	88,109
Current Assets		
Debtors	14,524	12,514
Cash at bank and in hand	145,121	159,660
Creditors	(6,186)	(5,129)
Net Current assets/(liabilities)	153,459	167,045
Total assets less current liabilities	224,673	255,154
Charity Funds		
Restricted funds	18,772	21,920
Unrestricted funds	205,901	233,234
Total Charity Funds/ (deficit)	224,673	255,154

Income and Expenditure Account

The Club made an operating deficit of £30,481, a figure partly explained by reductions in gift aid donations and a reduction in Liverpool City Council grant: in the Shewsy's long history there have often been fluctuations in donations and grant funding, and next year's accounts will include the considerable money raised by the Sponsored walk in 2016.

Donations and legacies includes a £15,000 donation from Shrewsbury School, and a Club Leader grant of £19,083.

Activities for generating funds includes flat and hostel income as well as the hire of our facilities.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes £128,158 on salaries and wages, £14,997 on heating and lighting, and a £17,100 depreciation figure on our building.

T.F.Croft, treasurer.

the Shewsy has always worked to be an important and supportive partner in that change. Together with St Peter's Church, Everton, we have produced since the 1960s a community newspaper the Everton Telegraph which goes to every home, shop and organisation in the West Everton area (and is warmly appreciated), highlighting news, issues, stories, possibilities for people to join in, what the Shewsy is doing, etc. "Everton is a happier place because it has a positive community newspaper doing the rounds: how many places have one of those?" commented one observer.

3 times a year we also host at the Shewsy the West Everton Lunch Club which brings together people working in and for the community. We are not about empire-building for the club, but about working together with others for the good of the community and beyond. The lunch club



A cheerful group at the Shewsy Summer Fair in July, many of them ex club members or the parents of club members.

provides a welcome opportunity for such as teachers, youth workers, housing managers, local councillors, clergy, neighbourhood police, health workers and local activists to meet each other and the speaker or speakers will be on a topical subject of concern to the community. Every summer too we have our Shewsy Summer Fair which is an opportunity for ex Shewsy club members to call back, for the community to gather and enjoy some live music, activities, sport, club displays and to socialise and catch up with other people's news and views in and around the club.

Partnership, working together, not rivalry or suspicion, is the Shewsy and West Everton way. And with difficult financial times increasingly coming to our city partnership and working together is the way forward.

Volunteering at the Shewsy- Ryan Fitzpatrick

Question: So, Ryan, how did you first hear about the Shewsy?

Answer: I heard about the Shewsy when working for Liverpool Youth Service and heard many great things about the place.

Q - How did you first get involved in volunteering at the Shewsy, what did you do to start with, and how did you find those early days?

A - I emailed the Shewsy through the website, and was asked to come down by Dave Brereton (Breo) had a

quick chat and off I went. At first I was nervous but I was welcomed by a great youth work team back then in Breo, John & Jade Dumbell, Paul & Lorraine Mangan, Toni Duggan, Michael Duffy, Dean Willo & the legend Frank Kenny.

Q What kept you going as a volunteer, what do you value about the Shewsy, and what are some of your favourite stories about helping in the Shewsy?

A - The people in the club have kept me going: as a volunteer you feel part of the team and included in everything that happens in the club. But the biggest factor has been the people from around the area. Everton for some might have a bad reputation, but I don't think it's all doom and gloom: there are some really good people in the neighbourhood who are honest & very welcoming, John & Jade Dumbell, Paul Edwards, Michael Duffy, Dean Willo, Luke & Robert, Frank Kenny and of course Henry & Jane and anyone else I have failed to mention, the people are the biggest value to the club I think. And the young people of course also keep me coming to the club.



Ryan pictured left at the Shewsy Summer Fair

Q - And what are some of the hardest things, and without mentioning names some of the difficult things you come across among the young people?

A - The hardest thing to overcome I think in the club is to break down the initial barrier between the youth workers and at least some of the young people that come in to the club whether it's Juniors or Seniors and to gain each other's trust and build a relationship for a better future.



Q - And we know you have a busy life and interests outside of the Shewsy, including full time work: tell us a bit about what you do in your paid work job and in your (little remaining?!) free time?

A - My full time role is based in Liverpool City Centre working for an Investment Bank in the famous Liver Building. My role is Facilities Support which is a varied role working closely with IT support and making sure the office runs smoothly without any issues. Outside work I use to play a lot of football but age caught up with me; so I turned my hand to Photography which I really enjoy. I travel a lot when I can, I try to take in unusual places. This year I have travelled to Laos (South East Asia) Poland and Lithuania. In January I have planned to travel around Romania for a week. Can I just say how volunteering helps the people who are volunteering. I have got so much out of it. Not only has Shrewsbury House been good to me and welcoming, but it has made me a better person I think, and that's to do with all the people mentioned above and how they treated me when I first arrived at Shrewsbury House. I have definitely found it to be "the place where people matter more than things".

Q— Many thanks, Ryan, and all your help and support and encouragement and the gifts and interests and energy have been so much valued by all at the Shewsy, helpers and members alike. The volunteering tradition is so important to the work of the club and you are a great example of that.

Some People News

Jim Kennedy was a founding member of our Shewsy Archive Team that formed after our Shewsy Centenary year in 2003. Jim loved calling in to the Shewsy on a Friday morning, meeting up with his fellow Archive team members and he is pictured right working on his computer and sorting some more photographs. Sadly and suddenly Jim died in December 2015, just after he had completed his history of Shrewsbury House 1903-1945.



Toni Duggan, ex club member and club helper, is pictured left playing for England Women's Football Team. Toni played for Everton Ladies before going full-time with title-winning Manchester City Women. In August 2015, she became the first female player to receive the club's Goal Of The Season award following an impressive goal against Chelsea in the Women's Super League, and

she was a part of the England team that won the bronze medal in Canada in the Women's World Cup in the summer of 2015.

Jane Corbett, ex Shewsy hostel resident and ex member of the Shewsy Board of Trustees, is pictured right at the top of Everton Park: a local councillor for the Everton ward Jane has also been made a Lay Canon of Liverpool Cathedral: Jane accepted on condition that she could preach once a year on the Christian perspective on poverty and injustice. The Cathedral agreed!



Contact us

By phone: 0151 207 0725

By website:
www.shrewsburyhouse.org.uk

By e mail:
dave.brereton@shrewsburyhouse.org.uk
carol.bennett@shrewsburyhouse.org.uk
henry.corbett@btinternet.com

By Twitter: Shewsy twitter account
@the shewsy



Junior Club members at work in the
Shewsy kitchen

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 Carol Bennett.
- Our Centre Warden Henry Corbett lives on site and can be contacted on 0151 207 1948 or e mail above.
- Our Chair of the Board of Management is John Hutchison. He can be contacted on 0151 525 6899 or johnhutch2@yahoo.co.uk

Shrewsbury House is a registered charity (No 1058694) and a company limited by guarantee.