

Shrewsbury House

ANNUAL REPORT

2019



The Shrewsbury club's junior club visit to Shrewsbury School – June 2019

Chair's Report – John Hutchison

I want to start by thanking you. Much of the club building is currently surrounded by scaffolding as we progress our urgent roof works. It's a gift; a gift from an old club member who looks back on his time in the club with gratitude. Our first venture into the recent Big Give Christmas appeal produced a multitude of gifts, big and small in the form of donations and pledged financial support. Several retail giants have recently produced a variety of goods gifted to the club's programme and refurbishment of our building. Some of you uphold us in your thoughts and prayers. We have a team of volunteers who offer their time freely in club, night in night out. Many, many of you have standing orders with the club that make up the bedrock of our donated income. Like the wise men of old, various gifts given according to different means and choices. And in days when it is rare to find any strength in the management of youth clubs, our Board of Management can and does draw on the skills and work from a team of fifteen.

To quote from a recent letter from our Mayor in Liverpool " Shrewsbury House has been at the very heart of the Everton community for generations; changing people's lives, inspiring our children and young people and giving them a place to feel supported and safe. Celebrating 116 years is testament to your outstanding work and I hope you all know how grateful I am, as is the whole City Council, for all you do. I know this is a challenging time and I want to thank you for all you are doing in difficult circumstances". The Shewsy club is a special place and widely acknowledged as such, however we do depend heavily on your gifts. Thankyou to everyone who gives something to keep the place going.

And we are generally flourishing. As John refers to in his report, our numbers over 2019 have been exceptionally high. These children and young people come voluntarily only because they want to and can find something they value in the people and place that they meet. We put many different words onto that experience, suggesting that it is a safe, welcoming, stimulating environment with caring adults. It is a place where we offer new opportunities and experiences by which young people can widen their skills and knowledge in an informal setting and become involved citizens. And yet we are most proud when we can see real change created in individual lives through our challenge and support, that helps them have the confidence to change course; to break out of circumstances that are dragging them down an unhealthy path of criminality and disengagement. Our Early Intervention programme, funded by the Home Office and targeted at young people who are largely out of school, has had a tremendous impact and we are dearly hoping that the new Government will recognise this and invest further. There are signals to that effect, but we shall have to continue our lobbying and wait and see.

Our Friends of Shrewsbury House has developed well and we were a group of 50 + at our event back in April. Please do be in touch if you would like to join up and attend our dinner evening and discussion on Friday 24th April. At last years' event we raised the big question of what we should do with our building as it begins to show serious signs of wear and tear. We had begun this process with our Away day last January. The key question was whether we should keep and refurbish the premises or whether we should start again and rebuild an entirely new facility. The Friends' strong view was that we should "stick" and refurbish. With that advice and further consultation, the Board of Management agreed that we should proceed with a full refurbishment of our current building, including reviewing all the facilities and considering development of them. It's a big task. We anticipate this process to be at least a two year programme of fundraising, planning and works. We have established a building sub – group and we will launch a major appeal in Spring this year. We have so far committed c. £90, 000 of our own funds to the roof work which is nearing completion, but we will be unable to go much further until we raise the funds.



The gift of scaffolding ! Donated to help the club to re – roof much of the building

Our annual Away day is nearly upon us, this year hosted by Shrewsbury school and led by the headmaster. This was invaluable last year and we anticipate a repeat of that with our core staff and Board reviewing and planning our next phase of development.

Our website is recently updated. We are in voluntary hands to get this done and it is therefore not so easily reviewed and updated as regularly as it should be. However it is in fairly good shape at present, so do please have a look and of course it is possible for you to donate via the website. www.shrewsburyhouseyouthclub.org.uk

Many organisations have a keyboard report approach to their work. It marks the required outputs very efficiently, but it often doesn't check the veracity and it has little focus on outcomes. The Shewsy takes a "heart and soul" approach. We do count of course, but the real power of this place is the changed lives it can and does produce. Thanks again for your support.

John Hutchison, Chair

Team Leader's Report – John Dumbell

The current need for investment in youth services could not be more evident. 2019 has seen a massive rise in our memberships with as many as 87 young people attending our senior club and the junior club membership also rising. A recent mapping exercise carried out by the staff team showed that we attract young people from across 13 different postcodes. This is testament to the fantastic team of staff and volunteers we have here, it is also a clear indication of the need for places like the Shewsy and the need for further investment in quality youth provision. In the last decade we have seen the demise of what was formerly known as Liverpool Youth Service and the closure of numerous youth centres across the city.

On a brighter note the Shewsy is flourishing at present and the past 12 months has been action packed. The staff team has slightly changed as long serving caretaker Roy McGaw has retired with Lorraine Mangan replacing him and legendary youth worker Frank Kenny having called time after 20 years of much valued service. With the help of some extra funding received as part of the Home Office's Early Intervention Youth fund (EIFY) we have been able to employ Nicola Coker on a full time basis to add to our team of sessional staff.

Nicola has been a great asset to the club and has already created strong links with the two big secondary schools in the area, Notre Dame and North Liverpool Academy. The EIFY fund has enabled us to provide intensive interactions for 48 individuals who are at risk of engaging in serious violent crime on a 1-2-1 basis and a further 159 young people in group work sessions. All of this in addition to running senior club 4 evenings each week, including Fridays which has proved to have had a positive impact on the reduction of anti-social behaviour levels in the surrounding areas.

With the help of the Mayoral fund we have been able to provide hot meals daily for our junior club members and assist struggling families with shopping vouchers; this has had great benefits to the wellbeing of many of our members and their families.

Our relationship with our friends from the 'Talk About Youth' project in Dublin and the Connah's Quay youth council has continued and has seen us participate in 2 exchange visits in this year in Larchill, Dublin and Glan Llyn, North Wales as well as hosting the return leg at the Shewsy. Without getting too political the whole Brexit situation has put the continuation of this programme in serious jeopardy as the programme was funded through EU monies; should we wish to continue with these vital links we will need to secure such funding through other avenues.

Earlier in the year we hosted our annual Summer Fair where once again the weather was on our side and we had people attend from right across the city in what was an occasion to remember with an action packed day for all the family. We estimate we had in excess of 800 people attending through the day.

Through the great work of club friend Jon France, and as part of our refurbishment of the building we have been fortunate enough to secure 2 new kitchens from B & Q for the youth club and the hostel. Jon has enjoyed a successful career in the retail world and has since created links with companies who have provided a succession of invaluable donations. Brakes supplied all the food plus the presents for our junior club Christmas party. The Entertainer toy store donated £100 worth of vouchers to spend on club equipment. Crown Paints have agreed to supply paint for the whole building. WH Smith have provided books and stationery, OC and C provided 3 boxes full of quality outdoor coats for our senior members and Eurocell are providing and installing double glazed windows. All of which was at zero cost to the club. We are extremely grateful to Jon and all the companies involved.



Team Leader, John Dumbell leads a task

The links with Shrewsbury school continue to grow stronger. 2019 has seen Chad Usher, OS spend 3 months on placement funded through the Old Salopian network. Chad built up a great rapport with both the young people and staff alike and has now set off for the rest of his gap year to Gambia. Good luck Chad.

This year also seen 2 visits to the school from both our junior club and senior club; both days were equally enjoyable and a fantastic experience for all involved. The highlight of the senior trip was the banner created with the school's Art department, which took pride of place on the front of our summer fair stage. We continue to host the lower sixth social studies visits 5 times per year and also hosted the 3rd form for a very competitive friendly football match in October which ended in a 4-4 draw.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and volunteers for their continued hard work throughout the year. Not least our excellent board of management whose commitment does not go unnoticed. Thank you and I wish you all a fantastic 2020

Best wishes,
John Dumbell



Club members prepare for a first ever canoe experience on the Severn

Finance report

A summary of the club's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019 is set out below.
A copy of the full certified accounts can be obtained by contacting the club.

Income and Expenditure Account

	2017	2018	2019
Income			
Donations and legacies	£207,128	£125,981	£168,283
Charitable activities	£23,051	£27,607	£21,827
Activities for generating funds	£23,711	£25,272	£28,473
Investments	£17	£17	£79
Total Income	£253,907	£178,880	£218,662
Expenditure			
Wages and salaries	£127,208	£110,613	£118,278
Property costs	£36,371	£35,849	£37,552
Club running costs	£21,290	£17,695	£42,562
Expenditure relating to grants received	£10,653	£14,881	£14,564
Depreciation	£17,154	£18,805	£18,609
Others	£447	£1,412	£3,628
Total Expenditure	£213,123	£199,255	£235,193
Total Income	£253,907	£178,880	£218,662
Total Expenditure	£213,123	£199,255	£235,193
Surplus/Deficit for Year	£40,784	-£20,375	-£16,531

The accounts for the year ending 2017 included income of £97,629 from the Shrewsbury school sponsored walk that takes place every five years. This is the reason for the much bigger figure in that year. We draw down 20% of these funds each year.

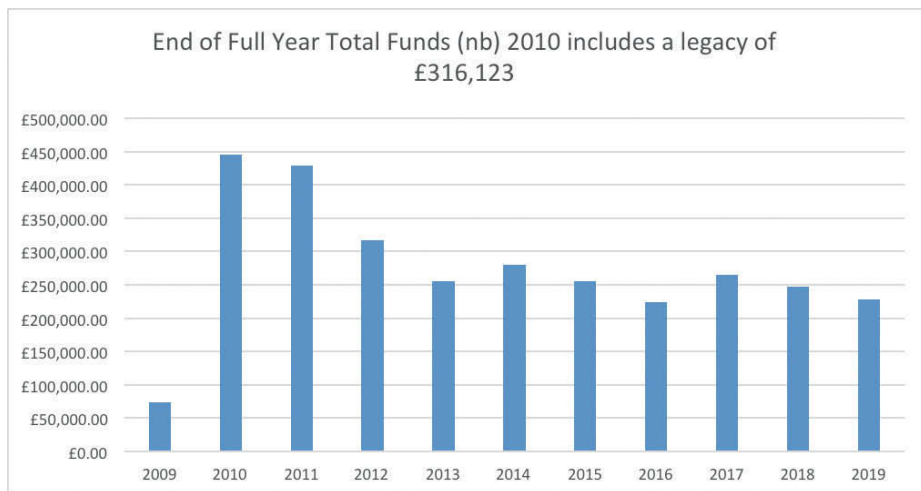
Brian Canfer, Treasurer

Balance Sheet

Fixed assets	£53,937	£39,872	£21,263
Debtors	£14,017	£18,058	£11,683
Cash at bank	£203,162	£194,571	£204,287
Creditors	-£5,695	-£7,419	-£8,682
Total assets	£265,421	£245,082	£228,551

Funds

Unrestricted	£241,102	£229,782	£211,576
Restricted	£24,355	£15,300	£16,975
Total Funds	£265,457	£245,082	£228,551



Note : The reduction in fixed assets is normal write off procedure.

We anticipate major expenditure on our building over the next two years and this will be subject to an appeal to our supporters and beyond to supplement the deployment of our own financial assets. With the pressure of this in mind, we will however ensure that our reserves policy protects the core business of running the club for our children and young people.

Warden's Report: Working Together – Henry Corbett

At the end of 2019 an impressively accurate and thoughtful biography of England cricketer and Liverpool Bishop David Sheppard was published. The book mentions the Langrove Street Action that was such an important campaign in our West Everton community in the late 1980s, and emphasizes one of David Sheppard's favourite words: "allies".

In any attempt to make our world a fairer, more loving, more beautiful world, we can very rarely do it on our own. David Sheppard knew from his cricketing days that teamwork was vital (and the biography's author Andrew Bradstock is happily a cricket enthusiast as well as a Christian and lecturer on social issues). In his time in Liverpool Anglican Bishop David famously worked brilliantly together with Catholic Archbishop Derek Worlock and Methodist Dr John Newton, and he also always looked out for allies in any work or campaign he was involved with.



Bishop David Sheppard and Archbishop Derek Worlock

In his campaign against apartheid he joined with such as fellow cricketer Mike Brearley, commentator John Arlott, as well as most importantly Christian contacts in South Africa. He also knew disappointments: for example Peter May, a cricketing colleague for many years, never supported his stand against playing cricket against an apartheid South Africa and their relationship never recovered despite Bishop David's best efforts at reconciliation.

The Shewsy has long been about working with others in the West Everton area and beyond. We experience disappointments sometimes when others just want to pursue their own agenda without any consultation or local involvement, but more often than not working together wins the day. The world of filling in application bids for funding can have the unintended consequence of pitting one organisation against another, but in West Everton there has been a strong tradition of working together. Our West Everton Lunch club meeting three times a year at the Shewsy helps with that as local organisations get to know each other and hear about what others are doing. Our community newspaper the Everton Telegraph, produced in partnership with St Peter's Church, helps with keeping the community in touch with new initiatives, local news and concerns, and our annual Shewsy Summer Fair is a great gathering point for many in the community and beyond. The Shewsy has always had very positive links with the West Everton Community Council, and when

WECC celebrated 50 years in 2019 there were plenty of Shewsy staff, supporters and members enjoying helping out and John Dumbell, Jane and I are WECC trustees. Our Shewsy chair John Hutchison and Hilary are much involved in the Friends of Everton Park, and we have excellent links with our local schools, the Whitechapel Centre with its work for the homeless, and the NSPCC centre on Great Homer Street. Such working together is so important for our Everton community, and long may the Shewsy continue to work with other great allies. And, as David Sheppard was acutely aware, as you work with others so you learn much from them. We love our Shewsy motto "People Matter more than Things", and we also much appreciate WECC's motto "Nothing about us, without us, is for us". The work of the Shewsy must involve listening to the young people, the staff, the community, our supporters, our allies.

One last reflection linking life at the Shewsy and the life and thought of David Sheppard: the importance of relationships, of forgiveness, of hope and of determined perseverance. I am deeply grateful for the very good and positive relationships we have within our Shewsy team. If we were a cricket team we would be good fun at the 20/20 game and we could also last for a 5 day challenging Test match. Bishop and England cricket captain Sheppard would approve!

Henry Corbett, Warden



Club members enjoying a drop of drizzle on one of the increasing number of trips to Shrewsbury School

The Shewsy and 'Shewsy School' – Lesley Drew



Back in 1903, a good many public schools had founded a youth club in an inner-city area. In 2020, we are literally the only partnership that survives, and, indeed flourishes.

We see the connection as three fold: sharing experiences, expertise and enthusiasm.

Relationships between the school and the club are close and productive.

In July, there will be another joint trip to Africa, to volunteer in a village supported by the charity 'Medic Malawi'. This will be the third joint visit, and each one has created friendships and increased mutual understanding for all the teenagers involved – those from Everton, Shrewsbury and Malawi.

There are five residential study visits a year, which Henry Corbett masterminds. Sixth form pupils spend time at the club, get to know the local area, and hear first-hand the challenges and triumphs of living in Everton. The pupils return to school with their eyes opened.

Shewsy Junior Club members have a regular Fun Day Out at school, organised by the Upper Sixth. Senior Club members come to school for Confidence-Building workshops and Adventure Days. A bursary place at the school has been provided for our first 'Shewsy Scholar', while the third 'Shewsy Intern' started at the Club in January.

The School's main fund-raising focus for the work of the club is the five-yearly sponsored walk across the Stiperstones, but each year we run a non-uniform day, and donate the proceeds of concerts and plays. It's crucial that the pupils understand where their donations go.

The school is not, and never has been, the club's chief funder. The local authority used to play this role, but the club is now dependent on raising its own funds through bid applications to trusts and foundations and receiving donations from individual supporters and the occasional legacy. While we know that relationships are the key to our successful partnership, the youth work that is so essential for the young people of Everton needs a sound financial backdrop. The Board of Management includes members of the school staff, and this year's strategic-planning Awayday will be led by the Headmaster.



The school was delighted to promote the Shewsy's first foray into raising money through 'The Big Give', and former pupils, staff and current parents were particularly generous. This will become an annual event, and donors enjoyed seeing their money doubled by this match-funding scheme, knowing that it is crucial to meet the everyday costs of the life-changing work of the Shewsy.

Lesley Drew, Shrewsbury School

The Big Give - We were delighted with our first engagement with the Big Give Christmas appeal. In total, we raised 12,200. With our first experience and help from Jonathan Crown, we are already learning greatly from our first nervous steps and aim to do better at the appeal in 2020. We would like to sincerely thank our Pledgers, our many donors and our matching champion the Four Acre Trust. Thank you all very much indeed. We hope to see you again in 2020.



Our Board of Management at Shrewsbury House



Pictured above are (l-r) Helen and Sir Eldryd Parry and ex club staff members Adrian Struve, Jenny and Bishop Roger Sainsbury on a recent visit back to Liverpool. All of them great supporters of the Shewsy club, where several have served serious time

Contact us



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henry.corbett@btinternet.com

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 around the club.

Our team leader is **John Dumbell**

Our caretaker is **Lorraine Mangan**

Our part-time administrator is **Carol Bennett**

Our Centre Warden **Henry Corbett** lives on site and can be contacted on 0151 207 1948 or the email above

Our Chair of the Board of Management is **John Hutchison**
He can be contacted on 0151 525 6899 or johnhutch2@yahoo.co.uk

We acknowledge all photos as the work of Ryan Fitzpatrick