Great Clifton Community Youth Group

Registered Charity No 118140

Annual Report 2025-26

Activities with children

In April 2025, two sessions for children were being provided on most weeks, usually in the Village Hall.

In 2024 the Cumbria Youth Alliance had channelled funding from Cumberland County Council to GCCYG to pay the local franchise of the Football Fun Factory to provide free indoor football training for children aged 5-12 years. This attracted up to twenty children for several months, but numbers dwindled and sessions ended in May 2025.

Led by a volunteer from the village, Rachael Huxley, what became effectively an 'after-school' club had been started in November 2023 and continued regularly on Wednesday afternoons during term time. In summer, when the weather was fine, children of all ages played rounders on the rugby pitch. Typically, about thirty children and five adults would be present, either playing or watching. In winter, and when the weather was bad, children were admitted to the village hall at a nominal charge of £1. Typically there were 15-20 children, mainly under-12s, with 3-4 active adult supervisors and 2-3 parents. Safety gym mattresses, bean bags, a keyboard, various toys, drawing materials, chess and dominoes etc. were provided indoors and, when the weather permitted, small goal posts on the adjacent grassed area. Some party games were organised and often simple hot food was offered. The children chose mainly to run and jump around, but there was always uptake of the quieter activities. Separate sessions for older children (12-16) had been tried but a small minority of the adolescent boys would not accept necessary constraints (such as no indoor footballs).

Great Clifton Fun Day, 30 August 2025

The weather turned out good, so most activity was outdoors. As usual, the dog show run by Sue Shaw and Animal Concern was very popular as were the races and tug-of-war organised by Peter Gaston. We had two inflatables, a smallish bouncy castle and an obstacle course.

There were no noisy activities inside the hall, just the bric-a-brac, the raffle, the hot dogs, and the retro games which worked well. Pet Encounter was upstairs to be in a quiet place. This too was good, but volunteers to control the crowd would have been useful.

Although young people spontaneously cleared away the tables and chairs indoors, there were no adults to take down the marquee and it was damaged by wind overnight.

Infrastructure

Rugby Pitch
Thanks to a grant for the Workington Community Panel, the failing floodlights on the rugby pitch were replaced by much better LED lamps in May 2025.

There is a great demand for sports fields in West Cumbria and both the West Cumbria Primary, Youth and Junior League rugby club and the Workington Town Girls Football Club approached the Parish Council. The rugby club's aim was to hold children's matches on the pitch. With their members we broke into the derelict rugby club container. The Rugby Club took away everything that could be useful and disposed of the container itself, which was an eyesore.

However, the Town Girls made a better offer: they would bring the rugby pitch up to FA standards and provide goal posts for general use on the William Street green space. The Parish Council signed a formal lease of the rugby pitch to enable them to apply for grants.

They have now bought several goalposts and taken over the floodlights electricity bills. We have given them a key to the floodlights switchboard and two remote control fobs.

Basketball Court
Children drew our attention to the state of the basketball court in the grounds of the Methodist Chapel. This was built many years ago with a concrete surface. Clearly, it immediately gave pleasure to children because they walked over the wet concrete and left footprints that are there to this day.

We successfully applied for a grant from Sport England which will cover the cost of laying a tarmac surface. The contractor plans to do the work in late April 2026.

Administration
No changes to the trustees or cheque signatories were made during the year, but an AGM was planned for 1 April 2026 with a view to recruiting trustees so that long-serving ones could resign.

Signed as a correct record:

	In	Out	
Cost of different activities to general funds			
Renovating rugby floodlights + 3 fobbers		£197.60	
Fun Day 2025		£573.50	
Village Hall Youth Club		£428.00	
Total cost to general funds 250401 -260331		**£1,199.10**	
Football Fun Factory Sessions from 240924 to 250520			
Unspent remainder of grant	£726.00		
Bank balance			
1 April 2025	£6,360.16		
(net of unspent grant funding for specific projects)	**£1,770.16**		
31 March 2026	£1,690.06		
(net of unspent grant funding for specific projects)	**£1,290.06**		

	Funder	In	Out
	Renovating rugby floodlights		
241219	Grant from Workington Community panel: £4,590.00		
250529	Payment to contractor, Tim Irlam		£4,590.00
251004	Extra cost of remote control with 3 fobbers		£197.60
	(Two given to Workington Town Girls Football Club		
	Cost to general funds: £197.60		
250830	**Fun Day 2025**		
	Income		
	Net Takings: raffle, hot dogs… minus food costs	£123.50	
	Donation from Workington Derwent Rotary Club	£200.00	
	Expenditure		
	Inflatables		£335.00
	Pet Encounter (S.K.Harkness)		£260.00
	Retro Games (Sarah L. Beeby		£170.00
	Rent for Village Hall + electricity for bouncy castles		£92.00
	Medals for the races		£40.00
	Totals for Fun Day	£323.50	£897.00
	Cost to general funds: £573.50		
	Football Fun Factory		
240827	Initial grant from CCC: £3,194.00		
240918	To Football Fun Factory: £2,000.00		
	(Sessions from 240924 to 250520 Rent for Village Hall		£468.00
	Total		£468.00
	Remaining funds: +£726.00		
	Village Hall Youth Club		
	Rent for Village Hall 250401-260331		£738.00
260306	Youth Club net takings	£310.00	
	Cost to GCCYG general funds: £428.00		
260320	Cumbria Youth Alliance. Grant in recognition of	£400.00	
	litterpicking by the Youth Club: to be used to pay for		
	a trip to Fusion trampoline park.		
	Other grants		
250819	Grant from Sellafield for general running costs	£625.00	
251215	Donation from the will of the late Eleanor Griffin	£100.00	
	Other monies		
December 2025	(Christmas tree: donated by John Wilkinson)		£0.00
260311	AR Bouncy Castles: deposit for Fun Day, not cashed		£100.00
	Totals for the year		
	Grants approved before 260401, awaiting payment		
	F.C.Scott: general funds (received 260402)	£1,500.00	
due	Sport England to tarmac basketball court	£7,692.00	