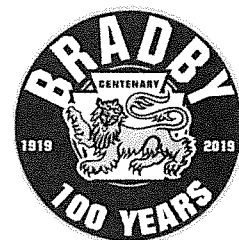


THE BRADBY CLUB FOR YOUNG PEOPLE  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 522992

2024

# ANNUAL REPORT



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SERVING THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF RUGBY AND DISTRICT  
& DELIVERING YOUTH SERVICES FOR OVER 100 YEARS

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## CONTINUED SUPPORT

Without the generous donations and support from local organisations and funders, we would not be the Club we are today. It is because of this we would like to give a grateful thanks to all who have contributed, including those who have made sustained commitments to Bradby:

Continuing generous partnerships with the 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust.

Continuing support from Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Seccombe, providing funding towards our ASCENT targeted project and Open Access youth sessions.

Continued support of the work at Bradby from the Governing body of Rugby School.

The 13th year of major partnership funding from the Rugby Group Benevolent fund towards Bradby's ASCENT project.

Continued support from the Warwickshire County Council Youth Service towards the ASCENT project and open access youth sessions.

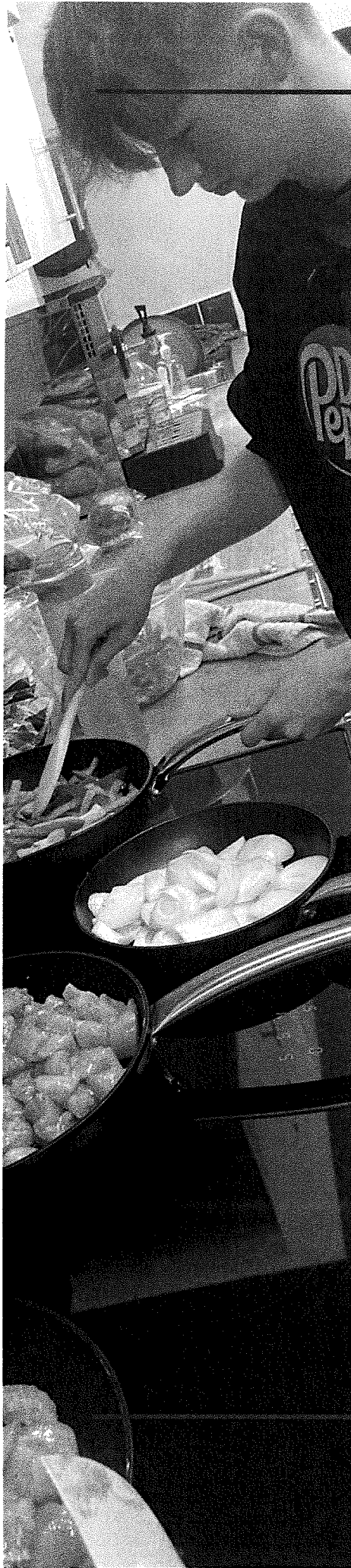
## BUILDING

As we're sure many of you are aware, we have continuously looked to update the facilities and overall aesthetic of Bradby to make it the inviting space that our young people and the community deserve.

Currently, we are looking to raise money to knock down and rebuild our well used gym facilities in order to reflect the hard work that the young people and community put in when they use the space. This is no small project, and whilst we hope to begin as soon as possible, we must first look at raising money to draw up plans and get the permissions needed in order for the project to really take off.

The push for this has been on since the gym flooded over the winter months - something we don't want to happen again! If you would like to contribute and help us with this, please scan the QR code!





# SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERSHIPS

We would like to thank all of those who have contributed to and support the Bradby Club and its work with young people in Rugby and District.

Arnold Foundation  
Avon Valley School  
Caring Together Young Carers  
Warwickshire  
Cemex Community Impact  
Chartwell's  
Cllr Kam Kaur  
Cllr Yousef Dahmash  
Compton Verney  
Cummins Support in the  
Community  
Dulux Decorating Centre  
Early Help  
England Boxing  
Fish Plus  
Georgie Brack  
Godivas Battleground  
High Sheriff of Warwickshire  
Hill St Youth and Community Centre  
Lawrence Sheriff School  
Leamington Spa Trophy Centre  
Maggie O'Rourke  
Mark Pawsey MP  
Masonic Charitable Association  
Nationwide Windows and Doors  
Neighbourly  
Neil Terry Design and Print  
Oral Health  
PAN Intercultural Arts  
Pickle Illustration  
Prestbuild Ltd.  
Prospects  
Rotary Club  
Rugby Advertiser  
Rugby Canoe Club  
Rugby Community Safety Partnership  
Rugby Foodbank  
Rugby Group Benevolent Fund  
Rugby High School  
Rugby Methodist Church  
Rugby Observer  
Rugby Philharmonic Choir  
Rugby Roofing  
Rugby Round Table 113  
Rugby School Governors,  
Staff and Students  
Rugby Town West Safer  
Neighbourhoods Team  
Table Sports  
Tesco Bags of Help  
Think Active  
Thurlston Village Volunteers  
Travis Perkins Group  
TRX  
U3A  
Warwickshire CAVA  
Warwickshire Children's Services  
Warwickshire County Council  
Warwickshire CSE  
Warwickshire Police  
Warwickshire Police and Crime  
Commissioner  
Warwickshire Targeted Youth Support  
Warwickshire Young Carers  
Warwickshire Youth Justice Board  
Volunteer it Yourself  
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust  
UK Youth  
34SP.com  
41 Club

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# CHAIR'S REPORT

IAN CHISLETT

It is my pleasure to present the Chair's Report for the Bradby Club's 67th Annual General Meeting, marking my first year as Chair of the Management Committee. This year, our Youth Club sessions have continued to provide essential support, guidance, and a much-needed sense of fun for the young people of Rugby. Our Young Carers sessions have supported over sixty young people, ranging from age five upwards, offering activities from baking cakes to flying light aircraft!

Under Byron's exceptional leadership as Head Coach, our boxing program continues to thrive, attracting large numbers of young people of all abilities. We now have eleven carded boxers who have competed in over fifteen fights. The outstanding work of boxing coaches Byron and Darron was rightly recognized with the High Sheriff's Award for their contributions to the Bradby Club over the past thirty years. This honour is very well deserved.

However, this year has also been marked by loss. We mourn the passing of Dr. Rex Pogson, a key member of the Management Committee for over fifteen years. As Chair of the Fundraising Committee, Rex was a driving force at Bradby, leading funding partnerships and fundraising initiatives with passion and a unique way with words. His zest for life and deep understanding of the challenges faced by our young people made him an inspiration. He was a true gentleman and a legend we will never forget.

I am enormously grateful to all members of the Management Committee for their unwavering support and dedication. Bradby relies on the willingness of individuals to donate their time and skills to ensure the Club runs safely and effectively. I would like to welcome Tina Broad, Carolyn Watson-Merret, and Simon Daniel, who have joined the Management Committee over the past twelve months. We continue to seek more volunteers for the Management and Fundraising Committees to support our ambitious plans to develop a new boxing gym, securing the Club's future for years to come. I would like to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of Treasurer David Wright for his twenty years of service, and Dr. Nick Morse for his ten years of service on the Management Committee.

As an organization, we strive to improve and increase the opportunities we offer to young people. This year, we introduced sessions from PAN Intercultural Arts, funded by Cemex. London-based PAN Intercultural Arts uses the arts to inspire social change by sparking imagination and creativity in those whose circumstances have diminished it. After a successful pilot program, Cemex agreed to fund the project for a year. The weekly workshops, consisting of drama games and exercises, help participants grow as creative, confident, focused, and expressive individuals. These qualities and skills will benefit them for the rest of their lives. A huge thank you to both Bruno and E who facilitate the sessions and to Chiedza from Cemex for creating the link.



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Funding for our projects and services remains a significant challenge, and our team of workers, trustees, and fundraisers work tirelessly to secure it. Despite successful fundraising years, the past twelve months have been financially challenging, with rising costs and fewer grants available, resulting in the Club running at a deficit. Unsuccessful grants are part of the process for a small charity on a tight budget, highlighting the importance of funders who continue to support Bradby. A huge thank you to Warwickshire County Council Youth Fund, Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Seccombe, Rugby Group Benevolent Fund, Governors of Rugby School, and the 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust for their ongoing financial support.

Our Fundraising Committee has grown in size over the past year. In addition to planning the usual social gatherings and fundraisers, I am very grateful to Alison for stepping into the role of Chair for the Fundraising Committee after Dr. Rex Pogson's passing. Alison has been on the Management Committee for over fifty years and remains a driving force, as determined as ever to help the Club succeed. Special thanks to Tina Broad for organizing a Comedy night and to Maggie O'Rourke for a Beach Bingo night, both of which raised considerable funds for the Club. We also had a very successful Quiz Night organized by Sally Smith and her family and supported the Rugby Philharmonic. At the time of writing, we are finalizing arrangements for our new-look Garden Party. The Fundraising Committee and wider volunteers clock up many hours to ensure that the people of Rugby continue to support the Bradby Club. I am immensely grateful for their dedication and hard work. Special mention goes to Christine Nobes for supporting the Fundraising Committee for a phenomenal forty years!

The Management Committee is grateful to everyone who supports the Club, whether they are youth workers, funding partners, interested individuals, or the young people themselves. Bradby continues to be a haven for the young and a centre of activity and challenge. I would like to personally thank the members of the committee for their support and camaraderie. The hard work and dedication of our Youth Workers are fundamental to the continued success of Bradby. A huge thank you to John, Rebecca, and the team for their hard work and unwavering commitment to the Club.



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# LEADER'S REPORT

**JOHN ROBERTSON**

Another 12 Months have passed, time at Brabs does seem to fly by. Like any year at Bradby we are always asking ourselves if we are doing enough, are we making an impact, could we give young people more. It is not till we collate our data from the year for the AGM report where we see just how busy we have been, how many sessions we delivered and the positive outcomes we have supported young people to make.

We are a very small team of delivery staff and it is always amazing to see the difference these dedicated individuals can make, the team is so important in our mission to make a positive impact. We would not have the successes we have without the full team of staff and volunteers contributing to the work with young people. Thank you all for all you have done over the past 12 Months.

In March, both our boxing coaches Darron Forrest and Byron Banton were acknowledged and awarded with the High Sheriff of Warwickshire's award for their contributions to the club and community for more the 30 years each. Byron then followed this up in April with the Mark Gallagher Award for Coach of the Year at Rugby Sports Awards. We are so proud and very lucky to have 2 individuals as dedicated and hard working as Byron and Darron, we can't begin to measure the impact they have had in over 30 years of service and they are truly deserving of their recognition from the wider community for their contributions.

Youth Club has continued to be important route of access and very well attended service at Bradby. Many members new and old continuing to engage and take part in positive activities. We have strived to maintain a fun, safe and inclusive environment continuing to implement important education to support young people's safety on the streets. This year we have focused on knife crime, county lines and criminal exploitation, sexual health and substance misuse as we continue to educate and inform young people of the dangers, consequences and support them to stay safe and make better informed decisions. Fortnightly chips and sports continues and yet further free meals offered through Bradby's HAF programme (with thanks to WCC for funding) as we have continued to support our young people through the cost of living crisis.

As an organisation we are always striving to improve and increase the opportunities we can give to young people and this year saw the introduction of sessions from PAN intercultural Arts. Funded by Cemex, London based Pan Intercultural Arts is a leading force in using the arts to inspire social change. They do this by sparking the power of imagination and creativity in those whose circumstances have led to it being diminished. After a successful pilot programme, Cemex agreed to fund the project for a year. The weekly workshops consisting of drama games and exercises offer an opportunity for the participants to grow as creative, confident, focused and expressive young people. These are qualities and skills which will be of value to them for the rest of their lives. Young people love the sessions and are gaining so much from them, a huge thank you to both Bruno and E who facilitate the sessions and Chiedza from Cemex who created the link.

As you know by now bringing in funding for our projects and services remains a huge challenge and the team of workers, trustees and fundraisers work tirelessly to do so. Our reserves have remained healthy after some successful years of fundraising. As you will see the last 12 months have been quite different and we have unfortunately delivered services at a deficit, not for want of trying but sadly this is the truth for charities like us that operate on such small, tight budgets. Unsuccessful grants are part of the process but it highlights the importance of the funders and organisations that continue to support Bradby through thick and thin, so a big thank you to Warwickshire County Council Youth Fund, Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Seccombe, Rugby Group Benevolent Fund, Governors of Rugby School and 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust for their ongoing financial support and backing. Whilst we strive to continue to source funding for projects and services we also have one eye on the future and development of the facilities that can enhance the work we do. We have talked for many years about the redevelopment of our community gym and boxing, a resource that is so well used and integral in the positive changes we facilitate. This year saw us launch the first phase of fundraising for this extremely ambitious project.

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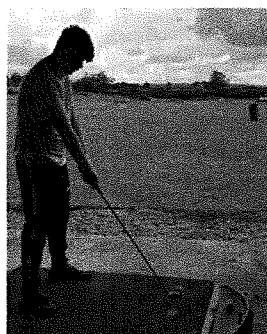
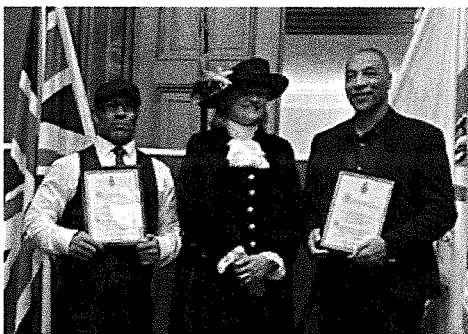
After numerous consultations with coaches, young people and adults who use the facility we have started to put together ideas of what we are aiming to create to better meet the needs of users and the charity. Currently some of the most at risk, hard to reach and disengaged young people in Rugby already attend and we hope that more will be motivated to do the same resulting in greater impact and positive outcomes. Young people are taught about discipline, respect, commitment and determination which is all transferable across many aspects of their lives and future choices. The sense of belonging, team spirit, confidence and dedication that young people get from the group are invaluable and essential to keep them engaged and moving in the right direction. The impact is there and Bradby Club has a range of dedicated coaches, there is so much potential for service development if we can match the facility to the aspirations of the club, the coaches and the young people.

Donations towards PowerUp: Revitalising Bradby Gym Project can be made via [www.givey.com/poweruprevitalisingbradbygym](http://www.givey.com/poweruprevitalisingbradbygym)

Another 12 Months chalked off, 105 years of change accomplished but none of it would be possible without the dedication, interest and support from YOU. Whatever the challenges for our charity we are able to face them head on, together, knowing that the foundations of Bradby Club remain strong and deep within the community in which we serve. Thank you to all our supporters and funders who continue to contribute towards Bradby's work and projects. A Massive thank you to our Fundraising Committee for their ongoing efforts to raise vital funds to provide opportunities and resources for young people. Thank you to all the Board of Trustees, we are so grateful for the time and effort you put in to support us and into developing the organisation to best meet the needs of the community. Finally, a big thank you to our young people for another fun filled year of challenge and change, purpose and inclusion, activity and learning that makes up the sole reason for Bradby Club for Young People.

Every year at Bradby brings its fair share of challenges, no more so than the sad loses experienced by Bradby and the community this past 12 Months. During the summer, on Monday 24th July Bradby boy and boxer Sean Hanlon tragically passed away whilst training at the club. This shocked everyone at Bradby, and took a great deal of time for us all to come to terms with what had happened. Words cannot express what Sean meant to everyone at the club, having been here for years he had become a part of the furniture but also a voice and advocate for the impact the club makes in the local community. He will be sadly missed but always remembered.

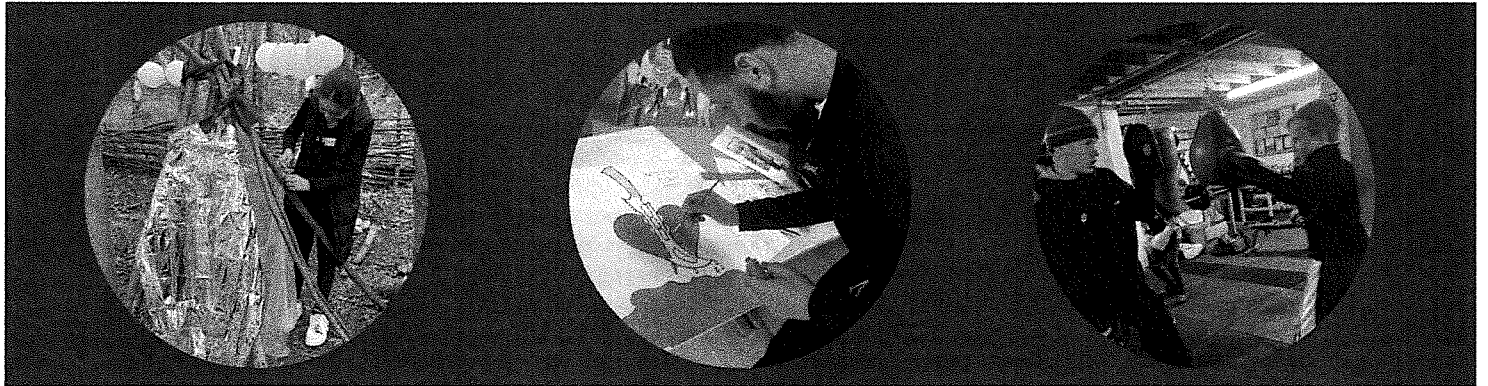
We also had to say goodbye to longstanding Trustee Rex Pogson who again sadly passed away earlier this year. We were all devastated when we heard the news, Rex was a driving force at Bradby and at the forefront of funding partnerships and fundraising initiatives. A wonderful, full of life individual that committed so much of his time to helping others not least of all Bradby and the young people we work with. The shoes left behind will be impossible to fill with Rex's enthusiastic approach, unwavering support and dedication to helping this small charity survive and thrive whilst he was involved. Rex was a huge part of Bradby and was in fact on the interview panel when I was employed by the club back in 2011. Rex has been an inspiration and lead by example. A unique way with words, a zest for life and a deep understanding of the issues faced by our young people and the work of the club. A true gentleman and a legend we will never forget.



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# YOUTH WORK REPORT

REBECCA THOMAS



Whilst it feels like we write this every year, it never gets tiring to say that the club once again continues to be busy and well attended. In fact - the last year has again seen us increase in delivery and projects out of the club, and support young people in a greater variety of ways.

Open access sessions continue to run on a Wednesday and Thursday, and are always popular. Unsurprisingly, indoor and outdoor football continue to be firm favourites, with the net over the ball court proving a winner in making sure that we don't lose too many balls to the neighbouring gardens. As with the last year, Fish Plus have continued to support the youth sessions, with "Is it chips tonight?" being the most common thing to hear on a thursday evening. Thanks to them, once a fortnight we can answer that question with yes, and we would like to thank them for their generous support of Bradby. The number of times this question is asked is closely followed by "Is it drama tonight?", with PAN Cultural Arts carrying out weekly sessions on a Wednesday full of drama based activities, including problem solving puzzles, scenarios and a lot of fun games. E and Bruno have been great to have along to the sessions, and everyone has enjoyed getting involved.

Due to popular demand, our quieter holidays are also no more! Calls for the club to be open during the day were answered, with the club being open 12-2pm every day during the weeks off school as well as our usual evening sessions. This has proved popular - helped further by the clubs participation in the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF). This has meant that for various days throughout the holidays, young people have had the opportunity to come in and cook for everyone at the club, as well as summer BBQ's during day events. As part of this programme (and with the help of those who got involved and cooked), we have provided more than 350 meals to young people.

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Also occupying our schools holidays have been various trips and activities, including multiple art projects, trips to jump in, the driving range and to play tennis.

Another thing that has become a staple of our holiday programme is the Bill Appleby Cup football tournament, which again saw nearly 100 young people attend the club for a good days football and obligatory BBQ. which was won by "The Globetrotters". This year, we also had an additional interclub tournament, with other teams from Warwickshire Youth Service - in which the Brabs team came out on top at the end of the day.

Bradby Young Carer's group has continued to occupy our Tuesday evening slot, with 20-30 young people attending the weekly sessions. The last year has been a busy one, with lots going on - so much so it's now getting its own page in our AGM booklet. We look forward to the next year and all the new and exciting things we have planned.

ASCENT, the clubs Health and Well-being project has continued to keep us busy, with many of our older group who are not currently working coming in daily for boxing and fitness training. This has included various crossfit workouts, with everyone continuing to surprise us with their dedication. As part of this, we also took a group of young people to CrossFit Volentia for a 5 week project, where young people had instruction on Olympic Weightlifting, and were put through their paces on various workouts. As well as training, we have also been working to carry out various pieces of artwork - including around knife crime, gender and identity to name a few, but also less targeted pieces that are to be put up in the TV/games room. As with previous years, this project has focused on those who need it - and have included working around various topics including knife crime, criminal and sexual exploitation, healthy and safe relationships, drugs and substance misuse and mental health. Whilst there is need in Rugby, Bradby will continue aiming to provide the support to those who need it, especially as many of those who access the club may not engage with other services.

This year has again kept us busy, taught us a lot and given us lots of ideas for the future. Our summer programme for 2024 is planned with more activities than before, including around 10 trips, various activities days including art, graffiti and baking, canoeing projects and football tournament. We will also be continuing our HAF project, with cooking projects allowing young people to make food for those here, including various pasta dishes, currys, fajitas and more! We look forward to seeing all the things our young people have in store for us this year, and seeing everything they can achieve!

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# FUNDRAISING REPORT

## ALISON ROSS

The Fundraising Committee has had a somewhat disruptive time over the past year. First of all we were sad to see the departure of Brenda Green on retirement to Scotland after she had chaired the committee so diligently. We wish her every happiness and are grateful for her work over the past years. We were delighted when Rex Pogson agreed to become Fundraising Chair and were enthused by all his ideas. Tragically his car accident in December followed by his death in March resulted in my becoming Chair.

The only positive in this confusion was the expansion of the committee and we welcome Tina Broad, Ian Chislett, Vicky Henderson, Jemma Jones, Amanda Parker-Jones and Carolyn Watson-Merret. Tina kindly agreed to become Vice-chair. The committee has gained a new sense of purpose and enthusiasm with ideas and plans flooding in.

As Brenda's swan song she hosted her summer garden party at Rokeby House with the extra honour of a visit from HRH the Duke of Gloucester. The sun shone and the guests enjoyed the plant sale, the Prosecco bar, the music, the raffle and a delicious tea by Chartwells, all resulting in a profit of £2,500. We are grateful to Peter and Brenda Green for their financial contribution. Sadly Rokeby House is no longer a venue so the next garden party will be held at Bilton Grange by kind invitation of Jemma Jones and Amanda Parker-Jones.

Our Autumn plans included a Past Members Reunion, which was so enjoyable that another was arranged for December, when a delicious meal of pork baps was catered by Charles Williams - a great asset to the Club both as fundraiser and chef. Rugby Philharmonic continued to allow Bradby to organise the Front of House and Raffle in July, December and March raising over £500. This is a great benefit to the Club and we thank the Phil for their generosity. In November Tina Broad organised a Comedy Evening in aid of the Club and this innovative and entertaining event raised £1,000. Congratulations are due to Tina for her comedy spot. Tina also arranged for Bradby to have a stall at Bilton Grange Christmas Fair which raised £151.

The annual Quiz took place in February with nearly 100 enthusiastic guests who enjoyed a delicious supper provided by Chartwells. We are most grateful to David Ray for his usual efficiency as Quiz Master and to Sally Wise for her excellent organisation resulting in a good profit of just over £1000. In March the Mayor, Maggie O'Rourke, organised a beach bingo event in memory of her husband, Brendon, who tragically died in December. She very generously donated the profit of over £800 to Bradby.

As the Garden Party has been relocated, a sub-committee was formed of Sue, Vicky, Jemma, Amanda, Rebecca and Alison. This new venture is on a Saturday with the invitation extending to families as well as our dedicated supporters.

Raising money is never easy and in today's society where competition is great we have to struggle even more. Throughout the year the committee has worked tirelessly and we thank them and all our supporters who continue to come to our events and thus help to support this unique Club.

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# ONE ON ONE BOXING



One on One boxing has again been putting its boxers to the test, with 24 fights happening over the last year - 18 of which have resulted in wins, and many others who are training for fights that are coming up later this year.

Darron was also awarded a High Sheriff's Award for his contributions to the both One on One and Bradby, and he has continued to work hard as trainer, boxer and friend.

This year has seen the start of a One on One boxing Instagram page, showing the results and fight photos of those stepping into the ring, as well as sparring videos, team photos and clips of some less orthodox training methods (tug of war and murder ball being the stand outs!).



Sadly though, this year we lost one of our members and friends - Sean Hanlon. He was loved by everyone at the club and continues to inspire everyone daily. There will now be 2 "Boxers of the Year" awards given out each year as part of the AGM in his memory.

## Sean Hanlon Boxer of the Year: Tom Harbert

# RUGBY BOXING ACADEMY

Rugby Boxing Academy once again has been an increasingly popular aspect of the work at Bradby. Whilst sessions vary in numbers throughout the year, a record number of boxers have been carded - 11. This has meant another busy season for Byron and Steven, with there being 15 total fights starring 5 of our boxers, with many more going out sparring with other clubs.



Again these were incredibly well fought bouts, with 10 wins across the teams, and some close losses. We have continued our streak of all fighters winning their first bouts, with 3 adding to this over the past 12 months. This however isn't all:

- Byron, Head Coach, received Coach of the Year at the Rugby Sports Awards and was awarded a High Sheriff's Award for his contributions to the club
- Rugby Boxing Academy were also shortlisted at the Sports Awards for Team of the Year.
- A rebrand and new logo meant new kits all round!

## Sean Hanlon Boxer of the Year: Kauri Weston

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# BRADBY YOUNG CARERS



Bradby has continued to support young carers in Rugby for the past year, offering weekly sessions alternating between Primary (aged 6-11) and Secondary (11-16). This has been supported by Caring Together Warwickshire, and we look forward to continuing to work with them in the future to provide these sessions.

Weekly groups are well attended, and have allowed us to carry out various activities including various art days thanks to volunteers from Thurluston Village, and nature inspired crafts and activities thanks to Warwickshire Wildlife Trust - including making bee feeding stations, lavender bath bombs and planting herb gardens for bees and butterflies that could be taken home and enjoyed by all.

We have also managed to go out on various trips, including Jump in and Go ape, as well as multiple trips to Compton Verney where we did water painting, made rockets, toasted marshmallows, made tents and much more. We also were lucky enough to take a trip to Leicestershire Aero Club, where 10 of our young carers were given the opportunity to get in 2, 3 and 4 seater planes and take their first flights over Leicestershire and Warwickshire. Everyone had a blast, and we'd love to thank Aviation Without Borders for the opportunity.

We were also extremely grateful that 2 of the Masonic Lodges donated towards our Christmas party, and as a result supporters Sue and Charles Williams along with friends cooked and served a full Christmas dinner for 60 of our young carers. Gift cards and chocolates were provided by Thurluston Village and the Soroptimists Rugby to add to the incredible day.

Moving into the new year, we look forward to continuing this work with these young people. For this year though, we would like to thank everyone who has supported us - through funding, providing activities and allowing us to continue carrying out our work. We'd also like to thank Chris and Marian for their support in volunteering for our weekly groups, and those from our Secondary age group who are now volunteering and helping with the younger ones! You guys are fab!



# THE DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES

WELL, A YEAR AND A BIT!

**101** Young people supported through 121 or small group sessions

**15** Young people supported during criminal proceedings

**246** Boxing sessions involving young people

**30** Young people supported back into education or college

**5** Young people now volunteering at Bradby

**66** Young carer's supported through groups

**53** Young people supported around substance misuse

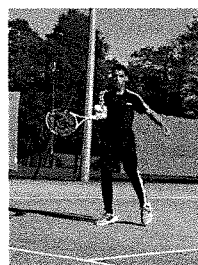
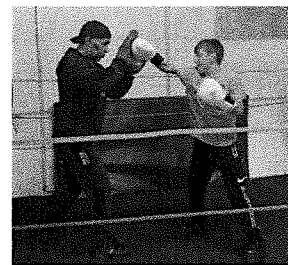
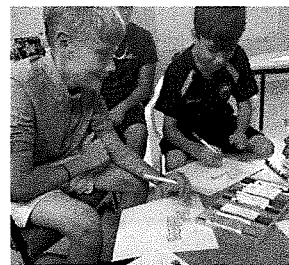
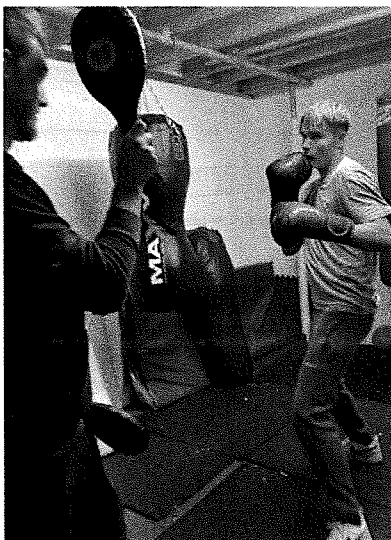
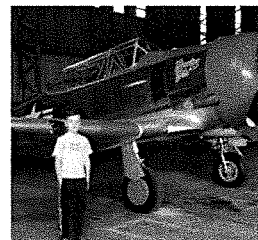
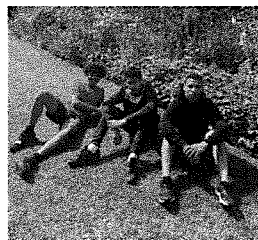
**137** Open Access Youth Sessions

**399** 121 or small group sessions

**320** MORE THAN 320 YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTED

Statistics from April 1st 2023 to 31st March 2024

# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?



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## **THEY SAY IT BETTER THAN WE DO...**

"Brabs is very important to me. It encourages me to choose better things, and allows me to do boxing sessions, talk to people and have supported me in looking for a job" Age 16.

"Ever since I started boxing here, I have improved in lots of different ways. It helped me emotionally giving me something to take my anger out which was getting me kicked out of school before I started training. It's helped me physically by getting me stronger and healthier - helped me stop smoking weed and stopped me getting in trouble with the police and school". Age 15

"My grandlings love to go to young carers. It gives them a bit of time with friends where they don't need to worry about their caring role. Long may thee 2 hours a week continue!" Grandparent of 2 young carers.

"I like Brabs because the workers are always there for you", Age 13

"I like Brabs because after school its a nice place to come, have fun and play football. I think its important because some people might not have things they can do so coming here is nice and its a friendly environment" Age 15

"Brabs is beneficial to me because it keeps me in a routine with boxing and allows me to fill my days with positive activities that keep me out of trouble". Age 17.

"I like Brabs for the games of football and pool". Age 13

"I like coming to young carers because it allows me to get out of the house and gives me time to be a kid when I have to act like an adult at home" Age 14

"I like Brabs because its a safe place you can relax and get away from your problems for a little while", Age 15

"Bradby is an extremely positive establishment for the community. It provides a safe space that positively impacts young people, with things such as boxing and youth club nights that keep youths out of trouble and away from negative influences in the outside world. Brabs also provides positive role models who give advice and guide youths with the problems of life.". Age 16

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# YOUNG PEOPLE'S AWARDS

Member of the Year

**DAN JUPP, ASHTON  
MCNAMARA, FINLEY WARD**



Most Improved Member

**ASH SAUNDERS**

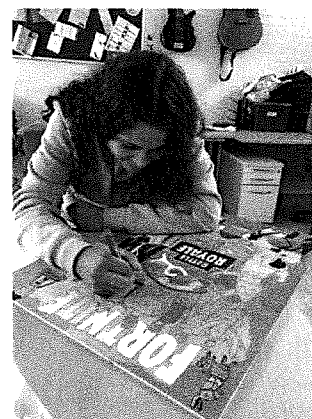
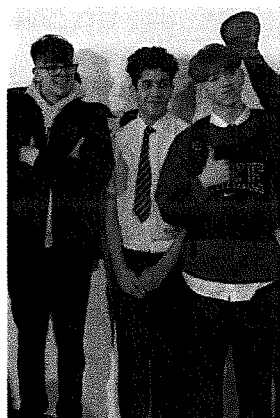


Volunteer of the Year

**DARRON FORREST**

Newcomer of the Year

**AURORA KENNY-  
POTTER**



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# The Bradby Club?

## by Jadesola Okunubi, taken from "Quod"

At first glance, I can't notice anything remarkable about it: it's a small-looking building, bare on its exterior asides from the colourful graffiti art which adorns some of its walls. We are let in - by we, I mean Dr Sutcliffe and I, accompanying two LXX girls who come here weekly for their Rugby 360 - by a kind looking gentleman whose confidence in giving directions and acquaintance with the girls hints that he is the man-in-charge of the establishment. We can barely make it past the front door, however, when we hear a familiar roaring thunder of a herd of a half-a-dozen teenage boys trailing shortly behind us, giving us just enough warning notice to quickly get out of their way. Black Nike and Puma tracksuits are in full display, with each boy peeling off his matching black coat before commencing a game of pool. The Rugby 360 girls promptly leave us in favour of joining in the game of pool, leaving a happily confused Rugby entourage alone with the manager, John, to tour us around.

### Original History

To understand why we are here, you must first understand the history of the Bradby Club, and, as far as origin stories go, this is a very intriguing one. Although diverging accounts of what truly prompted the then housemaster of Kilbracken, Mr. G.F. Bradby, to set up an after-school club for young, unemployed boys in the town exist, by far the most popular one is that he simply got frustrated by local boys setting off fireworks at abnormal hours of the day, so disrupting his reading in the afternoon and jolting him awake at odd hours of the night. His employment coming to end meant that, with more time on his hands, he partnered up with another housemaster, Reverend E.F. Bonhote, in 1919 to start the Bradby Boys' Club as a means of keeping the boys too 'busy and occupied' to cause mischief.

From 1920 till 1957 (with short break during WW2 - only to commence again after local boys started stealing apples from a now blind G. F. Bradby's backyard) the Bradby Club was run by a succession of volunteer Rugby School housemasters. It then underwent a remarkable breakthrough in 1957 with the year's annual club report describing its independence from the school as a 'new and exciting phase of development' as it moved to a new location.

With such an exciting history, it is little wonder why I grasped at the opportunity to write an article on this age-old club when it was pitched to me by Dr Sutcliffe, who had just had an inspiring chat with Mrs Sue Williams, the English department secretary, who fosters a tender long-term connection with the club. Her excitement about the importance of the club ignited something in Dr Sutcliffe, which motivated him to want to share its story with the Rugby community through the pages of Quod, which, in turn, compelled me to see this mysterious-seeming club for myself. Excitement is contagious, as they say.

A lot has changed in the club since 1957. For one thing, as far as I have seen, there is not one housemaster at Rugby who has an apple tree you can steal from, but many other aspects of the Bradby Club have witnessed extraordinary developments. As John toured us around, he gave many insights into the services and activities offered by the club which its founding fathers back in the twenties couldn't possibly have dreamt about: pool tables, a games court, a fully stocked, never-shut kitchen, counselling by volunteers, and a minibus for excursions and dropping off boys at their homes during the colder months.

### Meeting the Leaders

We were joined by Mrs Williams and Alison Ross, two of the club's executives, who were eager to offer more insights. Tiny glimpses into the lives of present Bradby Boys reminded me that, ultimately, they live the same lives and possess the same passions as many of us here at Rugby. When asked about her favourite place in the club, Alison led us to the Blackmore Room, which serves as a general meeting room and a place for the boys to put on drama performances. She explained that it was named after Len Blackmore, the first leader of the independent club who served for just over 20 years.

"We have had many-a-leaders for this club, but I can tell you that Mr Blackmore and John have been some of the good ones."

Let me tell you one thing, when Alison describes you as 'one of the good ones', you know you must be doing a darn good job. As all five of us took a seat around the table in the Blackmore Room for a chat, John shared his backstory which led him to the club. "I grew up much like many of the boys here, in a low income, single parent household." After completing his GCSEs, he took up a plethora of odd jobs to keep afloat, such as working in pubs and restaurants, until he settled working as a bricklayer.

"But I just always knew I couldn't do that forever". His eureka moment arrived as he volunteered to work in a youth club similar to Bradby, which made him realise that social work with young people was where he could find professional satisfaction. This sudden awareness, alongside an opportunity to study youth development fully funded at university, boosted his confidence in applying for jobs at youth centres, especially for one which he found in a local newspaper, which ultimately led him to the club where he has diligently worked for 13 years.

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One important service The Bradby Club provides is help for teenagers who have to deal with domestic and familial complexities which most of us at Rugby School might not even realise exist as difficult daily realities. Tuesday evening is devoted to Young Carers: there are two groups, 5-12 (junior), and 13-17 (senior) from 4.00-6.00pm alternate weeks. The Club took over these groups when the Appointed Worker, who was not employed by Bradby, moved away from the area. The groups had been using the Club as the venue, so, because we could see what a vital evening this was for the young carers, Rebecca Thomas, deputy leader, continued with the project, which has gone from strength to strength. Vital? Tuesday evenings meant, that, for one definite slot in the week, the Young Carers could abandon their responsibilities and simply switch off, relax, and have fun. From a different perspective, this Tuesday evening slot is vital as it also allows Young Carers access to adults who they can talk to about any of the problems they have in a secure and helpful environment.

### Meeting the Boys

With the discussions of the logistics and history of the club drawing to an end, John decided to invite three of the boys in to talk with us, an experience I found to be very eye-opening. The young men are called Jan Issac, Preston Hall and Kaiyne-Lee Allen. When asked about how they discovered the club, Jan explained, "No-one advertises the club to you - it's just the word on the street", a point John and Alison had previously emphasised. Advertising would lead to a lot more members, and, as much as they would love the club to be open to everyone, they simply lack the resources and funding to ensure that: as things stand, the club is already working at near full capacity, and they are currently saving up to improve the gym.

The gym: everyone in the club's ears prick up with just its mention, its impact meriting a whole section to itself, or more particularly, what happens in the gym: boxing. It's what keeps most of the boys attending weekly. "Without it, I would probably be in jail by now," I heard someone softly say. That stuck out to me. A question budded in my head: "What makes you say that?". Frankly speaking, I would be lying if I said I wasn't awaiting a predictable, "It keeps me busy," or a semi-sarcastic "Well, I don't think having boxing in jail sounds like a very smart idea." Instead, he explained that it served as a good outlet for pent-up anger. "It's easy to put up a tough exterior, you know, when things are as tough as they are for us." Then, more than ever, did I truly realise the comforts that are commonplace in the average Rugbeian's life that many of us take for granted.

Sport has always been centre-place in many of our lives, and, in that moment, I reflected on the many state-of-the-art sports facilities that we have access to. The council compelled the 'Bradby Boys Club' to change its name to the 'Bradby Club' as a way of trying to make the club more inclusive of everyone, which has been successful because as Alison remarks "There are now a very good number of girls and there is excellent interaction between all the members of the club". Ironically, boxing, often viewed as a symbol of machismo and violence, has this powerful emotional appeal for these boys, a form of psychological escapism, a cathartic, safe space behind the fast feet shuffles, jabs, weaving dodges, and brutal-seeming punches. I was later shown the boxing gym and learnt how to throw a 'good punch' at the punching bag (disclaimer: no one was hurt in the making of this Quod Piece.)

### Perceptions and Connections

If you do gain anything from this article, please make it this: those short 15 minutes conversing with the Bradby Club members was, very distinctly, the highlight of my week. With generic expectations about how three teenage boys, strangers, might react to me as a girl coming from the nearby 'posh' school, I was surprised by how friendly and charming they were with me. I was also struck by their level of self-awareness, a word seldomly used in the same sentence as 'teenage boys!'. They were open, direct, accommodating to all my questions.

When, just before we left, it was time to line up and pose for a picture in-front of a plaque in the Blackmore Room, the ease and mood of camaraderie with which they threw their arms around each other's shoulders captured the essence of the Bradby Club experience: belonging. Excuse my seeming-sappiness for a minute, but I truly do believe, from this brief insight, that the Bradby Club is a place where every member really does feel like they belong and can make a change in their lives. Bradby Club is a place that matters, and we at Rugby School should feel proud of our association with it.





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**THE BRADBY CLUB**  
**(Incorporating Bradby Boys' Club)**

**FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024**

Wright & Co.  
Chartered Accountants  
2 Longrood Road  
Bilton  
Rugby  
Warwickshire  
CV22 7RG

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**THE BRADBY CLUB**  
**(Incorporating Bradby Boys' Club)**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Management Committee is required to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the affairs of the club and of the income and expenditure of the club for that period.

These accounts have been examined by an independent accountant in compliance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and copies made available to members.

In preparing those accounts the committee members are required to:-

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the club will continue in business.

The committee members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the club and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with that Charities Act 2011. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the club and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE**  
**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE BRADBY CLUB**  
**(Incorporating Bradby Boys' Club)**

I report on the accounts of the Management Committee for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, which are set out on pages 3 to 8.

**Respective Responsibilities of Management Committee and Examiner**

As the Management Committee of the charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under s145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**


I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

2 Longrood Road  
Rugby  
Warwickshire  
CV22 7RG

5<sup>th</sup> June 2024

  
A.P. Wright B.Com. F.C.A.  
Chartered Accountant

**THE BRADBY CLUB**  
(Incorporating Bradby Boy's Club)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total 2024</u>	<u>Total 2023</u>
<b><u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u></b>					
Funds Raised by Members	2	0		0	0
Funds Raised from Other Sources		6,542		6,542	5,053
Donation and Covenants		7,200		7,200	22,937
Grants Received	3	38,951	52,914	91,865	146,281
Investment Income	4	1,490		1,490	338
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<u>54,183</u>	<u>52,914</u>	<u>107,097</u>	<u>174,609</u>
<b><u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u></b>					
<b><u>Charitable Expenditure</u></b>					
<b><u>Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objects</u></b>					
Salaries and Wages	5	60,922	40,000	100,922	91,702
Transport		1,305		1,305	1,309
Visits, Camps and Courses		1,878		1,878	1,847
Sports and Camping Equipment		4,958	1,514	6,472	4,477
Project Expenses		1,122	17,814	18,936	16,132
		<u>70,185</u>	<u>59,328</u>	<u>129,513</u>	<u>115,467</u>
<b><u>Management and Administration</u></b>					
Light and Heat		3,575		3,575	4,342
Rates		1,997		1,997	1,616
Insurance		3,217		3,217	3,139
Postage, Telephone and Stationery		3,549		3,549	2,603
Computers and Equipment		0		0	0
Repairs and Renewals		12,458		12,458	39,124
Cleaners and Cleaning		833		833	1,958
Miscellaneous		1,038		1,038	2,968
		<u>26,667</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>26,667</u>	<u>55,750</u>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<u>96,852</u>	<u>59,328</u>	<u>156,180</u>	<u>171,217</u>
<b>Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources</b>		<u>-42,669</u>	<u>-6,414</u>	<u>-49,083</u>	<u>3,392</u>
<b>Transfer between Funds</b>		<u>NIL</u>	<u>NIL</u>	<u>NIL</u>	<u>NIL</u>
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<u>-42,669</u>	<u>-6,414</u>	<u>-49,083</u>	<u>3,392</u>
<b>Fund Balance Brought Forward 1 April 2023</b>		<u>161,524</u>	<u>23,415</u>	<u>184,939</u>	<u>181,547</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD 31 MARCH 2024</b>		<u>£118,855</u>	<u>£17,001</u>	<u>£135,856</u>	<u>£184,939</u>

The notes on pages 5 to 8 form part of these Accounts.

**THE BRADBY CLUB**  
(Incorporating Bradby Boy's Club)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024

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	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>			
Debtors	6	0	0
Cash at Bank	7	136,969	183,277
Cash in Hand		384	1,662
		137,353	184,939
<b><u>LESS CREDITORS</u></b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	1,498	0
<b><u>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>		<b>£135,856</b>	<b>£184,939</b>
 <b><u>INCOME FUNDS</u></b>			
Restricted Funds	9	23,415	23,415
Unrestricted Funds		13,445	13,445
- Designated Blue Boar Fund		98,996	148,079
- Charitable Fund			
		<b>£135,856</b>	<b>£184,939</b>

Approved on behalf of the Management Committee by

Approved on behalf of the Management Committee by

I. Chislett .....

D.A. Wright .....

Date .....

The notes on pages 5 to 8 form part of these Accounts.

**THE BRADBY CLUB**  
(Incorporating Bradby Boy's Club)

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST MARCH 2024**

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The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Accounting Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005). A summary of the more important accounting policies of the charity which have been applied consistently is set out below.

- 1a) **Income**  
Income has been taken to the credit of the Statement of Financial Activities on the following basis:
- |                         |   |   |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Fund Raising            | - | Accruals (matched with related expenditure) |
| Donations and Covenants | - | Cash basis                                  |
| Grants Received         | - | Cash basis                                  |
| Investment Income       | - | Cash basis                                  |
- b) **Donations and Grants Receivable**  
Donations and grants are recognised in the accounts during the year in which they are actually received. Grants received for specific purposes are shown as restricted funds.
- c) **Expenditure**  
Expenditure has been charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which the expenditure is incurred.
- d) **Fixed Assets**  
Freehold property and additions at the balance sheet date are not valued. Additions to freehold property are written off in the period of payment. Motor vehicles, fixtures and fittings are written off when purchased.
- e) **Designated Fund**  
Interest arising on the designated fund is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities unless shown otherwise.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
2. <b><u>Funds Raised by Members</u></b>		
Subscriptions	0	0
Other	0	0
	<u>£0</u>	<u>£0</u>

**THE BRADBY CLUB**  
(Incorporating Bradby Boy's Club)

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST MARCH 2024**

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		<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
3.	<b><u>Grants received</u></b>		
	<b><u>Unrestricted Funds</u></b>		
	Rugby Central Fund	NIL	10,000
	Garfield Weston	NIL	20,000
	Rugby School Governing Body	15,000	NIL
	Warwickshire County Council	8,951	46,320
	M&S Neighbourly Fund	NIL	1,000
	29th May Trust	15,000	15,000
		<u>£38,951</u>	<u>£92,320</u>
	 <b><u>Restricted Funds</u></b>		
	Rugby Benevolent Fund	35,100	34,537
	Children in Need	NIL	10,438
	Warwickshire PCC	17,814	8,986
		<u>£52,914</u>	<u>£53,961</u>
4.	<b><u>Investment Income</u></b>		
	National Savings Bank Interest	0	12
	Bank Interest	1,498	326
		<u>£1,498</u>	<u>£338</u>

**THE BRADBY CLUB**  
(Incorporating Bradby Boy's Club)

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31ST MARCH 2024**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>5. <u>Employee Information</u></b>		
a) The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year is analysed below:		
Youth Workers	4	4
b) Employment costs of all employees included above comprised:		
Gross Wages and Salaries	£92,011	£83,876
Employers' National Insurance Contributions	£7,057	£6,238
Employers Pension contributions	£1,854	£1,588
	£100,922	£91,702

None of the officers or Management Committee members received any remuneration during the year.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>6. <u>Debtors</u></b>		
Prepayments	£0	£0
	£0	£0
<b>7. <u>Cash at Bank</u></b>		
National Savings Bank Investment Account	12,857	12,857
Lloyds Bank - Current Account	5,807	9,104
Lloyds Bank - Instant Access Account	117,804	161,316
Lloyds Bank - Gym Rebuild Account	500	0
	£136,969	£183,277

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**THE BRADBY CLUB**  
**(Incorporating Bradby Boy's Club)**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31ST MARCH 2024**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
8. <b><u>Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year</u></b>		
Accruals	<u>£1,498</u>	<u>£0</u>
9. <b><u>Restricted Funds</u></b>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Rugby Benevolent Fund	17,001	23,415
Warwickshire PCC	0	0
	<u>£17,001</u>	<u>£23,415</u>

All of the Restricted Funds assets are represented by cash at bank.

10. **Capital Commitments**

There were no capital commitments at 31st March 2024 (2023 - NIL).

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# Forever In Our Hearts

I first approached Rex in 2008 to invite him to join the Management Committee of the Bradby Club and we were all delighted when he accepted. How incredibly lucky we were for this "Legend" to become so involved with the Club.

As retired Headmaster of Lawrence Sheriff School, whilst an outstanding intellectual, he retained the common touch and had an affinity with young people, always prepared to see the best in others. He was elected Chair of the Management Committee in 2010 and became totally committed to ensuring the financial stability of the Club by contacting firms and funding charities in the most persuasive and charming way. His networking contacts were extensive. He was instrumental in numerous fundraising events involving his outstanding singing and acting talents and generating such enthusiasm that whatever he touched would succeed. In 2010 he was involved in organising the visit of HRH the Duke of Kent to celebrate the longevity of the Club. He has also entertained the High Sheriff of Warwickshire.

Rex retired from the Chair of the Management Committee in 2016 and was succeeded by Brenda Green. However, his involvement became even greater and he was elected as Chair of the Fundraising Committee in 2023 with great plans for the future.

Rex was an outstanding motivator as he always led from the front and worked harder than anyone else. His charismatic effect brought a sparkle to anything he touched and as a person he is totally irreplaceable. We all feel better for having known him.

## Jeffrey Bernhard

Jeff was a long time supporter of the Bradby Club giving generously of his time and use of his facilities. In the days of Bernhard's Garden Centre the Bradby Club was invited to use the Centre for fundraising events. Many of our long-term supporters will recall occasions such as wine and pate events and barbeques. He organised his carpenter to erect the hut used by Round Table when Bradby helped with their Christmas car park collection. After the closure of the Garden Centre he still continued to attend annual meetings and fundraising events and maintained a strong commitment to Bradby.

Jeff was a charismatic character with an incredible work ethic who gave freely of his time to help charitable causes and Bradby was one of the lucky ones. He was an intelligent and charming gentleman who it was a privilege to have known.

---

## Ian Reid (Klank)

Ian typified the times of this Bradby Boys Club.

He knew he was part of a close family of friends who participated as a team and boys club member but is memorised as an unforgettable individual.

Ian (Klank) was a Big Character in more ways than one-he will, he will be sadly missed by all his Bradby Friends.

## Sean Hanlon

Sean had used the club as a young person but even as an adult found himself drawn to the centre for boxing and training. Sean loved the club, the people, the coaches and training hard. He represented the club in numerous boxing bouts over the years and would always get so nervous before the fight. Nerves it seems were not warranted as when it came down to the fight the warrior that was Sean would always come through and perform. Sean loved a challenge and he was hugely competitive in his boxing and weight training. Some of the weights he lifted and the times he completed workouts would be unimaginable to the rest of us.

A soft and sensitive soul with one of the toughest exteriors, Sean was a true gentle giant. Respectful, polite and yes he made mistakes but he was always the first to apologise and make amends.

Words cannot express what Sean meant to everyone at the club, having been here for years he had become a part of the furniture but also a voice and advocate for the impact the club makes in the local community. He will be sadly missed but always remembered here, taken far too soon.

One more rep, one more set, one more round  
when it gets tough we will hear Sean's voice willing us on with these words as we strive to be the best versions of ourselves and instil Sean's hardwork and dedication into the people we train.



---

## **PRESIDENT**

THE MAYOR OF RUGBY

## **VICE PRESIDENTS**

THE HEADMASTER OF RUGBY SCHOOL , ANDY ABEL,  
GRAHAM NEW, DAVID RAY MBE

## **OFFICERS**

CHAIR IAN CHISLETT  
HON. TREASURER DAVID WRIGHT  
HON. SECRETARY SUE WILLIAMS

## **LEADER**

JOHN ROBERTSON

## **YOUTH WORKERS**

REBECCA THOMAS, STEVEN GLOVER, JENNI WINDLE

## **VOLUNTEERS**

BYRON BANTON, OWEN BATCHELOR, DARRON FORREST,  
TREVOR FORREST, DAN GLOVER, ELYSE GLOVER, OSCAR  
LEYVA, CHRIS NEWMAN

## **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

FIONA ALDERMAN-DAVIES, NICK COLE, NICK MORSE,  
MICHAEL O'MEARA, TED OWEN, REX POGSON, ALISON  
ROSS

## **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

HELEN APPLEBY, TINA BROAD, NICK COLE, GILL MOORE,  
CHRISTINE NOBES, REX POGSON, ALISON ROSS, SUE  
WILLIAMS

## **BANKERS**

LLOYDS BANK, RUGBY,  
CV21 3PL

## **HON. REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS**

AP WRIGHT B. COM FCA  
2 LONGROOD ROAD, RUGBY  
CV22 7RG



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

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