

Winter Newsletter 2016



2016 Table Tennis Academy at The Old Library

For many reasons and for many people, in the UK and around the world, 2016 turned out to be a very difficult and troubling year – but thankfully it wasn't all bad news.

Welcome to our Winter Newsletter celebrating some of the good things that Rathbone's staff, volunteers and service users were involved in this year.

Thank you sincerely once again to all of Rathbone's funders, supporters and volunteers – we wouldn't do any of this without you.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Vision, Mission and Values

In February we announced and published our charity's long-awaited and 'hard-crafted' Vision, Mission and Values, clearly setting out what Rathbone is all about and what we want to achieve.

Our Vision is that people with learning disabilities live safe, healthy and fulfilled lives

Our Mission:

To support people with learning disabilities and young people

We do this by:

- Promoting independence and life skills
- Supporting people to try new things
- Creating opportunities for people to come together

Our Values:

1. Quality
2. Trusted
3. Creative
4. Inclusive

 Rathbone

We like them, and we hope you do too.

Andrea Dances around Ghana



In March Rathbone's Fundraiser and talented Diverse Dance choreographer Andrea Swainson took a short break from her work here to take her talents off to Ghana for three

weeks on an educational dance programme organised by *Awareness Through Dance*.



Andrea worked extremely hard but had a wonderful time in Africa. You can read all about her adventures on her blog page at:

<http://www.awarenessthroughdance.org/>

It's official – We're Good!

On 22nd March the Care Quality Commission (CQC) published our Outreach Service's inspection report following our inspection in January.

Jamie Sawyer, the Service's Registered Manager, was very pleased with the outcome and felt that it reflects and acknowledges all the effort put in and skill applied by the team, "Our aim is to provide a good value, high quality service to local people and this report shows that we are currently meeting that target, despite formidable pressures upon charity sector social care providers. Well done everyone!"



The Rathbone Centre
(Outreach Service)
Inspection report

8 Chatsworth Way
London
SE27 9HR

Date of inspection visit:
19 January 2016

Overall rating for this service	Good 
Is the service safe?	Good 
Is the service effective?	Good 
Is the service caring?	Good 
Is the service responsive?	Good 
Is the service well-led?	Good 

Fundraising Success

In June we were very happy to announce **three** excellent pieces of fundraising news:

Funding Success #1:

Congratulations went to the *Feel Good Fridays* over 25s group. Andrea, Barbara and Eddie supported the group, who always meet up in Brixton, to attend a *Brixton Pound* funding event on 7th June.



The local community voted for several local groups to get funding and Feel Good Fridays won £1,000 which will help to keep the group running over the year. Well done to everyone involved!



Feel Good Fridays

Funding Success #2

More congratulations went to the young people from the Youth Service. Supported by Charline and Ibtisam, the group pitched to no less than 5 separate groups of community commissioners and won a fantastic £8,200 for the consortium summer programme. (The consortium was formed of Rathbone & Old Library Youth Clubs, Norwood Community Group Services and High Trees Community Development Trust to provide combined youth activities in the West Norwood & Tulse Hill area).



Funding Success #3



Congratulations went to Luke and Andrea for successfully winning a bid for £3,100 for The Old Library Summer Youth Programme. The CVC grant came via our friends at London Youth.



Gardening Group



Rathbone's weekly Gardening Group continues to produce excellent results – both in the quality of its harvests and in opportunities for Rathbone's adult service users to get out of the house and get their hands dirty - 'come rain or shine'. This year the group have grown their own crops of potatoes, cabbage, curly kale, runner beans, shallots, beetroot and even made some quince jam from the tree donated by the **Open Orchard Project**.



In April members of the Gardening Group were joined by volunteers from **White Stuff** and Rathbone volunteer Antony O'Rourke to get the garden at Chatsworth Way tidy ready for the growing season.



A new volunteer joined the group in November

Volunteers Week

At Rathbone we value our volunteers. Over the course of Volunteer's Week during June 2016 we took the opportunity to say Thank You and show our appreciation.



20th – 24th June was Learning Disability Week. We teamed up with Lambeth Mencap to put on some activities to celebrate.

Deputy Director Shaun Jones thanks volunteer John Chapple and presents him with a certificate and voucher.



Lunchtime at the Card Making session

These included both a Card Making session and a Tea Dance at The Old Library and a barbecue at Tulse Hill Youth Club.

Rathbone becomes a London Living Wage employer

On June 28th Rathbone was extremely pleased to announce that we are now able to pay all staff a minimum of the London Living Wage. A successful negotiation process with our main funder, the London Borough of Lambeth, meant that Rathbone received sufficient funding for the work we do to be able to take this vital step – which has important and far-reaching effects within our organisation such improved staff morale, retention and recruitment.

Lambeth Country Show

Rathbone was back in force at The Lambeth Country Show in Brockwell Park on the weekend of the 16th and 17th of July, and we were grateful – as ever – to everyone who turned up and volunteered in their own time.



Fun and games at the Youth Service stall



showers on the day. Lots of food and drink was enjoyed, everyone seemed to have a great time and we had lots of keen takers for the raffle. The main prize, a pan set, was won by Derrick Porter (pictured).



Thanks to everyone who pitched in on the day, especially Sheila who slaved away in the hot kitchen, ably assisted by Selina and Ejiata, to produce the lovely salads. Thanks also to Andrea, Andreaia and those who stayed to help clear up and tidy until the very end. Also mentioned in dispatches is Liz who braved the hot conditions to oven cook all the chicken the previous evening.



Flowers for sale at the main Rathbone stall
Come and see us next Summer, Lambeth Country Show is always a brilliant day out.

Hire Rooms at The Old Library

In August we published our brand new brochure for Room Hire at The Old Library, announcing the range of fantastic spaces we have to offer to the local community at highly competitive prices!

Rathbone Summer BBQ



This year's Rathbone's Summer BBQ in July went rather well. The weather was kind, despite fears of



Sydenham Road BBQ



On Saturday August 28th Rathbone's Sydenham Road project held their annual event for families and service users, and great fun was had by all.

Thank You White Stuff

Young people and staff from Rathbone's Youth Service went along to White Stuff HQ in Kennington in September to say a huge thank you – literally!



We have been in the fantastic position of being the selected charity for White Stuff HQ for the last 3 years through the wonderful **White Stuff Foundation**.

As well as supporting us with very significant grants, we Rathbone also benefited from their expertise, technical support, training, lots and lots of hard labour from their teams and sheer all round fabulousness!

The support from the White Stuff Foundation enabled us to extend our services, reach more young people, develop our dance programme, refurbish our premises, buy educational equipment,

rebuild our recording studio, get staff trained and qualified, pay for a fundraiser and buy a shiny brand new much needed mini-bus.

We are sad to be saying goodbye, but it's been a brilliant experience and the support from White Stuff has left us in a much better place. Our huge thank you extends to everyone at White Stuff HQ and White Stuff Foundation – thanks guys, it's been AMAZING!



London to Brighton Bike Ride

On Saturday 15th October, after a long and gruelling 11 hours Andrew, Luke and Arthur made the finish line in Brighton. After setting off from The Old Library at 5am they had 12 miles of hills to tackle, over 15 miles of muddy and stony parks, 5 miles of the fast and furious A23 and the last 10 miles through thoroughly wet and windy conditions. They finally made it to Brighton Pier at 4pm, tired and sore, but elated after achieving what they set out to do, raising money for the Youth Service.



Well done boys!



VIP Visitors to our Youth Club

Rosemary Watt-Wyness, the CEO of London Youth, Came to visit the Youth Club On Tuesday 28th September.



She had a great time playing games with the Youth Club members and finding out more about The Old Library.

Through the generous support of London Youth in the past we have been able to furnish the Lounge, purchase new equipment and restock vital resources which form the backbone of the work we do with young people.

Our Local MP Helen Hayes paid a visit to the youth club the following evening. She had the opportunity to see the facilities and programmes on offer here as well as getting stuck into some Arts and Crafts with the young people! The visit was supported by Gail Emerson, Chair of our Board of Trustees, who helped paint a picture of the great services delivered by Rathbone.



The mood of the visit was captured perfectly with our fantastic MP SELFIE!!! Cheese!!

Rathbone Trustee Phil Kerry talks about his role to London Youth

Phil Kerry has been on Rathbone's Board of Trustees since October 2015.



In his day job he works as a Director of Programmes for *London Youth*, and he talks to on the London Youth website, as part of Trustees' Week in November, about his voluntary role at Rathbone.

<http://londonyouth.org/news-and-events/blog/trustees-week-phil-kerry/>

Award Nomination!



Huge congratulations were due to Rathbone's Youth Team for making the shortlist for the national Children & Young People Now Awards 2016. The team, who run our integrated Youth Service based at The Old Library in West Norwood were nominated for the Youth Work Award.



Diverse Dance Showcase

Our partner organisation Diverse Dance Studios invited people to their annual showcase for 2016 on December 3rd at Theatre SW4 in Clapham.



2016 has seen the Diverse Dance Studios groups perform at the busiest ever Lambeth Country Show and receive a commission from Nine Elms & Big Dance, which led to an integrated group performance on the iconic Big Dance Bus. They were also very proud to have their dance film WAVE selected and screened at the Southbank Centre's Unlimited Inclusive Youth Dance Platform.



This year the groups looked to international artists for inspiration and are excited to present their responses to Belgian choreographer Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker's Rosas danst Rosas, along with Willi Dorner's Bodies in Urban Spaces project.

Come Dine With Us – Catering Par Excellence!



Rathbone's cooking and healthy living Group catered for Last year's Xmas Party and is doing so again this year. We all very much appreciate their skill, commitment and wonderful, savoury food.

Thank You to all our Funders!

