





Hanley Crouch Community
Centre Association
The Laundry, 19 Sparsholt Road
London N19 4EL

Charity No. 288337
Company No 1771608

www.hanleycrouch.org.uk

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Hanley Crouch 

Annual Report 2014/2015



**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
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Priscilla Trench Vice Chair
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AUDITORS

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**STAFF MANAGEMENT &
ADMINISTRATION**

Colin Adams MBE Centre Manager
Adam Parr Admin/Finance

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Edward Carnihan Caretaker
Anthony Onochie Cleaner

YOUTH CLUB

Roslyn Quiadoo Deputy Manager
Jonathan Hughes Youth worker
Howard Brown Youth worker

UNDER 5'S

Chantel Conway Project Manager
Husna Begum Playworker
Francina Michael Playworker

**AFTER SCHOOL CLUB/HOLIDAY
PLAY SCHEME**

Chantel Conway Project Manager
Darren Ogbemor Deputy Manager
Emma Corbett Playworker
Husna Begum Playworker
Richard Corbin Playworker

VOLUNTEERS

Kasum Taylor, Carol Myers-Nobbs,
Suad Younan, Caroline Healy & Maxine
Lewin

STAFF WHO HAVE LEFT

A big thank you to all the following and
the best of luck in the future:
Abraham Tsegaye
Benjamin Harrison
Daniella Tyler
Fiona Winter



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HISTORY

We are a multi-purpose Community Association operating in Tollington Ward, in North Islington, in London.

Our Association was set up originally in 1972 by a group of local parents who needed somewhere for their children to play. We are a multi-cultural organisation that celebrates diversity and inclusion. We aim to provide services to the whole community irrespective of age, gender, race, disability or sexual orientation. All are welcome to our centre, known locally as “The Laundry”.

Over the last forty years we have had and will continue to have a major influence for the good in our community, providing a stable base in a rapidly changing environment. From 2009 onward Hanley Crouch Community Association decided to informally rename ourselves “The Laundry”.

OUR AIM

The Laundry will: Improve the lives of people in our local community and to promote community involvement and community cohesion through the delivery of services needed for children, young people and the elderly.



THE LOCAL AREA



In the Area Children and Young Peoples Profile, 2010, Tollington ward was coupled with Finsbury Park and Hillrise which was shown to have the highest percentage of children in households claiming benefits whether or not in work, 36%.

**English Indices of Deprivation, 2010.*

Other significant statistics showed Tollington Ward had;

- The highest number of primary school pupils for whom English is an additional language, 55%. It is the same percentage for secondary school pupils.
- Second Worst male life expectancy in Islington, just under 73 years (English average was 79.2);
- 42% in social housing
- Ranked 3rd in Islington for proportion of unemployed residents, and 1st for residents not working due to long term sickness or disability.

The 2011 Census gives the population of Tollington Ward as 13,550 (6% of Islington total) with an age structure the same as that of the whole borough, giving the largest group as being aged 30–44, both male and female. 44% of the population are White followed by 18% Black or Black British and 39% Christian, followed by 31% no religion and 9% Muslim.

To the surprise of many, the London borough of Islington is the 14th most deprived area in England and the 5th most deprived in London. The Tollington Ward (which Hanley Crouch serves) is the 5th most deprived of Islington's 16 wards.*Tollington scores particularly badly in Islington as the 2nd worst ward for employment and health.

Overall on so many categories of deprivation Tollington Ward scores highly for benefit claimants, low life expectancy, children speaking English as an additional language, claiming free school meals and residents in social housing. Deprivation exists throughout Tollington Ward not just in isolated pockets.

CENTRE MANAGERS REPORT



I know I touched on last year the fact, like most other voluntary organisations we are waiting in

trepidation to see what cuts in funding we will need to absorb for the coming financial year.

It will be how we deal with this, with the help of the community, trustees, staff and volunteers that will determine how we survive over what will be (in the view of many in the sector) the most daunting test we will face in terms of our sustainability over the next couple of years.

In view of this, we have spent the past year developing further relationships with excellent organisations such as the Big Alliance who represent some of the large corporations in the City. Liz Jones (Programme Coordinator at the Big Alliance) has done a fantastic job in getting their support and she has arranged for me to be coached/mentored by Ketan Shan from the Mitsubishi Group who has worked with me over the past year. He has also secured funding for the centre which I am so grateful for and I would like to personally thank him for his support, encouragement and words of wisdom as this has been a particularly challenging year.

Liz has worked with all the community hubs and in addition to a wide range of business/consultancy services offered, she also arranged for Hanley Crouch to receive a large number of toys that we gave out to users of our After School Club and Stay and Play. She's been a tremendous help and I would like to thank her for all her help over the year. In addition to the services we offered last year, we have increased the range of services and now offer free IT training support for local residents who are council tenants as part of the Resident Engagement programme in partnership with the council team and anyone who lives locally can use our internet to access local services or look for employment.



We have continued to arrange a series of community events where we consult local residents on what they think the local "priorities" should be for the Tollington ward and for Islington. We held an event in January at Christ the Kings school where over 150 residents came along. The event was themed around health and wellbeing and free activities included NHS health checks, baby massages and healthy cooking for young people.

Without our trustees, staff and volunteers, there wouldn't be a Hanley Crouch and I want to take this opportunity to thank all the trustees, staff, volunteers and supporters who have helped us have another great year.

CHAIRS REPORT



It is an amazing accomplishment that in these times of continual constraints meted out from funders, local authority and

central government, that Hanley Crouch not only survives, but thrives, and we are looking forward to 45 years as a successful community centre.

This has happened not as an accident of providence, but by the combined concerted efforts of Trustees, staff, local councillors and officers, volunteers and users who all support, advocate and believe in the centre.

The new building project is underway and we have a projected completion date of January 2017. This will comprise of a brand new purpose built community centre on the old Ivy Hall site, together with much needed social housing. The new community centre will eventually replace The Laundry, and although it will have a new name and new site, the spirit of The Laundry and all it has stood for over the years in terms of community involvement and engagement will live on.

We move into this phase of our development with pregnant anticipation and fervour.

In the meantime, our commitment to keep and grow services in preparation for our new home is as strong as ever. We know that our centre is in an area of high deprivation and that needs of our service users are many and complex, and so we are developing a funding strategy to try to future proof the centre and its services and move away from dependence upon restrictive funding and towards sustainable funded projects which will benefit our service users.

We continue through the Community Hub and our community partnership initiatives to consult with and work with local residents to deliver objectives and activities that are truly community-needs led.

As a result of increased outreach by staff we have seen a marked increase in our After School and Holiday provision and also in our Youth provision which has evolved from Youth Club to Youth development and involves partnership work with local youth hubs and schools. We would like to congratulate Cllr Richard Watts (a former Trustee) and Catherine West (a dedicated supporter of Hanley Crouch) on their appointments in this year as Leader of Islington Council and Member of Parliament for Hornsey and Wood Green respectively.

I would like to personally thank all the staff and volunteers who always go the 'extra mile' to keep everything flowing and growing.



CHILDREN'S & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

Over the past 4 years, Hanley Crouch Community Association's Children's Services have been successfully working simultaneously with the Play Principles and Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). We can proudly say that combining both principles and curriculum enables us to use play so that the children can have the best possible start, build on their social skills, appreciate how in risks and challenges they can make valuable connections with the environment, and have fun.



After School Club

Monday to Friday 3:15pm to 6:15pm
(term time only) £9 per session 4-12yrs

Over the year the number of children attending the services has been consistent with that of last year with the average of 27 per day. We persevere to provide a service for children which allows them to enjoy meeting challenges, to learn from each other, to be involved in caring for each other; while providing a place where children feel safe to express their feelings.

Over the past year the children have enjoyed many activities such as dance, cooking, crafts, arts, team games, sports and sewing. The project continues to develop in working in partnership with other organisations, such as, Wild Places, Timbuktu Adventure Play Ground, and St Saviour Church.

We currently collect children from St Gilda's Junior School, St Peter-in-chains infant school, Stroud Green, Christ the King primary and Pooles Park primary school.

After School Club future plans

- We are planning on opening their own children's library that is run by the children
- To work in closer partnership with schools to promote and support children's learning with higher level consistency
- To work with other After School Clubs in sharing school services
- To have our children actively participate in fundraising



Holiday Play Scheme

Monday to Friday 8:30am to 6pm
(half terms 9 weeks over the year) £15 per day (additional fees may apply for certain trips & outings)

The Holiday Play Scheme is designed to support working families and runs for 9 weeks during out of school term times. We plan each half term holiday with the children while keeping in mind the limited budget for parents. The programme strongly supports personal social and emotional development first as it's critical that children master these basic skills before any other learning can take place. For children's transitions from to secondary school every year we provide an end of term disco; planned and organised by the children.

Holiday Play Scheme future plans

- To encourage children to be more involved in fundraising not only for Hanley Crouch but also for other charities
- To run communication and motivation workshops for all children

Under 5's Stay & Play/Toy Library

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
10am to 12 noon

Free service for under 5's

Our Stay & Play is an Ofsted registered

free service used by children, parents, carers, nannies and childminders. Over the past year the service has proven ever popular with users travelling from all around the borough to attend.

The Stay and Play runs for 3 days in the week Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. A Young Parents Group was developed for young parents, younger than 25 years old, and their babies and toddler that ran on Fridays. The Young Parent's Project was started up by North Islington Nursery School & Children's Centre (NINS&CC) to encourage young parents to meet other parents and to encourage young parents to engage in local services to reduce isolation. While the project was successful in helping its users' confidence, knowledge and providing signposting for other needs, the project unfortunately had to close due to the current funding environment.

We are extremely lucky to work in partnership with North Islington Nursery School & Children's Centre (NINS&CC) and hope to continue the successful relationship in the future. Their support has been fundamental in supporting families that use the under 5s service in providing Family Support Workers, Outreach Workers, Speech and Language Therapist, Oral Health Promoter, Health Visitors and

health Promoters. The Toy Library also runs alongside the Stay and Play sessions for families to borrow books and toys to support their children's development and to save money.

Under 5's Stay & Play/Toy Library future plans

- To continue to work with NINS&CC and other Children's Centers
- To broaden the range of families we work with by 2015-2016



YOUTH SERVICES

The Hanley Crouch Youth Club is a place where young people can relax, engage with others and participate in a portfolio of activities including sports, team activities creative activities such as music, poetry, art and structured projects. These are tailored and based on the needs of the local community, which shape the services priorities and objectives. We run our youth club for young people between the ages of 13 to 19 on Tuesdays.

During the year we worked with Platform Youth Hub to deliver sessions held on Friday evenings. We also were able to run a summer scheme thanks to support from Islington Housing which included employability & business skills workshops and go-karting. We also ran several successful smaller projects such as DJing workshop and Graffiti workshop with

a focus on the safety aspects of using toxic spray cans. We were pleased to also help several young people on to youth construction courses, giving them a qualification and experience that they can use going forward in their lives.

IAMS Mentoring Support

The youth workers within Hanley Crouch also offered their services to support Islington Arts and Media School in mentoring a targeted group of students, who were on the fringes. The aim was to support them

in improving their aspirations and improving their chances of attaining GCSE's, we are happy to say that all the students left with improved grades and were more confidently able to move onto the next stage of their lives.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

Older People's Services

Lunch Group - Fridays 1pm
Arts & Crafts Group – Mondays 11am to 2 pm

We have continued to host the popular Weekenders lunch group on Fridays. It provides a healthy warm meal for over 50's in a friendly & welcoming environment. It is a culturally diverse group that celebrates all religions with special events throughout the year.

The Weekenders also offer regular trips during the summer to a variety of places, which this year included visits to Hastings, Eastbourne & Cornwall. The group also has informal links with other older persons groups in the area, extending access to a broader social network that comes together for special events.



The Monday Arts and Crafts group is also ever increasing in popularity. Led by Carol Myers-Nobbs, the group uses various techniques along a wide range of different projects including glassware decoration, children's games, card making and much more.

Local Tenants & Residents Associations
In our role as Community Hub for the Tollington Ward, we work with tenants and residents associations from the local housing estates to provide office facilities, hall loans and support. We host regular Ward Partnership Meetings for community groups and interested parties to liaise directly with the Council and other organisations within the Tollington Area. The meetings are a way for people and other organisations in the ward to get involved, meet their councillors and share their knowledge to help tackle local issues.

VOLUNTEERING/WORK PLACEMENTS

As an organisation, without the support of our volunteers, we would not be able to provide the range of services that we currently deliver. In 2015 there were 8 volunteers offering an average total of 41 hours per week of unpaid time which, if valued at minimum wage, demonstrates a total contribution of £12,448.

Hanley Crouch has a long tradition of working with volunteers and all the projects we currently run have volunteers working with them. They provide a vital service and many of our volunteers have gone onto full time employment within the project they have worked with or within similar settings. We also aim to provide work placement students/volunteers a rewarding and fulfilling experience within our organisation which should equip them with the necessary skills, behaviours and attitudes to progress within their chosen field. However, I do want to stress that there are a number of different volunteering opportunities and we would meet prior to you starting to determine what you would like to get out of the opportunity. Please speak to any member of staff if you are interested in volunteering or email admin@hanleycrouch.org.uk.

NEW BUILDING

Preparations to begin construction on our brand new purpose built community centre are well under way, with demolition work having begun at the Ivy Hall site next to the Holly Park estate. The redevelopment will also include 23 new flats with a priority for local residents and is currently expected to be finished in early 2017. During the redevelopment there will also be training

and job opportunities in construction for local residents. Once the new centre is finished we will be moving over there and our current building 'the Laundry' will make way for 8 new houses.

We are all very excited and busy planning on ways to provide more services for the community and increasing our scope for community

engagement from our new base of operations. We are still keen to encourage local people to get involved in the development of our services and suggestions of any activities or ideas that would be of benefit to the wider community in the new centre are welcomed. Please feel free to talk to the staff team about any ideas you may have.

An impression of the new community centre and housing as viewed from the Junction of Crouch Hill.



FINANCE REPORT

The financial performance of Hanley Crouch Community Association Ltd for the 2014/15 financial year is a surplus of £13,907. All fixed assets were fully expensed by the end of 2013/14 and there are no depreciation charges for the community centre in 2014/15.

The centre historically found difficulties with containing spend within its incoming annual resources. The centre has strived to provide the highest possible level of services to meet the needs of the local community of one of London's most impoverished and disadvantaged areas (Tollington Ward) against a backdrop of reducing Council and grant funding. This led to the centre accepting a free of interest loan from Islington Council of £55,000 in 2007/08.

The centre is now a much more financially robust organisation as demonstrated by the fact that the organisation fully repaid the last remaining balance of this loan (£7,173) during 2014/15.

The community centre has dramatically improved both its financial management at an operational level and financial oversight at a Board of Trustees level over recent years. These improvements have included:

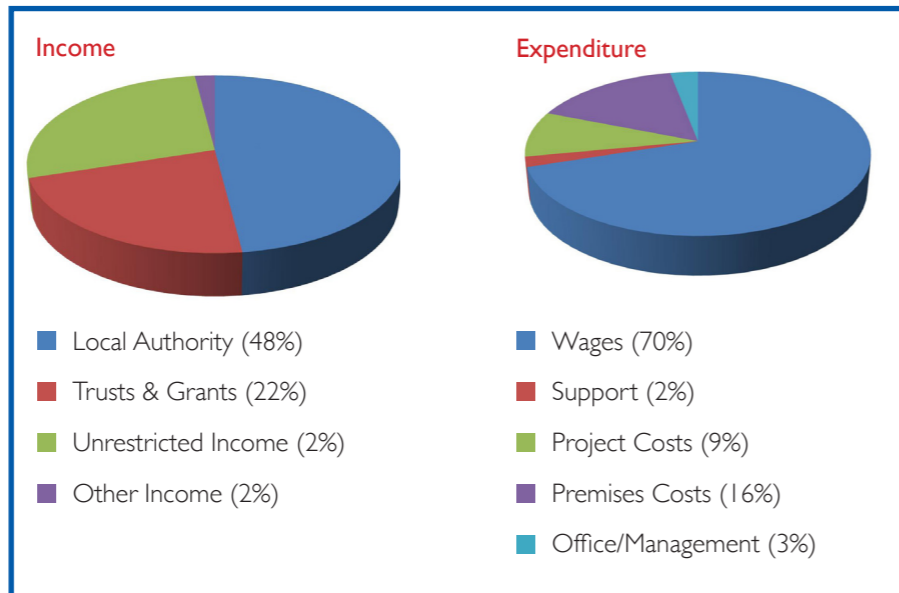
- Annual budget accountability statements for each project prepared by Team Leaders and agreed by the Board of Trustees.
- Monthly forecasts prepared and presented to monthly Board of Trustees meetings, together with accounts receivable aged analysis reports to improve debt collection.
- Financial regulations have been reviewed and updated.
- Appointment of a chartered certified accountant to the Board of Trustees as Treasurer.

This improvement in internal controls and financial monitoring by the Board of Trustees has been recognised by the

external auditors who reduced the audit of the accounts to low risk audits from 2011/12 onwards, following previous years of being considered a high risk audit.

Reserves

The community centre is well positioned to deliver efficient and effective services during 2015/16 and the Board of Trustees is focused on improving fundraising. This will ensure that provision of quality services continues as well as building up reserves, from the current position at April 2015 (£29,873), to the more desirable level which would provide funding for three months' operations (£55,000), to secure financial stability going forward.



Funders

We would like to thank our funders for their continuing support and confidence in our work. They are:

- Awards for All
- Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi
- Breadsticks Foundation
- Grocers Charitable Trust
- Jack Petchey Foundation
- LBI Children's Services
- LBI Early Years Services
- LBI Housing Needs & Strategy
- LBI Integrated Services for Young People
- LBI Regeneration
- Morris Charitable Trust
- North Islington Nursery School
- The BIG Alliance
- The Big Lottery Fund
- The Peoples Operator
- Waitrose Community Grant

Donations

Over the past 40 years Hanley Crouch Community Association has provided services and projects to the community. We rely upon grants and donations from generous organisations and individuals to continue our work. If you wish to make a donation or would like more information, please contact us by (t) 0207 263 1067, (e) admin@hanleycrouch.org.uk or alternatively come in to the centre and speak to a member of staff.



If you wish to make a donation by cheque, please make it out to 'Hanley Crouch Community Association Ltd' and post it to The Laundry, Sparsholt Road, London, N19 4EL

Every penny you can give will help support our services and all the people that use our community centre.