

Timperley Duke of Edinburgh Award Centre

Annual Report
December 2017



TIMPERLEY DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD CENTRE
ANNUAL REPORT – DECEMBER 2017

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TIMPERLEY DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD CENTRE

1. Introduction

This report covers the year ended 31st December 2017 which comprised expeditions undertaken over the spring and summer of 2017 together with the registration of new members for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The centre has now grown from 60 to over 130 expedition participants. It has in excess of 240 members supported by 50 adult volunteers. During the year members undertook in excess of 3,600 hours of volunteer activity within the local community. Over 95% of participants who completed their expeditions at the centre went on to complete the Award.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church Timperley charity no 1131688 (Timperley PCC) became a Licenced Organisation on 1st October 2015. The centre was set up with the support of local and national sponsors including the Oglesby Charitable Trust, Manchester Airport Community Fund, Trafford Housing Trust, the Newton Night School Charity and Go Outdoors.

2. The Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE)

The DofE Award provides a balanced programme of activities that develops the whole person – mind, body and soul – in an environment of social interaction and teamworking. Young people progress through three levels of DofE programmes to achieve a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

Taking part builds confidence and develops self-esteem. It requires persistence, commitment and has a lasting impact on the attitudes and outlook of all young people who do their DofE. It is open to participants aged between 14 and 24. Further information concerning the aims and objectives of the Award are set out on its website at:

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

All participants are registered with the DofE through the eDofE website. This tracks participation in the three elements of the Award which comprise:

- Volunteering – this is about making a difference to other people's lives. From conservation to youth work to fundraising for charity or caring for animals – there is an extensive list of projects that the youths are involved in. Our community is benefiting from over 120 hours per week of volunteering through the Award
- Physical – through this section participants achieve greater physical fitness and become healthier through a wide range of activities both personal or through teamwork.
- Skills – this is all about developing practical and social skills and personal interests. There is an extensive list of skills which the young people may develop

In addition participants take part in expeditions which involve overnight camping for one night for the bronze award, two nights for silver, and three nights for the Gold Award.

3. Centre Development Plan

The long term aim of the volunteer supporters is to establish a sustainable DofE capability and to become self sufficient in the training and assessment of participants. The year under review is the second of a two year development plan to set up the centre in a way that meets the long term goal. The key objectives for year two were as follows:

- Recruitment of further volunteers and implementation of more comprehensive organisational structure – see Appendix 4
- Outreach to wider community – please refer to section 7
- Implementation of more pro-active brokering of volunteering opportunities with local charities and community including creation of opportunities to support the church
- Scale up to over 120 places and provision of Gold Award
- Further training of expedition leaders
- Further training pathways including weekend training to complement Thursday evenings
- Provision of alternate expedition modes including cycling and canoeing
- Extension of pastoral support function
- Creation of more comprehensive eDofE and mentoring support

Throughout this programme the DofE regional team have supported us through training programmes, open evenings and set up of the eDofE system. In particular thanks are due to Paul Griffiths, Steph Ashcroft and the team at DofE North for their inspiration and guidance.



4. Supporting infrastructure

Equipment & procurement

To date over £8,000 has been raised from our sponsors to provide the following equipment:

- **Group equipment** comprising tents, stoves, cooking pans, maps, compasses and first aid kits. This equipment was funded by donations from the Oglesby Charitable Trust, Manchester Airport Community Fund.
- **Personal equipment** including waterproof jackets, overtrousers, sleeping bags, roll mats, and further rucksacks. This equipment was funded by the Trafford Housing Trust (THT) Community Action Fund and Newton Night School Charity who also provided funding to improve storage facilities

Most of the equipment has been purchased from Go Outdoors. Go Outdoors have been very supportive of the centre, providing personnel to deliver a Kit Briefing Evening for participants and their parents, and discounts for members to buy their personal equipment.

Premises, storage & transport

Training, expedition planning and presentations take place at the Timperley Parish Church Hall. Following expansion of the centre training and planning sessions now take place on Thursday evenings (Bronze) and Sunday evenings (Silver).

We are grateful to the PCC and the team at Holy Cross for their support – in particular to Judith Woolley and Elsie McMahon. During the year a donation was made from the DofE fund towards the costs of maintaining the church hall and to re-imburse specific printing, IT and insurance costs.

Outdoor and practical training takes place at Alderley Park in Cheshire (Bronze) and Rivington (Silver and Gold). We are grateful to Club AZ Ltd for allowing us to use their facilities at Alderley Park for training. Thanks are due to Wellington School for allowing us to use their minibuses to transport participants on expeditions that are further afield.



5. Financial position

The accounts for the second year of operation covering the period through to September 2017 are set out below:

	2016/17	2015/16
	£	£
Income		
Registration Deposits	4,870	2,680
Expedition Fees	16,013	8,850
Grant - OCT	-	1,000
Grant - Manchester Airport	-	2,000
Grant - Newtown Night School	250	250
Grant - Trafford Housing Trust	-	3,339
Kit Hire	360	100
Donations	50	-
Less refunds due	-	(80)
Less kit deposit returns	-	(690)
	21,543	17,449
Expenditure		
Licence fees	(618)	(600)
Registration packs	(2,799)	(1,095)
Camping fees	(2,528)	(1,312)
Supervision fees	(5,485)	(2,760)
Maps	(655)	(466)
Printing, postage, stationery	(350)	(129)
Leader training	(1,870)	(2,547)
Equipment	(1,243)	(7,021)
Repairs	(910)	-
IT & Telephone	(999)	-
Food & Beverages	(518)	-
General expenses	(628)	(120)
Insurance	(661)	(312)
Contribution to PCC	(800)	-
Transport	(551)	9
Hardship fund provision	(900)	(700)
Holy Cross Appeal	-	(325)
	(21,515)	(17,378)
Surplus	28	71

The centre made a surplus of £28 in total. The centre continues to benefit from economies of scale and a greater proportion of expeditions being supervised by volunteers.

Funds have been set aside to create a fund to train volunteers and to subsidise places through our outreach programme. Provision has also been made for repairs and maintenance of equipment. Total provisions carried for leader training, repairs and hardship funds amount to £7,300 so we enter the 2017/18 season in a strong financial position.

Roz Swarbrick continues to perform the role of Treasurer and thanks are due to Roz for her support and Tim Barlow, the PCC Treasurer for his assistance.

6. Participation & outputs

Award Completion

On 2nd February 2018 we held our second Annual Awards presentation. Sir Graham Brady MP presented certificates to 99 participants. A full list of members who completed their Bronze and Silver Awards is set out in Appendix 1. Nationally the proportion of DofE participants who complete their expeditions and go on to finish their awards is 52%. We set ourselves a target to achieve in excess of 80% and achieved over 95%.



A large part of this success is down to the encouragement our eDofE mentor team provide to participants to ensure they sign off on the Award sections. This team is lead by Andy Stein supported by Emma Deighton-Brown, Fiona Buckley and Charlotte Skitterall. Steph Carter from the Bowdon Church DofE Centre continues to be very supportive and performs the role of independent verifier.

Next year we hope to have our first group completing their Gold Awards. Two groups successfully completed their Gold expeditions this year and are now working towards completion of the Award including residential activities.

Volunteering and community outreach

The impact that participants have on their communities through volunteering activity is viewed by the Centre as an important output of the programme. Bev Stackhouse co-ordinates volunteer activities and has provided support for members by working with local charities to signpost opportunities.

As a result this year members have undertaken over 3,600 hours of volunteer activity. The range of activities is set out in appendix 2.

We are particularly pleased that more is being done by members to support both the Holy Cross Church with a team set up for year 3 to work on the gardens around the parish centre and to further develop our links and support for the Moss Park Community Garden opposite Holy Cross Church.

7. Inclusivity & Outreach

Although Timperley is a relatively affluent area the Centre places great emphasis on taking an 'everyone welcome' approach which encourages participation from a range of children from varying socio-economic and ethnic groups. The Centre is an Open Award centre promoted throughout Trafford. Most members are drawn from local schools and come from the Altrincham area.

An extensive programme of promotion of outreach was undertaken including:

- Trafford Centre for Independent Living – we now have a participant registered following promotion through this charity. The links with this group attracted media interest (see appendix)
- Promotion to residents in the Broadheath community through posters in local shops and utilising the Trafford Housing Trust Engagement Officer to promote through both THT and Trafford Council databases
- Links to the Trafford Young Carers charity

Places at the centre are allocated based upon the following principles:

- **Inclusivity** – available to a broad range of young people from all backgrounds
- **Adding value** – we are particularly keen to offer DofE to those young people for whom participation will have the greatest benefit
- **Sustainability** – we want to make DofE at Timperley a long term project with enough adult volunteers to ensure it can continue for many years to come



The demographic mix of members is set out below (based on eDofE system data for registered participants):

Starters by level & gender

Bronze			Silver			Gold			Total
Male	Female	Total by Level	Male	Female	Total by Level	Male	Female	Total by Level	
32	25	57	17	42	59	4	10	14	130

Head Count by Ethnicity

Asian or Asian British		Black/African Caribbean/Black British	Do not wish to state	Mixed		Other	Unknown	White		Total
Indian	Pakistani	Any other Black/African/Caribbean background	Prefer not to say	Any other Mixed/multiple ethnic background	White and Asian	Other ethnic group	Not Specified	Irish	White English/Northern Irish/Scottish/Welsh/British	
6	6	1	3	2	2	1	2	1	106	130

Head Count by Disability

I do not have a disability	I have a disability *	Not Specified	Prefer not to say	Total
124	2	2	2	130

Interaction between children from the local grammar schools with those from other schools in the state sector and friends from outside the parish creates a dynamic which is part of the success of the groups. Whilst participation remains skewed towards selective schools this is reflective of the local demographic and the Centre team is making every effort to widen its reach as set out in section 7. The breakdown of participation by school is set out below:

Members by School

Altrincham College of Arts	0
Altrincham Grammar School for Girls	8
Altrincham Grammar School for Boys	15
Blessed Thomas Holford CC	1
Loretto	17
Sale Grammar School	65
Wellington School	25
Other	12
	143

The volunteer group wish to ensure that the centre remains accessible to children of all backgrounds. The cost of personal equipment required for the expedition in addition to the subscription fee can be prohibitive. The cost of personal equipment is c£250 so the pool of personal equipment funded by THT is vital to ensuring that the Award remains affordable.

Through the use of an extensive group of volunteers and by managing expedition planning, risk assessment, insurance and training in house, rather than through the use of commercial providers we are able to keep costs to a minimum without compromising quality. The centre is one of the most affordable in the area.

8. Leadership Team & governance

2017 has seen a considerable increase in the number of volunteer leaders supporting the operation of the centre. A new governance structure has been put in place with Kevin Wells leading Bronze expeditions, Nick Robinson leading Silver and Andy Allan leading Gold expeditions. Martin Deighton-Brown continues to be responsible for the stores and ensures our equipment is repaired and maintained.

We continue our programme of leader training both for expedition leadership at DofE Expedition Skills (DES) level and Lowland Leader level through courses provided by the DofE North team. A growing number of leaders are now Expedition Assessor Accreditation Scheme (EAAS) accredited allowing them to assess expeditions.

All volunteers are recruited in accordance with the PCC policy for the safe recruitment of youth leaders and are subject to DBS checks. We are grateful for the continued support of David Bolton for management of this process. Monitoring is in place to ensure compliance with safeguarding procedures.

During our third year we will be partnering with Mountain Treks, an Approved Activity Provider (AAP) to support the delivery of expeditions at Silver and Gold level. This enables our volunteer team to benefit from the experience and guidance of freelance professionals.



9. Communications & marketing

The centre is promoted through both Facebook and Instagram. The Facebook site has proved a particularly useful way to provide updates on expedition progress for parents and to showcase the Awards ceremony reaching over 3,000 hits.

The centre has a new website launched alongside this report. The site includes contact information, a resources and policies section with links to training materials and videos, the kit list and section ideas. It includes a gallery of expedition and training photos and can be accessed at: <http://www.dofetimperley.org.uk/>

Press coverage is set out in Appendix 3.



10. Further Information

For further information please contact:

Membership Enquiries	All general enquiries	membership@dofetimperley.org.uk
Section comms (for members only)	Bronze Award	kevin.wells@dofetimperley.org.uk
	Silver Award	nick.robinson@dofetimperley.org.uk
	Gold Award	andy.allan@dofetimperley.org.uk
	eDofE Mentoring	andy.stein@dofetimperley.org.uk
Andy Allan	Centre Manager	andy.allan@dofetimperley.org.uk
Roz Swarbrick	Treasurer	roz.swarbrick@dofetimperley.org.uk
Bev Stackhouse	Community & Volunteering	bev.stackhouse@dofetimperley.org.uk

APPENDIX 1 – AWARDS COMPLETED

Bronze Awards

Ahona Banerjee	Hannah Willert	Martha Cooper
Aidan Fowler	Isobel Davis	Meha Mehra
Alina Hussain	Jack Deighton-Brown	Molly Kane
Ameen Idrees	Jack Stuart	Morvyn Clinton
Amy Stackhouse	Jake Thomson	Nathan Spellman
Ben Davies	Jasmine Stagg	Olivia Brennan
Deeksha Pal	Joshua Sutcliffe	Paige Cross
Eleanor Marsh	Katie Davies	Raiyan Aseri
Elizabeth Skitterall	Katie Mulrennan	Rebecca Moore
Ella Crabb	Katy Linkman	Ryan Goodwin
Elliott Ball	Kieran Bell	Samridhi Saran
Ellis Graham	Leonie Rainford	Sarah Girgirah
Emily Boulton	Lexie Henderson	Scott Gordon
Eva Davis	Lucy Allan	Smrutee Kandale
Eve Yates	Lucy Budenberg	Sophie Hall
George Stein	Lucy Johnson	Toby Barrington
Grace Daley	Luke Braithwaite	Tom Stackable
Graciela Diaz-Thorpe	Madeleine Jones	Vaasu Goyal
		William Johnson

Silver Awards

Aaron Thomas	Ibraheem Choudhry	Orla McGee
Aditya Lal Mukherjee	Isabella Kearns	Rachel Buckley
Alejandro Bradley Martinez	Isabelle Pasquier	Reuben Mathew
Alex Robinson	James Cullen	Ritvik Rao
Alexandra Mulligan	Joshua Mathew	Ruby Ray
Amelia Malthouse	Karan Josan	Sergio Mendez-Allende
Annie McGoff	Kobe Uzoigwe	Siobhan Driscoll
Aren McCabe	Leo Swarbrick	Thomas Bourne
Astin Shiju	Lucy Magenis	Thomas Knowles
Bolin Xue	Marnie Thornton	Tushar Arun
Callum Chau	Millie Pottinger	Veer Batra
Eddie Harding	Nell Alexandra Thurstan	Weronika Davis
Ellie Hughes	Olive Hall	Yousuf Shabbir
Freddie Whitehurst	Oliver Nicholls	Zosia Davis
Hannah Wildman	Oliver Paterson	

APPENDIX 2 – VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITY

Activity	No
Administration	1
After school club	1
After school water polo	1
Animal Rescue Centre	2
Animal Welfare	1
Assisting children in after school club	1
Assisting with mini tennis, 1 hour every Tuesday	1
Assisting with soccer school and young peoples tournaments	1
Brownies leadership	1
Charity Administration	3
Charity Shop	21
Charity Shop for 1 hour every Saturday	1
Charity Shop, an hour a week	1
Coaching primary school netball	1
Dance Leadership	1
dog walking for elderly neighbour	1
Environment	2
Event Management	1
Faith communities	1
Football Coaching	2
Fundraising	1
Girlguiding UK	2
Helping at ice skating lessons	1
Helping children	12
Helping in the school library	1
Helping look after children	1
Helping out at year 7 basketball and helping the coach at school	1
Helping people with special needs	1
Helping the teachers at a primary school with admin and other tasks	1
Helping with a brownie guides group	1
Kumon Assistant Instructor	1
Kumon Teaching Assistant	1
Leading year seven choir	1
Looking after child with autistic spectrum diagnosis	1
Music Tuition	2
Netball Coaching	2
Outdoor Leadership	1
Police cadet	1
Religious Education	2
Scout Association	2
Sports Leadership	11
Supporting a Taekwondo coach	1
Supporting a tennis coach	1
Tennis coaching	1
Toddler group assistant	1
Volunteer Police Cadets	1
Volunteering at an after school club (weekly for 1 hour)	1
Washing car, gardening & other	1
Grand Total	99

APPENDIX 3 – PRESS COVERAGE

"He can't talk, but I learnt so much about my Grandad."

WHEN 14-year-old Emily Boulton had to decide what to do for her Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award she knew immediately what she wanted to do. Having seen how MND has left her grandfather John Boulton, unable to hold a book, she decided to visit him on a weekly basis to read to him. She has now read several books, including one about his hometown Ludlow, during his childhood. Through reading, Emily and John have been able to look back and reflect over his past, including his time doing National Service, and the countries he visited.

Emily said: "As well as reading to Grandad I would also massage his muscles so that he didn't feel uncomfortable and in as much pain due to this awful disease. I learnt about how much MND affects people and what they have to go through in order to live with this disease."

"I also learnt more about my Grandad in ways that I wouldn't usually as he no longer has the ability to talk and tell stories. By me visiting him, it has made him feel less isolated and lonely. It also gave him something to look forward to. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience."

Our age specific information for children and young people is designed to help them understand more about MND. Finding the right information, support and services immediately after diagnosis can help the whole family. If you would like to access information and support visit our website www.mndassociation.org/ypinfo or contact 0808 802 6262 or youngconnect@mndassociation.org



Emily and her Grandad John Boulton

messengernewspapers.co.uk

Thursday, March 15, 2011

Jasmine tackles tough hurdles

By Peter Devine
peter.devine@nqnw.co.uk

A HALE woman has overcome ill health and other challenges life has thrown at her to complete her Duke of Edinburgh bronze award.

Despite facing the additional challenge of two pending heart operations in the near future, Jasmine Stagg, aged 21, who has learning difficulties, is now setting her sights on undertaking DofE silver award later this year.

She is a former member of Transitions — a project run by Trafford CIL for young people who have a long-term health condition, impairment or disability.

She is also a decorated para swimmer and recently walked away with four medals at the Special Olympics National Games at which she competed.

To achieve the bronze award, Jasmine had to complete a range of tasks, including volunteering at The Hub toddler group on Tuesday mornings and studying for a BTEC level 3 in health and social care at Manchester College.



Sir Graham Brady with Jasmine Stagg

She also had to train in para-swimming four days a week and attend competitions.

But her toughest challenge came as a member of an expedition team that required her to spend a night away from home.

Jasmine said: "It was a big achievement and I felt happy and proud but also relieved because the expedition was the

biggest challenge for me. I received support from Timperley DofE."

She has this advice for other young people thinking of taking on the DofE challenge, adding: "Give it a go, ask for help and you will get it."

Jasmine was presented with her accolade by Sir Graham Brady MP at a special ceremony at Christ Church in Timperley.



Licenced Organisation:

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church Timperley
Registered Charity No : 1131688

Principal Supporters:

