



# Prayer Letter Christmas 2015

**The OK Club (Oxford-Kilburn Youth Trust)**  
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**Registered charity No. 1099564**

## Message from the Chair...

Jeronne, our Senior Youth Worker, was offered his dream job shortly after we wrote last time, and is now the Youth Pastor at his home church. Jeronne was incredibly popular with the young people and achieved a great deal at Club: we are very grateful for his time here and wish him the very best in his new role.

We decided not to recruit a replacement immediately, and Stuart, Debbie and the team of volunteers have really stepped up and kept the show on the road. Daniel and Linda have joined us, working half of the week at Club and half at local churches: they've been amazing, hitting the ground running. We've also been very fortunate to have Matt Perry join us for one day a week to support the team. Matt is the Operations Manager at Worth Unlimited and has done a great job in keeping clubs running, supporting the team, and ensuring that we continue to improve what we do day to day.

We've been glad to welcome Andrew Brown onto the Management Committee. Andrew lived in Kilburn for many years, and is a Chartered Surveyor and the Managing Director of Ash Mill Developments; a property development company. We are still looking for additional members to join the committee - ideally with legal, fundraising, or governance experience - and we're particularly keen to find local residents who might join us.

The main entrance and activity area in club has had a welcome refurbishment, for free, courtesy of United Living and Network Housing who are developing flats locally and spent their "community day(s)" repainting, flooring. It looks fantastic! Huge thanks to Sam and his team. Unfortunately, at

about the same time the main boiler was condemned and turned off.

I wrote last time that we would be thinking radical thoughts about our future: we have been. As a result we are now in the middle of discussions with Brent Council and South Kilburn Trust (SKT - a local charity). We are hoping to find a way to jointly refurbish and modernise the community facilities for Club and SKT to use, and at the same time provide long-term financial security for the work of Club. We expect that the viability of this scheme will become clear in the next few months.

Last week, I was re-reading the history of Club, from the early days to 2006 (would anyone like to volunteer to write up another decade?!) and was struck again by God's faithfulness to Club over the years, through all the ups and downs. Right now, when the details of the future seem particularly uncertain, it's good to remember God has the big picture covered.

In the meantime, as ever, the work continues. Thank you to those of you that have been in touch with us after the last prayer letter. Thank you to all of you who continue to hold the team, the work, the children and young people in your prayers.

I hope you have a very happy Christmas, and I hope we might see you at the prayer day on **Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2016**.



Yours

**Matt Parker, Chair**

## PRAYER REQUESTS...

Please pray for all contributing to the work of the OK Club, including staff, team members and Trustees

**Sunday** - local churches, the congregation that meets in our building and nearby, building relationships and working well together

**Monday** - those involved in school mentoring, supervisions, Junior Club

**Tuesday** - Junior and Youth Clubs, petty cash, safety when banking.

**Wednesday** - administration, housekeeping, Youth Club, mentoring/121 sessions, Community homework club

**Thursday** - School mentoring, administration, Junior and Youth Clubs, health & safety

**Friday** - administration, housekeeping, finance work; Diamond Girls

**Saturday** - Trustees; for sound and prudent financial planning for 2016, managing the building effectively



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## JUNIOR CLUBS AND MENTORING

"Hi everybody.

"Hope all is well? Christmas has come on fast, and the Junior team at the OK Club has been working very hard! This new academic year has been great so far.

"Along with old regular volunteers from CHH we have had Daniel Schultze from Berlin Mission, and Linda Seuthe from Time for God joining us for a years internship (shared with two other churches; St Peter's CofE, Notting Hill, and St Luke's CofE, West Kilburn), and I really enjoy spending time supervising and working alongside them. They are popular with the children who come to our after school sessions, and step by step as a newly formed team we are doing new things together such as sharing new crafts, new and energetic games in the sports hall, and also planning activities. Please pray that both Linda and Daniel have an amazing time here at the OK Club; that they grow in wisdom, confidence, and strength, so that when they go back to Germany they will feel confident to further explore what God has in store for them.



"Schools wise, I am in St Luke's Primary school at the moment, mentoring a boy in year 4. He's a great kid (as all children are!) but has a load of baggage to deal with both with home life and also showing empathy to others in school. I was asked to come in through a link with St Luke's Church, and since September I have been getting to know him and who he is. I found he has a particular liking for cartoon characters. I regularly draw his character ideas as a way to engage him in deeper conversation about his behaviour, relating the character to him as a person and his strengths and weaknesses. It's progress, he still is a cause for concern at school behaviourally, but I have been invited to come back next term and I will be working with him and another boy in his class on teamwork and respect for others. Please keep this new avenue of work in your prayers that I'll be able to a consistent role model for him and for him to develop emotionally and mentally in regards to his behaviour."

**Stuart McTurk, Children' Transition Worker**

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to help us with our Junior Clubs, Youth Clubs and other activities. Are you able to give 3 hours a week to help us run our activities for children and youth in South Kilburn?

- Give something back to the community
- Inspire young people
- Make new friends
- Develop your skills and confidence
- Move from day-to-day routine and develop your interest and passions
- Be part of a team

Please contact the OK Club for more information / Application Form [admin@okclub.org.uk](mailto:admin@okclub.org.uk) / 0207 625 2520



# LINDA FROM LUEBECK

“Hi, my name is Linda and I'm 19 years old. I am from the northern part of Germany, a town called Luebeck, and for the following year I'm resident in London.

“I'm in love with traveling around and it's my dream to travel out of Europe once to visit countries with different cultural and social backgrounds.

“During my gap year I am trying to find out what to do, as I graduated from my A Levels back in July. At the time I was studying German, English, Math's Music and Theology. I decided to leave Germany for 10 month because I wanted to see and



experience what life has to offer me in other places.

“And here I'm now: already living in London for the past 3 month working with the children and youth at the OK Club in Kilburn. I'm really enjoying this work and it makes me happy to see that the kids are enjoying their time in club as much as I do.

“I hope that this year abroad gives me new opportunities to explore life experiences, and help me to develop some ideas for what I want to study afterwards. This is because I'm still struggling with this question, and I would appreciate your prayers for this area.”



Youth and Children's Programme

## Junior Club

For children in Years 3 to 6

Monday, Thursday and Friday (during Term Time)  
3 pm to 5 pm



## Youth Club

For young people in Years 7 to 13

Tuesday 7.30 to 9.30 pm  
and  
Thursday 6 to 8 pm

## Diamond Girls

For girls in Years 7 to 13  
Friday 6 to 8 pm

## ANNUAL DAY OF PRAYER for the OK CLUB

Every year we come together to give thanks for the work at the OK Club and pray for the children, young people and future of the work.

**SATURDAY  
5<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2016**

**10 AM**

We'd love for our supporters, both local and afar, to join and stand with us on this day. We really value the support that so many people give.

## Donations

Please continue to support the OK by sending donations (Gift Aid if you can) to the Club address on page 1 or when you shop online!! Shop with your favourite stores; John Lewis, Asda etc., and they will donate a percentage, at no extra charge to you!!

<http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/okclub>

or donate free at

<http://mydonate.bt.com/charities/theoxfordkilburnclub>

# Trustee Recruitment

The OK Club is a Christian youth work charity based in North West London. The charity has been delivering youth work to one of the most deprived communities in London for over 50 years. We work to help young people in the local area to achieve their potential by running youth clubs as well as mentoring in local schools.

In difficult times for small charities, the Board of the OK Club is embarking on an ambitious strategy to secure a long term future. This will involve:

- Changing and developing the way the charity uses its buildings and assets to achieve greater financial independence.
- Developing our youth work programme, including attracting more secure, long term funding. This will build on our established partnerships with the local authority, schools, other youth work agencies and churches in the area.
- Reshaping our volunteering and training programme, to inspire a new generation of young Christians who want to put their faith into action through practical community work.

We are recruiting new Board members who are excited by the opportunity of taking the OK Club through a significant process of change. This will both secure the long term future of the club and provide robust foundations for growth and development. We need experienced and motivated professionals, particularly those with skills at a strategic level in charity governance, buildings, finances and fundraising. Board members will also have the networks and contacts to bring in specific skills where necessary, to support the change process

If you or someone who know may be interested in this challenge and would like to join us, please contact Chair of Trustees, Matt Parker: [chair@okclub.org.uk](mailto:chair@okclub.org.uk)



We're on Facebook! Please like our page and keep up to date with goings on at the OK Club

[www.facebook.com/okclub.kilburn](http://www.facebook.com/okclub.kilburn)

We also just refreshed our website - take a look at [www.okclub.org.uk](http://www.okclub.org.uk) where you can also download a copy of our book The OK Story which tells how the club was started.



Please help us to save on stamps by providing us with your email address

Send an email with your details to [admin@okclub.org.uk](mailto:admin@okclub.org.uk)

But don't worry, if you prefer for us to update you by post - we will continue to do so