



# Tom's Trust Spring 2011 Newsletter



Dear Friends & Supporters

It's over 5 years since Tom was murdered and it's very heartening to know that with your help large numbers of disadvantaged young people living in some of the most deprived areas of London have been given the chance to feel hope for their own futures and understand the real value of life.

**TOM'S TRUST INVITES YOU**  
**GALA CONCERT**

Acclaimed mezzo soprano  
**FIONA MURPHY**  
and rising stars, the  
**HEPPLEWHITE TRIO**  
**OCTOBER 20**  
**PURCELL ROOM**  
**SOUTHBANK CENTRE**  
**Tickets: 0844 875 0073**

To date the Trust given over £750,000 to 23 truly inspiring projects and initiatives across London.

From cookery, journalism, academic assistance and music production to soccer, boxing, animal husbandry and leadership, the partner organisations have been hand-picked and monitored by the trustees for efficiency, effectiveness and compassion.

## **SUMMER APPEAL**

Cuts and falling interest rates have hit frontline youth services hard. We need your help to ensure their essential work can continue.

**If everyone who reads this donates just £20, we'd raise £40,000 to help disadvantaged young people rise above the obstacles life has dealt them.**

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

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[Justgiving.com/tomaprhyss](http://Justgiving.com/tomaprhyss)

Registered Charity Number 1112771



# Tales from the Trust...

Across the 23 grass roots youth projects the Trust supports, very many young people go on extraordinary life changing journeys each year. Here are just a few we'd like to share with you...



**Switchback** supports 18-24 year olds to build on skills learnt in prison kitchens so that real, lasting change is possible after release. Reoffending rates are greatly reduced and over half of the young adults engaged since 2008 have entered full time employment.

**Tom's Trust** has been supporting Switchback's mentoring and training since 2009.

## MC's Story



MC came to Switchback having worked in the prison kitchens. Although he didn't know whether to pursue catering, he did know that he wanted to make big changes in his life. He started working in the Crisis Skylight Café the day after his release. On his third day out he was trying poached eggs for the first time at Roast restaurant before a tour of their kitchens and Borough Market! He worked with his Switchback Mentor to address a range of issues including the difficulties of avoiding his former peers, living in the family home and building his confidence so that he could travel without fear of violence and live independently. For two months, he did as many shifts as he could at the Crisis Skylight Café and developed new kitchen skills.

In March 2010, MC moved on from the Skylight Café (having earned his own personal chef whites) and started work as an eco-chef at Acorn House in King's Cross. He continues to see his Switchback Mentor, especially when things get tough. His priority is now the future and he has saved money from his first few months' salary to buy furniture.

"I don't know what I'd be doing if I didn't have Switchback," says MC. "Nothing. I'd be doing nothing".



# Tales from the Trust...



**Greenhouse** runs sport and performing arts programs in deprived communities across London. **Tom's Trust** has been funding kit for their Bethwin FC academy in Peckham which has 26 teams and 520 players from 8 to 21.

## Shafik's Story



Shafik, 17 joined Greenhouse Charity's Bethwin Football Club in Peckham when he was 12.

"Attending Bethwin has really helped me in my life. It has given me the attitude I need to succeed, both in my education and in football, playing at a high level. It has made a big difference."

Programme manager Ben: "Shafiq's time with us has given him a real head-start. He's found college a lot easier because he understands the importance and rewards of application and dedication."

Shafik is studying economics, sociology and history at A-level, whilst playing semi-professional football and completing his FA Level 1 coaching qualification so he can also work as an assistant coach. He is most proud of the work he is doing with one of Greenhouse Bethwin's under 8s teams.

"The team has improved dramatically this season," says Shafik. "As a coach that puts a big, big smile on your face. They go into every match now thinking they're going to win. I'm hoping to help them develop good social skills and instil the Greenhouse ethos in them early on. I want them to begin valuing punctuality and good attendance, not just in relation to coaching sessions but to their lessons as well. It's about encouraging the young people to give 110 percent to whatever they do."



# Tales from the Trust...



Real Action is a community-led charity set up to provide effective solutions to severe educational problems in the exceptionally disadvantaged area of North Paddington. Tom's Trust helps fund the highly successful **Butterfly Saturday Reading School** which helps young children overcome literacy and language issues that would otherwise prevent them from progressing in school and life.

## Sianna's Story

"Sianna first came to us aged 4 ½ in June 2009," says Real Action's Education Director Katie Ivens. "On January 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 Nadia, her teacher, asked us to re-test her. She achieved a reading age of 6 years 9 months. We then learned that this was her fifth birthday. One year on, Sianna still has no place at a school and all the reading she learns is with us. On 29<sup>th</sup> January we re-tested her. One day short of her sixth birthday she achieved a reading level of 8 years 9 months. We hope she'll find a good school place soon, but meanwhile, she can count on us."

**REAL  
ACTION**

## MIDI MUSIC DRUMS UP A STAR!

With help from **Buttle Trust**, **Tom's Trust** has been giving grants of up to £500 to deserving young people at projects we fund, to buy something necessary for their progress. Yussef Dayes, from **The Midi Music Company**, applied for a grant towards a drum-kit to help him reach a professional level.

He has certainly done that – performing with his band **United Vibrations** at numerous festivals including **Radio 3 Jazz Festival** and a session for **Gilles Peterson's R1 show!** But his personal highlight has been "playing for US soul star **Aloe Blacc** on *Jools Holland* with **Paul McCartney**, **Neil Diamond** and **Elvis Costello** watching – absolute legends!" Congratulations Yussef!





**IntoUniversity** 

**IntoUniversity** helps 7 to 18 year olds get to University, if they are at risk of failing to achieve their potential because of social, economic, cultural or linguistic disadvantage. **Tom's Trust** has been funding IntoUniversity for the last three years.

## Saamia's Story

"Maths was my weakest subject. Coming to **IntoUniversity** Brent gave me a structured set time where I could study, get help from a subject tutor and identify the problem areas. I also received help with writing and perfecting my personal statement for university. The tutors at Academic Support read it through and offered advice. 'Study skills' is one of the most useful things that I learnt and something that I have carried onto university: structuring my study and making revision timetables and plans has helped me to keep on top of my work." **Saamia is now studying for an economics degree at Brunel University.**



### **RICHMOND PARK RUN & RIDE**

A group of Tom's friends are organising a fun, family friendly fundraising day out in Richmond Park on **July 16**. Participants can run or ride 1, 2 or 3 laps of the park, enjoy a picnic and cheer on childrens' races. Email [callummcgeoch@hotmail.com](mailto:callummcgeoch@hotmail.com) or look on **Facebook.com/tomstrust** for details and tickets.



## A Blisteringly Good Effort

Huge congratulations and thanks are due to all the riders, organisers, support teams, sponsors and partners who made the **2011 Cycle to Cannes** another great success. A total of **83 riders**, primarily from the construction and property industry, battled blisters, freezing conditions, endless hills and more than **1500km** of road to reach the annual MIPIM trade conference on the French Riviera and raise more than **£210,000** along the way. The money raised will be shared between several fantastic charities including Tom's Trust for which we are enormously grateful. [www.cycle2cannes.org](http://www.cycle2cannes.org)

## Some other Tom's Trust Partners

**The Buttle Trust** provide funding for children with acute social, emotional and/or health needs to receive secondary education.

**Future Skills Training** mentor disaffected 11-19s who have been or are at risk of exclusion from school.

**LIVE Magazine** gives 12-21s from challenging backgrounds opportunities to develop skills in journalism, photography, design and routes to employment, enterprise or back into education.

**The Boxing Academy** engages NEET and 'at risk' young people in sports disciplines and full-time alternative GCSE education.

**Motorvations** teaches car and bike maintenance and beauty therapy skills to disengaged young people and supports them into jobs or further training and learning.

**The O.K. Club** is a place where young people can gather and learn new skills including IT, art, cooking and music production.

**Southside Young Leaders Academy** provides a disciplined environment for boys who have the potential to lead but who are at risk of exclusion from school.

**Toynbee Hall** is running a 3-year programme to divert 150 teens away from crime through a range of activities including Duke of Edinburgh Award accredited outdoor challenges.

**Tom's Farm at Nightingale School** allows children with learning difficulties and social problems to learn to care for chipmunks, rabbits, sheep, pigs, alpacas and goats! The farm has had a huge impact, not only on Nightingale's pupils, but on young people from many other organisations that visit the farm.

## Words of Thanks...

The Trustees are hugely grateful to all who have raised funds or made donations over the last twelve months.

Alongside Cycle to Cannes special mention must go to Gerry Murphy for running the London Marathon in 2010, William and Archie Dawson who cycled from London to Paris, and those who have asked for donations in lieu of presents for weddings, special birthdays and anniversaries.

Thanks also to Claremont Fan Court School for generously giving free use of their beautiful grounds for our annual fund-raising picnic for the last 4 years. We are extremely grateful to all of you who have so consistently supported the Trust.

We really give you our heartfelt thanks, and please, if you can help make this a special year in memory of Tom, that would be wonderful.

If you have your own ideas for fundraising, please contact us at [tomstrust@linklaters.com](mailto:tomstrust@linklaters.com). We'd be delighted to post your plans on the website and to encourage sponsorship.

Andrew Hughes  
Alan Walls  
Callum McGeoch  
Estella ap Rhys Pryce  
John ap Rhys Pryce



Trustees of the Tom ap Rhys Pryce Memorial Trust.