



The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service

EST. 1933

# BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

CELEBRATING INVESTING  
IN YOUNG PEOPLE FOR OVER 90 YEARS



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2023-2024

Registered Charity No. 520920



# DURHAM ASSOCIATION OF BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

(Covering County Durham, South Tyne and Wear and Tees Valley)

**Affiliated to the National Association of Boys and Girls Clubs  
and the World Youth Clubs**

**Honorary Life Presidents:**

Sir Paul Nicholson KCVO and Lady Sarah Nicholson

**President:**

Frank Nicholson, D.L.,

**Vice Presidents:**

I Dewhirst, Sir R.S. Murray, C.B.E, Harry Banks, OBE, DL, FRICS,  
M Barton, C.B.E, QPM, LLB, DL, Pam Royle BA (Hons) LLCM (TD), DL

**Chair:** Tonya Antonis

**Vice Chair:** Ivan Wood

**Honorary Treasurer:** Martin Collins

**Executive Committee:**

R. Knox, L. Todd, G. Lee, J. Colling, J. Charlton, R. Duggan,  
S. McCluskey, M. McCormack, B. Russell

**Honorary Solicitor:**

McKenzie Bell & Sons, 19 John Street, Sunderland

**Independent Examiner:** Michael Kirkley

**County Office:**

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Website: <http://www.dabgc.co.uk>

**Executive Youth Officers:**

Alan Watson, M.B.E, B.E.M and Simon Healey, MSc

**Executive Support Officer:** Angela Rennison

**Administrative Support (Affiliations):** Julie Warren

**Administrative Support (Activities):** Lesley Foster



Registered Charity No. 520920

## FOREWORD 2023 /24



It gives me great pleasure to present to you the Durham Association of Boys and Girls Clubs Annual Report for 2023/24. You will read in the report the many events that have continued to support young people, enabling them to enjoy the sports they love, and to try new challenges.

You will read of the many successes our young people have achieved, at both regional and national events, some truly outstanding performances.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our loyal supporters whose valuable contributions ensure we can continue to provide activities, events, and opportunities for our young people. I would also like to thank members of our Executive Committee, our Executive Youth Officers Alan Watson and Simon Healey, together with our Executive Support Officer Angela Rennison, and other staff for their continued support and commitment throughout the year.

Special mention must go to our volunteers, and all the volunteers who work tirelessly in our affiliated clubs to ensure young people can access the activities available to them. Without our volunteers none of this would be possible.

Finally, I would like to extend special thanks to our President, Frank Nicholson, for his ongoing commitment, enthusiasm, and valuable support to the Association.

**Tonya Antonis**  
Chair



## FINANCE REPORT 2023/24

The Association's financial position is detailed in the Financial Statements for the period ended 31st March 2024.

This year the Association has reported a surplus of £21114 compared to a loss of £12076 in the previous financial year.

Income for 2023/24 was £112751 compared to £66851 for 2022/23 with over 90% of this coming from subscriptions and donations.

Expenditure was £91637 up from £78927 the previous year.

All donations are received with thanks, without them the services we provide would be greatly restricted. We would also like to acknowledge and thank Michael Kirkley, the Independent Finance Examiner of the Association accounts, who has made no charge for his services.

Reserves remain healthy meaning the Association is still in a good financial position.

A review of the Association's financial policies and procedures has been completed and updated as required.

The Trustees continue to work hard to ensure that the many activities and events provided by DABGC are made available to as many young people as possible across County Durham and the surrounding areas.

## DABGC VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

### VISION

To be the best provider of sporting activities and events for all young people in County Durham, South Tyne and Wear and Tees Valley.

### MISSION

To encourage and provide all young people from clubs affiliated to the Durham Association of Boys and Girls Clubs, access to opportunities at Inter-Club, County, Regional, National and International level, that they may increase their personal and social development skills, thus enabling them to fulfil their potential and become responsible citizens within their local communities.

*Invest in Young People - it lasts a lifetime*

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To foster and support the development of all young people and new clubs in area of need.
2. To support and develop existing clubs and their voluntary management.
3. To present opportunities to all young people so they may take part in a wide range of activities to increase their personal and social development, health and wellbeing.
4. To promote and complement the work of NABGC, World Youth Club and other partners throughout the Durham Association area.
5. To act as liaison between our national organisation and other partners with our affiliated clubs and between government, local authorities, public bodies, trust funds and other external agencies concerned with youth provision.
6. To provide guidance, advice and support were requested, to our individual clubs on areas of concern, such as financial or internal organisation matters.
7. To encourage and provide Inter-Club, County, Regional and National Sports and Creative Activities, Adventure Courses, Training, Development and International opportunities.
8. To provide for Leader, Management and Members Training.
9. To raise funds for the furtherance of the above objectives.
10. To provide equality of access, inclusion and opportunity for all young people irrespective of race, culture, sex, religion or disability.
11. To identify and promote good practice throughout the Association.
12. To develop effective working partnerships with a wide range of organisations and agencies.
13. To provide a positive environment and a safe place for young people.
14. To support the climate change agenda in all activities the Association undertakes.



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for Voluntary Service**

**INVEST IN YOUNG PEOPLE, IT LASTS A LIFETIME.  
TOGETHER STRONGER.**

## COUNTY CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2023

We had an excellent turnout for our annual Cross Country championships which were hosted by Birtley Athletic Club in December 2023. We are sincerely grateful to the team of volunteers from Birtley AC for making us so welcome and to James Colling for his technical support.

### BOYS

#### Under 11

Winner	Charlie Wilson	Low Fell Running Club
Runner up	Jonathan Clark	Low Fell Running Club

#### Under 13

Winner	Henry Englehart	Phoenix Flyers
Runner up	James McClean	Low Fell Running Club

#### Under 15

Winner	Callum Bailey	Birtley AC
Runner up	Dylan Turpin	Low Fell Running Club

#### Under 17

Winner	Sam Hardy	Chester-le-Street AC
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### GIRLS

#### Under 11

Winner	Celia De Lucas	Phoenix Flyers
Runner up	Maya Mataric	Houghton Harriers

#### Under 13

Winner	Poppie Phillipson	Birtley AC
Runner up	Izzy Hall	Birtley AC

#### Under 15

Winner	Lucy Burnett	Derwentside AC
Runner up	Grace Clewes	Chester-le-Street AC

### TEAM AWARDS

#### BOYS

Under 11	Low Fell Running Club
Under 13	Phoenix Flyers

#### GIRLS

Under 11	Houghton Harriers
Under 13	Birtley AC
Under 15	Low Fell Running Club



## NABGC NATIONAL X-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2024

On a mild day in Essex in February 2024, the NABGC National X-Country Championships were held in the beautiful setting of the Old Tower at Layer Marney near Colchester. The young people thoroughly enjoyed being able to mix with others from Wales and other counties. The Durham Association did extremely well bringing home 3 National Team Trophies and having 4 Individual National Champions. We also had 4 Individual National Runners Up and 5 National 3rd Place medallists bringing our total medal haul to 25, consisting of 13 Individual medals and 12 Team medals - a tremendous achievement .

## NATIONAL INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

### BOYS

U11 William McClean Low Fell Running Club

### GIRLS

U11 Celia De Lucas Phoenix Flyers

U13 Chloe Brown Houghton Harriers

U15 Lucy Burnett Derwentside AC

## NATIONAL TEAM AWARDS

### BOYS

U11 Charlie Wilson (Low Fell Running Club) / Jonathan Clark (Low Fell Running Club) / William McClean (Low Fell Running Club) / Fraser Coker (Phoenix Flyers)

### GIRLS

U11 Celia De Lucas (Phoenix Flyers) / Faith Langford (Houghton Harriers) / Megan Smith (Houghton Harriers)

U13 Chloe Brown (Houghton Harriers) / Holly Brown (Houghton Harriers) / Kiera Wilson (Houghton Harriers) / Larkin Reed (Birtley AC) / Lilly Bailey (Birtley AC)



## COUNTY POOL CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2024

The DABGC Pool championships were held at Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub in Sunderland on Thursday 18th April 2024 and were well attended. We are sincerely grateful to Kevin Howard and his staff for making us so welcome on the night. There was some excellent Pool on offer, with everyone enjoying the evening.

### BOYS

#### Under 12

Winner	Alfie James	Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub
Runner up	Robert Bunting	Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub

#### Under 14

Winner	Kaiden Owens	Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub
Runner up	Lewis Mould	Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub

#### Under 16

Winner	Kieran McKee	Oxhill Youth Club
Runner up	Logan Broderick	Oxhill Youth Club

#### Under 19

Winner	Ryan Liddle	Oxhill Youth Club
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### GIRLS

#### Under 14

Winner	Bethany Hunter	Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub
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#### Under 16

Winner	Sydney Northey	Oxhill Youth Club
Runner up	Erin Carnell	Oxhill Youth Club

#### Under 19

Winner	Amy Hughes	Oxhill Youth Club
Runner up	Alyssa McKee	Oxhill Youth Club





## COUNTY TABLE - TENNIS COMPETITION - 2024

The DABGC County Table Tennis Competition was held at Darlington Table Tennis Academy on Saturday 20th April 2024 with a very good turnout. We would like to thank Giulio Pontone and Andy Murphy and the team at Darlington TTA for the use of their splendid facility together with an excellent day of Table Tennis. Following this, a county team has been selected for the National Finals in Lincoln in October 2024.

### MALE

#### Under 12

Winner	Punav Pogul	Darlington Table Tennis Academy
Runner up	Jack Sparke	Darlington Table Tennis Academy

#### Under 14

Winner	Jude Warner	Brandon Table Tennis Club
Runner up	Aiden Murphy	Darlington Table Tennis Academy

#### Under 19

Winner	Daniel Jones	Darlington Table Tennis Academy
Runner up	Joe Sparke	Darlington Table Tennis Academy

### FEMALE

#### Under 12

Winner	Beth Coltman	Darlington Table Tennis Academy
Runner up	Betty Miller	Darlington Table Tennis Academy

#### Under 14

Winner	Lucy Jones	Darlington Table Tennis Academy
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#### Under 16

Winner	Isabella Murphy	Darlington Table Tennis Academy
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## THE BETTY WOODWARD YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2023/2024

We had many strong nominations for the Betty Woodward Award, which is presented on an annual basis to the Young Person of the Year from within the affiliated clubs of the Association. The criterion is open ended except that the young person must be a regular member of the club and aged between 14 years and 19 years. Last year's winners were Kaylam Rose (The Activity Den) and Katie Jones (Sacriston Youth and Community Project). This year's award winners will be announced at our Celebration of Youth event on the 23rd September 2024 at the Ramside Hall Hotel, Durham.



## WORLD YOUTH CLUBS / BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA

The Durham Association are affiliated to the National body NABGC (UK) who in turn are affiliated to the World Federation of Youth Clubs who in 2024 renamed to become World Youth Clubs. We have been well represented at a range of virtual meetings and in May 2024, Alan Watson, our Executive Youth Officer attended the World Youth Clubs Leadership Institute held in Atlanta USA. He also participated in the Boys and Girls Clubs of America Annual Conference which followed immediately after the training event. The conference was attended by nearly 3000 delegates worldwide, together with representation from England by Durham, Bristol, Wales Boys and Girls Clubs and included the NABGC (UK) National Director, Andy Hamill.



Throughout this Global Conference it was pleasing to note that NABGC including Durham were held up as good practice with our name known and respected globally. We continue to exchange and share best practice with other youth organisations across the world. In this regard World Youth Clubs are now funding a virtual International Exchange programme with NABGC. This will provide the opportunity for affiliated clubs to take part through their county organisation.

This was followed up with an International Exchange visit to Durham by Ron McHenry from World Youth Clubs together with a delegation from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Skagit County, USA.



## DABGC WELLBEING PROJECTS - WEARDALE ADVENTURE CENTRE - ACTIVITY DAYS

Following on from a highly successful 2023 where the Adventure Activity Days provided a launch pad for young people to socialise and mix, 2024 saw DABGC secure some further funding to continue these fun packed days. Each day again proved very popular with all at full capacity with a mixture of clubs attending. They all gained a wonderful experience in Rock Climbing, Canoeing, Archery, and Raft Building or on the High Ropes course. The Activity Days provided the physical and mental support many young people needed in a fun and secure outdoor environment. Comments from one group stated: "Fabulous day for our young people", "Gained self-confidence and team building skills", "Thank you DABGC for providing such a fantastic experience".



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOYS AND GIRLS' CLUB (UK)

The Durham Association is an integral part of the National Association (NABGC UK) by being involved in the National activities and events programme and influencing and supporting programme development. A series of virtual and face to face meetings throughout the year kept the Durham Association informed. These meetings are vital in that by influencing the composition of the National programme more opportunities become available for our young people here in Durham.



## NABGC - NATIONAL CONFERENCE - OCTOBER 2023

Was held over a weekend in Lincoln with delegates from around the country coming together during October 2023. The team from Lincolnshire made us very welcome and the weekend series of events, workshops and Gala Dinner proved a huge success with our Executive Youth Officer Alan Watson receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award for services to Young People. One of the key speakers was the CEO of the World Youth Clubs, Kirk Dominick, who in his speech highlighted NABGC as one of the key players within the international network. The 2024 National Conference will be hosted by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Wales in Cardiff in September.



## SAILING RESIDENTIAL - 2024

Thanks go to the County Durham Community Foundation who provided the funding for the 2024 Sailing Residential in partnership with the Ocean Youth Trust North. This took place over the weekend of the 28th to the 30th of June and experienced a mixed bag of weather. This enabled the crew, drawn from a variety of our affiliated clubs, to have a wonderful experience learning how to sail a tall sailing ship from North Shields to Blyth then onto Amble and back to North Shields. The James Cook sailing vessel which they were on, had featured in the world-famous Hartlepool Tall Ships Race in 2023.

All the young people gained an Adventure Under Sail certificate and enjoyed the experience, gaining new skills and new friendships along the way.

On board there is a sign which states that “You enter as strangers and leave as friends” and no truer word could be said. Several years ago, two young people, Joe Lund and Megan Spearman from Brandon Carrside YPC happened to meet on board and are now planning to get married in early 2025. Some comments from the young people included “I met so many new and different people”, “While sailing we saw dolphins and seals” and “We learnt so many new skills”

### Participants

Neve Brunskill	The Activity Den
Samuel Callaghan	The Activity Den
James Cassop	Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub
Syke Collins	Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub
Sophie Elliott	The Activity Den
Sophie Garnham	Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub
Amy Hughes	Oxhill Youth Club
Ella Jones	Chester-le-Street AC
Eva Leckenby	Brandon Carrside YPC
Alyssa McKee	Oxhill Youth Club
Keaton Swales	Sunderland CAG
Layton Warrener	Sunderland CAG





## **DABGC SUMMER WATERSPORTS PROGRAMME - SURFING/ PADDLEBOARDING/SNORKELLING AND ROCKPOOLING AT SOUTH SHIELDS**

We were again fortunate to secure some funding to offer this great experience to complement our summer programme, to our affiliated clubs, at the award winning Sandhaven Beach at South Shields. These activities provided clubs with an enjoyable day either in the water or exploring the shores, getting to know and learning about life in the rock pools and beyond. They proved extremely popular with many clubs accessing a variety of different sessions on the water with over 200 young people participating this year. Our thanks go to Nick and his team at the South Shields Surfing School for their great instruction. Comments included "Great day", "Really enjoyed the surfing" and "Can't wait to go back"



## **DABGC KARTING CHALLENGE - GRAND PRIX 2024**

This exciting event, held at the prestigious Karting NE track at Ryhope in August 2024 generated a very wide interest from our clubs. It saw teams from each club competing on the track against each other and the clock in a step towards producing the next Lewis Hamilton. Comments included "Fantastic night", "Never done it before but it was great - thank you" and "Really enjoyed the experience". Our podium one, two, three winners will be presented with their awards at our Presentation Night at the Ramside Hall Hotel, Durham on 23rd September 2024.





## UK CLUB ATHLETICS NABGC CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2024

This was hosted by Durham in June 2024 at the Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre. Thanks must go to James Colling OIC for organising his team of officials and other volunteers who assisted in making it a very successful day. A large turnout fully appreciated and cheered every race. Durham put in some fine performances with 47 individual National Champions and 7 (4 x100m) relay race champions making a grand total of 75 medals. Comments included "An excellent event", "All had a great time", "Well organised"

### INDIVIDUAL UK CLUB CHAMPIONS

#### BOYS

##### U11

Juan Figuera	Phoenix Flyers AC
Ryan Isaac Rippon	Phoenix Flyers AC
Olly Burnside	Houghton Harriers
Blake Edmondson	Chester-le-Street AC
Findley Wilson	Low Fell Running Club

##### U13

Charlie Wilson	Low Fell Running Club
William McClean	Low Fell Running Club
Luca Lawrence	Chester-le-Street AC
Espen Taylor	Derwentside AC

##### U15

Findley McPeake	Chester-le-Street AC
James McClean	Low Fell Running Club
Harry Willows	Low Fell Running Club
Josh Ebbelwhite	Sunderland Harriers
Rodrigo Ribero	Derwentside AC

##### U17

Ben Anderson	Sunderland Harriers
Toby Richardson	Sunderland Harriers
William Young	Sunderland Harriers
Jacob Bull	Chester-le-Street AC
Miguel Ribero	Derwentside AC
Jacob Waterston	Sunderland Harriers

#### GIRLS

##### U11

Lillian Hams	Phoenix Flyers
Dorothy Baker	Chester-le-Street AC
Megan Burns	Chester-le-Street AC
Emily Topham	Chester-le-Street AC
Bana Mitwali	Chester-le-Street AC



### U13

Izzy Hall	Birtley AC
Faye Evans	Chester-le-Street AC
Jessica Topham	Chester-le-Street AC
Chloe Brown	Houghton Harriers
Joy Hunter	Chester-le-Street AC

### U15

Nell Graham	Birtley AC
Grace Clewes	Chester-le-Street AC
Tigan Bishop	Birtley AC
Isabella Beatty	Chester-le-Street AC
Charlotte Mooney	Chester-le-Street AC
Florence Baker	Chester-le-Street AC
Megan Pattison	Chester-le-Street AC

### U17

Amelia Jones	Chester-le-Street AC
Linner Eriksson	Phoenix Flyers
Lucy Buckle	Chester-le-Street AC
Daisy Graham	Birtley AC
Tia Hutchinson	Chester-le-Street AC
Eva Cuthbert	Derwentside AC
Lucy Burnett	Derwentside AC
Emily Burnett	Derwentside AC
Darcy Lines	Chester-le-Street AC

### U20

Niamh Orla Stewart	Oxhill Youth Club
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## NATIONAL 4X100M RELAY CHAMPIONS

### BOYS

**U11** Houghton Harriers  
**U13** Low Fell Running Club  
**U17** Sunderland Harriers

### GIRLS

**U11** Chester-le-Street AC  
**U13** Chester-le-Street AC  
**U15** Chester-le-Street AC  
**U17** Chester-le-Street AC

## COUNTY TEAM AWARDS

### BOYS

**U11** Chester-le-Street AC  
**U13** Low Fell Running Club  
**U15** Low Fell Running Club  
**U17** Sunderland Harriers

### GIRLS

**U11** Chester-le-Street AC  
**U13** Chester-le-Street AC  
**U15** Chester-le-Street AC  
**U17** Chester-le-Street AC  
**U20** Oxhill Youth Club

## FIRST AID TRAINING - SAVE A LIFE PROJECT

The Association continued with its Save a Life Project offering this valuable training to our member clubs, coaches, volunteers and young people. All sessions, in partnership with Priory Training, were fully booked and contributed to our 'Save a Life' project where a vital part of the training includes Defibrillator awareness. The Executive Youth Officers are equipped with a defibrillator in each of their vehicles so that every event the Association offers is covered for any first aid eventuality. The Association offers this essential training free of charge to all our affiliated clubs, actively encouraging and promoting this qualification. During this project over 400 members have been trained and are now able to provide First Aid cover at their club and within their local communities.



## COUNTY BOXING TOURNAMENT

This was hosted by the Belle Vue Sports Centre in Hartlepool during October 2023 with our winners progressing to the regional round which was kindly hosted by Adrian Worth and his team at Billingham Boxing Academy during November 2023. Winners then went forward to the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and National Finals.

Nigel Voules Memorial Trophy for **Best Boxer** at the County Boxing Championships went to **Jamie Bytheway** from Redcar ABC.

Gordon Jardin Memorial Trophy for **Best Bout** at the County Boxing Championships went to **Leon Nam** from Spennymoor Boxing Academy.

The 2024 County Boxing Competition will again take place at the Belle Vue Sports Centre in Hartlepool on Saturday 6th October.



## NABGC NATIONAL BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS

These were held at Bridlington during November 2023 where we had 14 clubs represented. Durham did extremely well, bringing home 12 National Champions (5 Male and 7 Female) and 6 National Finalists medals - a tremendous achievement.

### NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

#### MALE

##### Class A

Joseph Dowson	Bishop Auckland ABC
Tommi Lee Horner	Darlington ABC

##### Class B

Bradley Smith	Bishop Auckland ABC
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##### Class C

George Peacock	Barnard Castle ABC
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##### Class D

Reece Readshaw	Phil Thomas School of Boxing
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## FEMALE

### Class A

Layla Straughen	North Star ABC
Lilla Hume	Washington ABC

### Class B

Faith Barras	Washington ABC
Jamina Ludlow	Redcar ABC

### Class C

Dionne Mannion	Marden ABC
Laylie Heath	Sunderland ABC
Shannon Rochester	Billingham Boxing Academy

## NATIONAL FINALIST

## MALE

### Class A

Joe Williams	District Youth ABC
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### Class B

Jorge Thompson	Middlesbrough ABC
Jake Brown	Sunderland ABC
Hashim Hussain	Middlesbrough ABC

### Class C

Aaron Bird	East Durham ABC
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## FEMALE

### Class C

Darcie-Rae Munday	Wearmouth ABC
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## NEW AFFILIATIONS

DABGC would like to welcome the following new affiliations to our Association:

- Consett Steel FC
- The Legion Boxing Club

## NABGC - PARLIAMENT DAY - WESTMINSTER - APRIL 2024

Both our Executive Youth Officers attended a day in Parliament during April 2024 to represent Durham as part of the National Association of Boys and Girls Clubs Parliament Day. This proved to be a very positive day promoting our services to local and national MP's including Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat MP for Westmorland and Lonsdale) who gave an inspirational speech promoting the benefits of outdoor activity for young people.



## HIGH SHERIFF YOUTH AWARDS - MARCH 2024

We were honoured to receive an invitation from Mrs Ann Elliott, High Sheriff of County Durham and Michelle Cooper MBE, Chief Executive, County Durham Community Foundation, to the High Sheriff Youth Awards evening at the majestic Wynyard Hall on Tuesday 26th March 2024. Several young people from Oxhill Youth Club together with their leaders represented the Association and together with our Executive Youth Officers, were delighted to receive an award for our positive Wellbeing Programme. In addition, Alan Watson together with his wife Ann received recognition for their long service to the Durham Association which was very well deserved. Our congratulations also go to two of our affiliated clubs - The Activity Den and Pelton Fell Community Partnership who were also honoured for separate projects on the night.



## KEYSTONE AWARDS

The Durham Association presents Keystone Awards each year to give recognition to voluntary workers and others in the movement for their services to affiliated clubs or to the County Association for Diamond (60 years' service) Presidents (50 years' service) Platinum (40 years' service) Gold (30 years' service) Silver (20 years' service) and Bronze (10 years' service) with these awards presented on an annual basis at the AGM Presentation Night.

## KEYSTONE AWARDS - 2024

• Ray Knox	60 years	Grindon YPC
• Norman Close	60 years	Tyne, Tees and Wear ABA
• George Lee	60 years	NBC / NGC
• Colin Burnikill	50 years	Grindon YPC / Lambton Street YCH
• Gordon French	50 years	Boldon CA Boxing Club
• Paul Allen	40 years	Hartlepool Catholic Boxing Club
• Elsie Race	20 years	Auckland YCC
• Julie O'Connor	20 years	Brandon Carrside YCC
• John Archer	20 years	Sunderland Harriers AC
• Graham Tomaszko	10 years	Auckland YCC
• Richy Duggan Junior	10 years	Sunderland CAG

## CLUB NEWS FEEDBACK AND DEVELOPMENT



### Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub

Completed major premises refurbishment with official launch in April 2024 with a wide range of dignitaries including Kim McGuinness the newly elected North East Mayor in attendance. Kevin Howard, longstanding leader, guided the club through the development before officially retiring.



### Oxhill Youth Club

This year has seen them upgrade their premises with a new kitchen having pride of place. In addition, in July 2024 they held a launch of their Anti-Social Behaviour video with several local dignitaries in attendance.



### Shildon Boxing Club

Have been celebrating their 130-year anniversary - a tremendous feat. Interestingly they are the third oldest Boxing club in the country.



### District Youth

Had double success at the Tyne Tees and Wear ABA Awards with Mick Wilson named as Coach of the Year and Tim Codling as the Official of the Year.



### Brandon Boxing Club

Were featured on Tyne Tees Television News in February 2024 after organising a Boxing trip to Canada and coming home victorious with 11 title wins.



### Billingham Boxing Academy

Celebrated as the Tyne Tees and Wear ABA Boxing Club of the Year. Our thanks to Club Leader Adrian Worth, on the club's achievements and for his continued support to the Durham Association of Boys and Girls Clubs and the National Association of Boys and Girls Clubs.



### Michael Sweet

Formally with **Newton Aycliffe YC**, the Durham Association and England Clubs for Young People U16 football team. Always a prolific goalscorer, he helped Stockton Town this season achieve promotion to the Northern Premiership League for the first time in their history.



### Jill Scott MBE

Continued to make headlines during 2024 with many TV appearances and acted as a football pundit during Euro 24. Jill, who started her career at **Sunderland Harriers** as a runner and then took up football at **Boldon CA** gained 161 caps for England including the Lionesses Euro 2022 success. She continues to promote Grassroots football, has opened a Coffee shop in Manchester, become an Ambassador for Sunderland FC Foundation and was once again on the winning side during Soccer Aid 2024 - a true inspiration to us all.



### Steph Houghton MBE

An outstanding leader and promoter of Women's football retired from the game this year. Her early football career was carved out locally at Boldon CA under the management of Paul Smith. She went on to have a glittering career with Sunderland, Leeds, Arsenal, Manchester City and England and as captain won eight major trophies with Manchester City including four Continental cups, three Women's FA Cups, and the FA Super league as well as two FA Super League titles and five FA Cup victories with Arsenal. She also had a hugely successful international career, playing at two World Cups, two European Championships as well as two Olympic Games for Team GB.



### James Colling

One of our Executive Board Members continued his excellent work in Athletics becoming a World Athletic Referee. This allows him to continue officiating to the highest-level including World Championships and Olympic Games.



### Kate Waugh

Inspirational runner from **Birtley AC** who was selected to compete in the Women's Triathlon at the 2024 Paris Olympics.



### **Savannah Marshall - Hartlepool Headland ABC**

Continues to be the pride of the North-East. This highly talented boxer who is a two times Olympian and Commonwealth Gold Medallist turned professional in 2017 and has continued to excel, becoming the undisputed Super-Middleweight Champion of the World in 2023. She now stands tall in the boxing world with superstar status and is a true inspiration for any young boxer. In June 2024 she decided to compete in a second sport - Mixed Martial Arts and won her first fight, a new career that she intends to balance alongside her boxing.



### **Durham Agency Against Crime (DAAC)**

One of our affiliates, Durham Agency Against Crime (DAAC), is a charity linked to Durham Constabulary and many of its projects have been taken up nationally. Over this past year it has worked in partnership with public, voluntary and private sectors to deliver projects and initiatives within local communities for over 10,000 young people aged between 7 and 18 years. DAAC projects include Mini Police, Outdoor Based Projects, Volunteer Police Cadets, as well as a Youth Development Worker apprenticeship programme.

## **BEREAVEMENTS**

Sadly, we must report the passing of the following people who gave so much to the Durham Association in so many different ways. They will be greatly missed.

- **Ray Tapkin** - Berkshire Youth - Outstanding County Secretary and dedicated National committee member and NBC / NGC member.
- **Ann Lilley** - Sunderland Harriers - Loyal and dedicated club volunteer for several decades and strong supporter of the Durham Association particularly on National Cross - Country and Athletics trips encouraging hundreds of young people to succeed.
- **Isobel Roberts** - Horden CW - Committed worker for Durham County Council, her local community in Horden and supporter of the Durham Association of Boys and Girls Clubs.
- **Stephen Graham** - Shildon ABC - Dedicated Boxing coach.
- **Jim Kelly** - Greater Manchester Federation of Boys Clubs - Long serving County Secretary and National committee member
- **Gary Bunting** - Lambton Street YCH - Dedicated Boxing coach
- **Keith Walters**

Our grateful thanks go to Liz Grogan for her fundraising efforts on behalf of the Durham Association of Boys and Girls Clubs. She took part in the Great North Run in memory of her later father Keith Walters, who was a long-term volunteer and loyal supporter of the Association.

## SIR BOB MURRAY AWARD

This award is presented on an annual basis by courtesy of Sir Bob Murray CBE. It is awarded to a young person who has shown a great attitude, commitment and motivation in supporting others and taken responsibility showing potential leadership qualities. The award winner will be announced at our Celebration of Youth Awards on the 23rd of September 2024 at the Ramside Hall Hotel, Durham. The winner of the 2023 Award was Kyle Stafford from Oxhill Youth Club.



## DAVE LUMLEY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award is presented each year in honour of Dave Lumley who served as a volunteer with this association for over 60 years. His daughter Sharon and his granddaughter Melissa presented the 2023 award to Alan Watson, our Executive Youth Officer, for over 60 years' service to the Durham Association and his tremendous dedication and service to County, Regional, National and International events. This year's winner will be announced at the Celebration of Youth event at Ramside Hall Hotel, Durham on 23rd September 2024.







## DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL - CHAIRMAN'S MEDAL

In April 2024, Simon Healey, our Executive Youth Officer, was honoured to receive the prestigious Durham County Council Chairman's Medal from Joan Nicholson, Chair of Durham County Council, for his long-standing service to the young people of County Durham.

## 60TH ANNIVERSARY - CLUBS OF THE SIXTIES

During the 1960's (1963 and 1964 specifically) several clubs were purpose built following the Albemarle Report into the development of Youth Services. Those affiliated to the Durham Association were - **Auckland YCC**, **Glenholme BC** (at Crook - now demolished), **Brandon Carrside YCC**, **Fairfield** (at Stockton), **D.J. Evans** (at Bowburn) and **Clavering BC** (at Annfield Plain). Many were officially opened by HRH Duke of Gloucester and have since had a follow-up Royal visit. They have served the young people within their local communities extremely well and continue to provide opportunities and experiences in a safe and fun environment. At the 60th anniversary event for Auckland YCC, Joy Allen, the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner, was in attendance alongside many past and present members.



## PRESIDENTS MEDAL

### Joan Nicholson - Durham County Council

Has devoted a lifetime to serving others and has been a very loyal and strong supporter of the Durham Association of Boys and Girls Clubs for many years. She nominated the Association as one of her chosen charities during 2023/24 for which the Association is extremely grateful.

### Richy Duggan Senior - Sunderland CAG

Has dedicated a lifetime to serving young people within Sunderland. His energy and enthusiasm have made sure that young people within some of the most deprived areas have been given opportunities to access youth provision.

### Gail Wilson - Oxhill Youth Club

A dedicated volunteer and committee member and Chair of the club, who has devoted nearly 60 years to supporting young people from within her local community.

## ARMY EXPERIENCE DAY - OPERATION SILVER EAGLE - AUGUST 2024

Operation Silver Eagle in partnership with the Army is an exciting adventure experience held at Catterick Garrison in North Yorkshire. This proved an excellent day in August 2024 where young people aged 14-18 were able to undertake a range of army-based activities and learn about the various careers within the army.



## J.J. GRIFFITHS AWARD

This year, the trophy for taking part in most DABGC events during the year was won by Oxhill Youth Club.



## APPLE PROJECT

Following our continued partnership which has been running for several years with Apple at the Gateshead Metro Centre, we are extremely grateful to their team for providing the Durham Association of Boys and Girls Clubs staff and our range of member clubs, field trips, group training, guidance, advice and support. These projects and Field Trips continue to be available to all our affiliated clubs.



## PRESENTATION OF AWARDS NIGHT - 2023

An excellent night was held at the Ramside Hall Hotel, Durham in September 2023 with over 350 young people and invited guests enjoying a thoroughly entertaining evening. It showcased our 90th Anniversary celebrations together with our Young People's successes during the year and highlighted the tremendous contribution made by our volunteers. We are now looking forward to our Celebration of Youth evening on 23rd September 2024, again at the Ramside Hall Hotel, Durham.



## SUPPORTERS

The Durham Association of Boys & Girls Clubs would like to express their thanks to the following for their support over the past year:

- Amazon
- Apple Metro centre, Gateshead
- Army (Catterick Garrison)
- Belle Vue Community (Bob Farrow), Sports and Youth Centre
- Birtley A.C.
- Boys and Girls Clubs of America
- Boys & Girls UK NorthEast Group (NBC/NGC)
- County Durham Community Foundation
- Darlington TableTennis Academy
- Durham Agency Against Crime
- Durham Constabulary
- Durham County Council
- Durham Football Association
- Edward Robertson Digital Design and Development
- House of Commons
- Karting NorthEast
- Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub
- Lloyds Bank Sunderland / Durham
- Lord Lieutenants County Durham Office
- McKenzie Bell & Sons Solicitors
- National Association of Boys and Girls Clubs
- Newcastle Building Society
- Ocean Youth Trust North
- Priory Training
- Ramside Hall Hotel and Golf Club Durham
- Richard Bonnington Essex Boys and Girls Clubs
- Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre
- Solar Trophies
- South Shields Surfing School
- Stanley Travel
- Tyne Tees and Wear Amateur Boxing Association
- Tyne and Wear Community Foundation
- Weardale Adventure Centre
- World Youth Clubs



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for Voluntary Service**



## HISTORY OF THE DURHAM ASSOCIATION OF BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS



### **“DOWN THE BOYZIE” CELEBRATING OVER 90 YEARS - 1933 TO 2024**



- 1933 sees the birth of the Durham Association of Boys Clubs
- 1998 sees the county change its name to the Durham Association of Clubs for Young People to fall in line with the change of the National organisation.
- 2012 sees it change again this time to its current name of the Durham of Boys and Girls Clubs as the National organisation changes its name to Ambition.
- In the early days the National Association of Boys Clubs had been around since 1925 and slowly throughout the country clubs for young boys were in the process of starting up.
- In Durham the first annual report (1933/34)) indicates that 7 clubs made up the association St. Mary's Boys Club Gateshead / St. Joseph's Boys Club Sunderland / ChesterleStreet Boys Club / Consett Boys Club / Durham City Boys Club / South Church Boys Club and Silksworth Boys Club together with the Boys sections of the YMCA in different parts of the county.
- Interestingly the President of the National Association at that time was H.R.H The Duke of Gloucester who has carried on the tradition throughout the last 80-90 years.
- The main objectives were to 'focus on the value of organising useful occupation during the leisure hours of boys from 14-18 years of age' They did this by Encouraging the formation of clubs and work with existing clubs / to promote an interest in Boys Club work by building up contacts with statutory and other voluntary organisations / to recruit and arrange for training for leaders and helpers / to collect funds to administer activities.

- Over 90 years, these original aims and objectives still hold true. Yes, the age range may have slightly changed, and girls are now involved (and have been with Durham since the 1950's) but we still look to support the existing club network and encourage others to affiliate to us / work in partnership with others / support and deliver training and provide a wide-ranging programme of events and activities.
- Interestingly the first Treasurer of the Durham Association back in 1933 was Frank Nicholson whose family have given so much to the Association over the years and where Sir Paul and Lady Sarah Nicholson are current Honorary Life Presidents with Frank Nicholson our current President.
- From these early beginnings the Durham Association grew to become a powerful force in competing and (more often) winning National Championships in a wide range of sporting activity. This tradition continues today with many young people competing for their club in county competition before being selected to represent the Association at regional / national or international events and coming home as National Champions.
- Today our Club base has expanded to between 85-95 clubs embracing new activities along the way. Our geographical area remains the old County Durham area covering South Tyne and Wear, County Durham and the Tees Valley and includes General Youth Clubs / Boxing Clubs / Football Clubs / Fire Cadets / Durham Agency Against Crime / Athletic Clubs and others providing a wide mix of clubs from rural to inner city.
- All have one thing in common and that is to give 100% support to helping our young people become first class citizens as they progress into adulthood.
- Having moved our county office in 2018, we are now well established at our premises in Chester-le-Street.
- Honoured by the Queen in 2021 with the Queens Award for Voluntary Service the highest honour a voluntary organisation can achieve, equivalent to an MBE.
- 2023/2024 sees the Association celebrate its 90th Anniversary.

*By investing our time in Young People - it lasts a lifetime.*



**The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service**





## **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS UK**

### **(INCORPORATING NATIONAL BOYS CLUB/NATIONAL GIRLS CLUB - NORTH EAST GROUP)**

These organisations offer young men and women between the ages of 16 and 21 the opportunity to join a National Group in which they can further their personal development, give a voluntary service to the movement in the company of other members and enjoy new friendships based on shared experiences.

The Club has developed into local groups, which offer their voluntary service to County Associations as well as carrying out projects at local Clubs. The National Organisation offers members the opportunity to join others in nationally and internationally organised events. Belonging to Boys & Girls Clubs UK (NGC/NBC) is more than an honour; it acknowledges the young person's capabilities and signifies their acceptance of responsibility within the Community.

The Northeast Group, incorporating members in Northumberland and Durham has been in existence for several years and has again assisted the Executive Youth Officers with many events during the year and we are very grateful for their continued support.

Anyone requiring information regarding Boys & Girls Clubs UK should contact the DABGC Executive Youth Officers on:

**Alan Watson** 07917156953

**Simon Healey** 07917156954

Or:

**George Lee** - North East Group Chairman (01429) 232306

## **WAYS OF GIVING TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF DURHAM ASSOCIATION OF BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 520920**

### **CAF**

(Charities Aid Foundation) Giving at its simplest.

### **JUSTGIVING**

Is a trusted platform for online giving and was established in the year 2000 with the goal of enabling charities to receive donations online from anywhere in the world

Please refer to the [dabgc.co.uk](http://dabgc.co.uk) website for details to donate by CAF or JustGiving. Any queries contact DABGC office on **0191 3831894**

### **DIRECT DONATIONS "Gift Aid"**

Much of our need is urgent and requires cash that can be used directly and immediately. That's the special value of a direct donation to DABGC.

By companies - companies can now gain tax relief on single gifts. By individuals - single gifts are deductible against income tax for higher rate taxpayers and the Inland Revenue will refund almost 30p for every £1 contributed in this way. Gift Aid donations need to be made in conjunction with a declaration Inland Revenue Form.

### **COVENANTS**

By entering a Deed of Covenant either as an individual or as a company you can provide extra help at no cost to yourself for every £1 you give under Deed of Covenant the Inland Revenue will contribute almost 30 pence extra. Please help us in this way and let the taxman make your donation grow. Higher rate taxpayers will also qualify for additional income tax relief.

### **SPONSORSHIP**

The County Association organises many creative and sporting events and activities each year, which are a valued part of Club life. Sponsorship of such an event can benefit a company or organisation in promotional terms, helping to further their marketing plans.

### **GIFTS IN KIND**

These can have a double value; they can supply urgent needs in Clubs and by association, gain publicity and enhancement of reputation from the donor. In some cases, if the gift in kind is not appropriate for use by clubs the gifts can be auctioned and money raised for them.

### **BEQUESTS**

The work of the Clubs will be as important in the future as in the past. So, income from legacies and bequests continues to be of immense value to us. For the correct form of words and information on the tax benefits please consult your solicitor when you are drawing up or altering your will. Registered Charity No. 520920.

### **ADVERTISING**

There are a number of opportunities for you to help local Clubs by taking advertisements in various publications and thereby subsidising and reducing the cost of such activities. Our Annual Report and the programmes for our various fundraising events are just some of these publications.

## **MATCHING DONATIONS**

We are always grateful to benefactors who offer to match funds gathered by the Clubs. This is of great benefit as it serves as an incentive to the organisation.

## **PAYROLL GIVING**

Individual employees are now able to make unlimited donations to any charity of their choice from their pre-tax pay. Thus, the employee need only give 78p for the charity to receive £1. If you are an employer or an employee whose company decides to get involved in payroll giving, please include DABGC on your list of named charities.

## **TIME**

People from all backgrounds and with different skills who give their time to Clubs partake in one of the most valuable and appreciated forms of giving. If you are able and prepared to help with our urgent need in relation to the recruitment of additional volunteer workers and Management Committee Members for our affiliated Clubs, please contact the Executive Youth Officers.

Clubs are always looking for people to join their existing teams of voluntary leaders - men and women with genuine interest in the development of young people and a willingness to give up one or two evenings per week to help young people in their leisure time activities. The following are some of the ways in which help is always required.

## **MONEY RAISERS**

All Clubs have to spend an increasing amount of time in raising money and most have special committees to organise functions such as dances, bingo and jumble sales. All clubs urgently need people with the ability to organise these functions.

## **SPECIALIST ACTIVITY LEADERS**

What's your hobby? Something energetic like football, quiet like stamp collecting or slightly out of the ordinary like silk screen printing. Whatever it is, you'll find you enjoy it far more if you can pass on your skills and interest to young people and have the satisfaction of sharing your enthusiasm.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Without the help of a large number of volunteers we would not exist. You don't need to be a specialist or a club helper - all you need is the willingness to help with the supervision of basic club activities - collecting subscriptions, staffing of the coffee bar or transporting club members to activities away from the club are a few of the tasks for which volunteers can greatly assist the Club Leader. Any offers of help should be addressed to your nearest Club or, alternatively write to:

### **Durham Association of Boys and Girls Clubs**

Old Court House, Newcastle Road, ChesterleStreet

County Durham, DH3 3AU

Telephone: (0191) 3831894

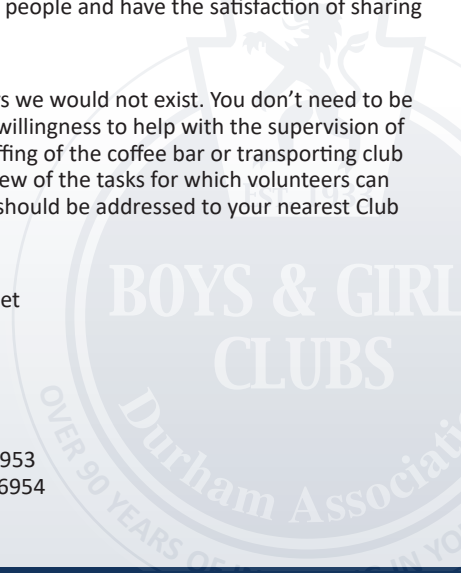
Email: [dabgc@btconnect.com](mailto:dabgc@btconnect.com)

Website: <http://www.dabgc.co.uk>

Registered Charity No. 520920

Executive Youth Officer: Alan Watson: 07917156953

Executive Youth Officer: Simon Healey: 07917156954



## AFFILIATED CLUBS

- Auckland Youth and Community Centre (Bishop Auckland)
- Barmoor Hub (Ryton)
- Barnard Castle ABC
- Belle Vue (Bob Farrow) Sports and Community Centre (Hartlepool)
- Billingham Boxing Academy
- Bilton Hall ABC (Jarrow)
- Birtley Athletic Club
- Birtley Young People's Club
- Bishop Auckland ABC
- Blackfyne Juniors FC (Consett)
- Boldon Community Association
- Boldon Youth
- Brandon Boxing Club
- Brandon Carrside Youth and Community Centre
- Brandon Table Tennis Club
- Bright Futures Community Hub (South Shields)
- Bullion Hall Community Resource Centre (ChesterleStreet)
- Cheesy Waffles Project (Durham)
- Chester le Street Athletic Club
- Clavering Boys and Girls Clubs and Maasai Club (Annfield Plain)
- Consett Bedlam
- Consett Carnage
- Consett Chaos FC
- Consett Mayhem
- Consett Rugby Football Club
- Consett Steel FC
- County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service Bishop Auckland / Consett / Crook / Durham / High Handenhold / Seaham / Spennymoor / Stanhope
- Darlington ABC
- Darlington Spraire Lads FC
- Darlington Table Tennis Academy
- Derwentside Athletic Club
- D.J. Evans YC (Bowburn)
- District Youth ABC (Washington)
- Durham Agency Against Crime
- Durham City Centre Youth Project
- East Durham Boxing Club (Peterlee)
- Fight Fitness Guru (Consett)
- Gateshead Cleveland Hall CA
- Gateshead Leam Lane ABC
- Gateshead Redheugh FC
- Grangetown Youth and Community Centre (Middlesbrough)

- Greens ABC (Middlesbrough)
- Grindon Young People's Project. (Sunderland)
- Gus Robinson ABC (Hartlepool)
- Hartlepool Catholic Boxing Club
- Hartlepool Elite Boxing Academy
- Hartlepool Headland ABC
- Horsley Hill ABC (South Shields)
- Houghton Harriers and Athletic Club
- Hylton Castle and Town End Farm Boys and Girls Club (Sunderland)
- Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub (Sunderland)
- Low Fell Running Club
- Middlesbrough ABC
- Natural Progression Boxing Academy (Stockton)
- North Road Gym ABC (Stanley)
- North Star ABC
- Oxhill Youth Club (Stanley)
- Pelton Fell Community Partnership
- Phil Thomas ABC (Middlesbrough)
- Phoenix Flyers Athletic Club (Great Lumley)
- Plains Farm ABC (Sunderland)
- Redcar ABC
- Sacriston Youth and Community Project
- Shildon ABC
- Spennymoor Boxing Academy
- Sunderland ABC
- Sunderland Community Action Group
- Sunderland Harriers and Athletic Club
- The Activity Den (Tanfield Lea)
- The Legion Boxing Club
- The New Welfare ABC (Hartlepool)
- Throston Youth Project (Hartlepool)
- Ward Degnans ABC (Darlington)
- Washington ABC
- Wearmouth ABC (Sunderland)
- Wellington ABC







Durham Association  
Reg. Charity No. 520920



The Queen's Award  
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## THANK YOU

The Durham Association would like to thank our loyal supporters, subscribers and others who have contributed financially or in kind to make sure the association continues to provide activities and events of the highest standard for our young people.

We appreciate your kind and generous support.  
Investing in young people lasts a lifetime.

Please donate to Registered Charity No. 520920

# Club 1st Insurance

Insurance for the National Association of Boys & Girls Clubs

We are delighted to announce our official partnership with Berns Brett Insurance (BBi) to offer our Club 1st Insurance Scheme.



As our valued member, you have exclusive access to our new & improved Club 1st Insurance offering.

## Why BBi are our Perfect Partner

### Market Experience

BBi are experienced in the Youth & Sport Club industry, so they understand the potential, often high, risks your club can face every day.

### Preferential Terms

BBi have an unrivalled access to insurers so you get a competitive premium with flexible options that match your unique needs.

### Tailored Service

Every club is different, so BBi take the time to understand your circumstance to make the on-going protection of your business as seamless as possible.



Durham Association  
[www.dabgc.co.uk](http://www.dabgc.co.uk)

**Exclusive to all DABGC affiliated clubs**

Contact the office on:  
Telephone: 0191 3831894  
E-mail: [dabgc@btconnect.com](mailto:dabgc@btconnect.com)



Durham Association  
Est. 1933

# OVER 90 YEARS OF INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE



## 1933 - 2024

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:





*Investing in Young People lasts a lifetime*



# GET INSPIRED GET INVOLVED TOGETHER STRONGER

*Investing in Young People lasts a lifetime*



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PLEASE DONATE TO REGISTERED CHARITY NO 520920