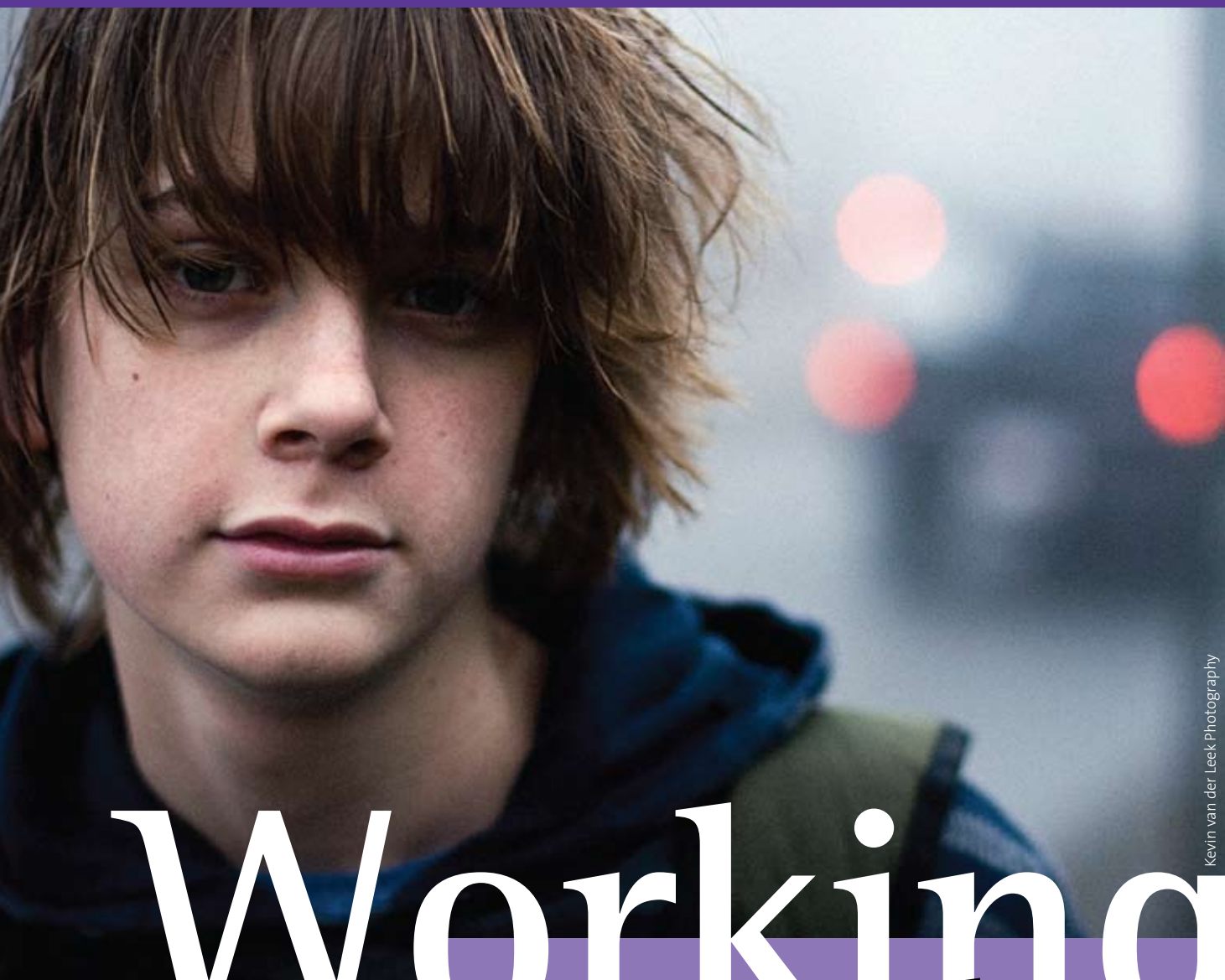


# Buttle Bulletin

How you made it happen for children [www.buttletrust.org](http://www.buttletrust.org)



Kevin van der Leek Photography

# Working together

**Barclays and Buttle partner up to create opportunity for the most vulnerable**

For young people who find themselves outside of education, employment or training, getting 'back on track' is far from easy.

With few or no qualifications, often disaffected with personal and social problems the group of so-called NEETs, young people not in education, employment or training, can become trapped in a downward spiral.

Now over 1 million, the number of 16-24 year old NEETs has been rising in the UK; this figure represents a shocking 17% of the total age group, substantially higher than other major European economies. Not only are there obvious hardships for the individuals in question, but the broader costs to society as a whole are also significant; the cost to the taxpayer is high.



The Frank Buttle Trust



Victims of youth unemployment are three times more likely to be involved in crime as their employed peers, females are more likely to become pregnant, long term health problems and cycles of social deprivation are initiated. A poor start to adult life can lead to a lifetime of poverty and disadvantage.

The Frank Buttle Trust and Barclays have come together to tackle this destructive status quo. Over one year, through the unique *Barclays Access to the Future Fund* the partnership aims to help 90 young people between the ages of 18-24 to gain the skills, motivation, confidence and ability to move from being 'NEET' into a job, training or education.

Working with relevant service providers, the Trust will identify young people who fall into this category; they will then be assigned an experienced case worker who will have the responsibility for putting together an individualised plan of action for the young person's future.

A grant from the Trust will contribute to the funding of suitable programmes for the young person, from vocational courses, to driving lessons, to confidence building courses, to essential services such as access to the internet; the programme will be tailored to the needs of the individual.

Through the joint package of advice, support and funds the project aims to empower these young people, to improve self esteem, facilitate the ability to live independently and move

towards employment. In investigating the issues relating to this group it will identify gaps in service provision, policy and practice for these young people and make recommendations to Government and other stakeholders to find practical and cost effective solutions.

This project, which is funded from April 2010 until March 2011, will take place during a period when tackling underachievement in young people is high up on the political agenda. Reducing the number of young people classified as NEET and increasing participation and attainment amongst this group is a key national priority, which has also become a focus for the business world where long-term prosperity depends upon school leavers who can go on to succeed in life and work.

In addition to providing funding, Barclays volunteers will give their time, skills and expertise to help tackle this issue. There will be opportunities for young people to take part in work placement programmes and to learn how to manage their finances using Barclays Money Skills activity packs.

With the ambition of opening doors for the next generation through the *Barclays Access to the Future Fund* the Frank Buttle Trust is committed to meet a need and bring about change for some of the most vulnerable.

## Case study

**Last year, the Trust was approached by a Housing Support worker about a young man of 19 who had previously been homeless, estranged from his parents and NEET - but was now being supported by her organisation.**

James' dream job was to be a Tree Surgeon but he and the local council had no money to send him on the appropriate course (approximately £850-900) or the funds for transport to get him to the training centre.

The Frank Buttle Trust awarded a grant of £1,536, which covered the cost of tuition, driving lessons, purchase of a motorbike and insurance, clothing for his job and general living expenses such as food and rent and petrol.

After successfully completing his course, the local Tree Services were so impressed with James that they offered him a full time job. James is now a qualified tree surgeon and loves his job

*This is an anonymised Case Study to protect the identity of the individual.*



## Kinship Care Research

The Frank Buttle Trust has been awarded a research grant by the Big Lottery Fund to commission a study by the University of Bristol. The study 'A Child's Eye-View of Informal Kinship Care: Experiences and Outcomes' will look at circumstances where children are being brought up by relatives or friends through an informal arrangement (unknown to Children's Services), an area around which there has been little research to date. It aims to find out what would improve the circumstances and outcomes of this group. Children and their carers will be interviewed as part of the study.

**If you are a kinship carer and would like to take part in this vital research through interviews, please contact Georgina Brereton at the Trust: [georginab@buddletrust.org](mailto:georginab@buddletrust.org)**

## Goodhart Bursary for Young Carers

Thank you for your donations to date which have enabled this fund to reach £60,000 in six months! We are now within sight of our £100,000 goal, but we need your help to achieve this. The first bursary has been granted to a young carer struggling alone to support his mother, who is suffering severe mental health problems. Oliver writes to express his appreciation for the opportunity to attend a more supportive senior school: *"Dear Buttle, I am writing to tell you how things are going at school and how much I am enjoying myself. At first I was nervous but then I made some friends in my form. I have finished my first term and am feeling much more relaxed and have developed a good relationship with my teachers. My favourite subjects are History and Chemistry! Sometimes I have to help out Mum, if she is struggling, but we manage somehow and I had my first sleepover with friends at Christmas!"* Oliver

## London School learns about Poverty

The Trust is grateful to Year 7 pupils at Dame Alice Owen's School in Potters Bar who were inspired to take part in an assembly to raise awareness of poverty and the Trust's work.



## Mount Kilimanjaro

Lizzie Anderson, daughter of our Chair, is climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in June to raise money for the Trust. *"Having heard so much about the Buttle Trust from my father I am very eager to contribute and I am hoping that the climb will enable me to fundraise for the Trust."* To donate please visit Lizzie's JustGiving page:

[www.justgiving.com/smallsteps-greatstrides](http://www.justgiving.com/smallsteps-greatstrides)

## Message from the Chair

Happy New Year! I took over as Chair from Miffy Goodhart last summer and I thought I would share some reflections on the Frank Buttle Trust and our future aspirations.

I am delighted to represent a charity that is strategic and responsive in the current challenging economic climate, whilst remaining true to its aims of delivering immediate support to those children most in need.

Staff and Trustees excel in developing opportunities with new partners in the voluntary and corporate sectors. As you will read in this Newsletter, strategic alliances with both Barclays and the Tom Ap Rhys Pryce Memorial Trust have enabled us to target additional funds to particularly excluded groups in society, for example NEETs, and therefore extending our reach. We also have an established relationship with BBC Children in Need, for whom we give grants to individuals.

Working in partnership is a constructive and creative way to maximise the Trust's expertise whilst allowing us to leverage more funds to reach a common goal. The operational prudence of striving to provide more for less would have pleased the Trust's founder, the Rev Frank Buttle, whose shrewd vision established the Trust.

Thank you for your ongoing support and please do contact me if you are able to suggest agencies or organisations with whom the Trust could collaborate in future.

As you can see elsewhere in this issue my daughter, Lizzie, is climbing Kilimanjaro in June to raise money for us. If you felt like donating to her campaign she and I would be delighted.

David Anderson  
Chair of Trustees



**Tom ap Rhys Pryce** was robbed and killed in January 2006 as he walked home from Kensal Green underground station to the home he shared with his fiancée, Adele Eastman. He was 31 years old. Tom's parents (John and Estella), Adele and Linklaters LLP (the law firm at which Tom worked) have established a registered charity (in the form of a trust) as a lasting memorial to Tom. Tom was a beneficiary of educational funding for which he was always grateful and one of Tom's Trust's goals is therefore to provide educational and vocational training opportunities to improve the lives of disadvantaged individuals. Another goal is to help tackle the root causes of violent gang culture and street crime. In this way, the work of Tom's Trust ensures that as much good as possible comes out of Tom's tragic and senseless death.

## Together we reach further...

### Partnerships are key to making the work of the Frank Buttle Trust effective.

A new partnership has been developed between The Frank Buttle Trust and the Tom Ap Rhys Pryce Memorial Trust to provide educational and training opportunities to young people between the ages of 15 and 21. This new collaboration, the *Opening Doors Fund*, aims to raise their aspirations and improve their skills and experience, in preparation for vocational training or employment.

The Frank Buttle Trust works with around 2,000 organisations, referring agencies, schools and colleges to facilitate better life circumstances for children and young people, through delivering grants to individuals. One element of that partnership work is distributing funds on behalf of other Trusts and Foundations.

The Tom Ap Rhys Pryce Memorial Trust, or Tom's Trust, is one such partner. It has worked with the Frank Buttle Trust since 2007 contributing funds to our School Fees Grant Scheme, helping to meet the costs of schooling for children and young people with acute needs that cannot be met within the state education system.

Across the UK, charities are working with young people to improve their prospects for living a full life, often through the medium of education, employment or training. Tom's Trust financially supports a variety of such charities to raise aspirations and develop motivation and skills of vulnerable young people.

The *Opening Doors Fund* will support 15 to 21 year olds resident in a London borough. They will be referred to us by charitable projects which are financially supported by Tom's Trust. The young people will have identified sustainable goals and a plan for their training and skill development. The pilot project commences in January 2010 and will run for a year with applications for funding to be made by the participating projects on behalf of individuals. Update reports from the agencies to the Frank Buttle Trust will indicate what the young people have achieved through the grant and how it has facilitated onward progression.

With awards of up to £500, grants will be considered for short courses leading to employment, skills for life, confidence-building courses and practical work preparation (i.e. tools, equipment, ) to name a few examples.

This model of a focused programme to meet a common goal is becoming an increasingly effective way for the Frank Buttle Trust to work with other organisations in tackling particular areas of need. With specific aims, eligibility criteria and targets these programmes are effective in meeting need and a useful means of gathering information, monitoring outcomes and experience is gained about what works well to combat disadvantage amongst our young people.

Partnerships can be used to empower.

**To find out more about how you can contribute to such funds please contact :[annb@buttletrust.org](mailto:annb@buttletrust.org)**

## OPENING DOORS

Examples of participating charities and projects in London referring young people to the Frank Buttle Trust

photo of player and trainer by Rebecca Reid



**GREENHOUSE CHARITY**  
Greenhouse Bethwin Football Club provides free and reduced rate coaching making the club accessible to everyone regardless of their circumstances. It believes everyone

should be given the opportunity play football. This means the teams are a mix of abilities and personalities, enabling the club to address equal opportunity and produce team players.

**LIVITY/LIVE FUTURES LIVE** Magazine is a youth-run quarterly magazine, distributed throughout south London. It works with young people from opportunity-poor backgrounds, offering them the opportunity to work on their own magazine and website.

**MOTORVATIONS** learning programme tackles the multiple, complex issues faced by disadvantaged kids enabling them to integrate better with the local community reducing the sense of isolation. They are taught trade skills enabling them to enter formal training programmes or employment and to tackle personal barriers to learning.

**SWITCHBACK** helps give young people leaving custody the opportunity to choose a path that reduces the likelihood of re-offending and improves the likelihood of sustainable employment.

**THE LONDON BOXING ACADEMY COMMUNITY PROJECT** provides a full time alternative GCSE education, in a sports based environment, for students aged between 13 and 17 who are at risk of educational and social exclusion and entry in to the Youth Justice System.

**THE MIDI MUSIC COMPANY** provides a space for all children and young people aged five to thirty to be inspired to get into music and the creative industries. MMC has a collaborative approach to its programme, ensuring access to experienced industry professionals.

**THE OK CLUB** is a youth club based in South Kilburn, called 'Triggers' whose experimental learning programme focuses on some perceived root causes and 'triggers' of gang culture and violent street crime.