

# ESSEX ASSOCIATION OF BOYS' CLUBS



1984-5



# Essex Association of Boys' Clubs

Reg. Charity No. 301447

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(24 hour Answering Service)

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The County Organisation of the National Association of Boys' Clubs  
(Incorporated by Royal Charter)

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## "Better to build boys than to mend men"

For those of us who are fully involved, the most interesting part of this Annual Report will be the achievements and successes of Clubs and Club members — and they are not in short supply for 1984/85 as the following pages will tell you.

My job is to report to our many loyal and generous supporters on the progress and achievement of the Essex Association. I am confident that AT LAST the importance of our work is widely recognised but we are STILL IN URGENT NEED OF WIDER SUPPORT which is something that I must ask you all to help to achieve.

The opportunities given and the services we offer for the well-being of boys and young men in Essex are the cheapest and best investment available to prospective employers in the professions, commerce or industry. To support the Boys' Club movement is to invest in responsible young men on whom to rely in the future.

The members of the Chartered Institute of Building have given a wonderful lead in their sponsorship of our CIOB/EABC joint "Project '84" to celebrate the CIOB 150th anniversary. Without the generosity of their time, their services and their great enthusiasm this very important project to provide splendid new Club premises for Chelmsford and a new office for the Association could not have been so much as considered let alone, as it is, well on the way to achievement.

As you all know from last year's Report we lost the services of Chris Wright who went to NABC as Assistant Director of Field Services. In his place we have Alan Cook as County Secretary. Alan is well into the saddle and riding hard — I find it difficult to remember, after only some eight months, that he is "new" to Boys' Clubs for he has already learned nearly all of the tricks of the trade and is doing a splendid job.

Essex Boys' Clubs are going from strength to strength — thanks to all the Club Officers, Committee members, Leaders and supporters who give so freely of their time and money. An important recent development is the emergence of senior boys, many of whom have undertaken NABC leadership courses, prepared to help with club and county events. This augurs well for the future.

My thanks and congratulations to all concerned with the Boys' Clubs of Essex.

**Robert P. Laurie**  
Chairman E.A.B.C.



Ashington Boys' winning team at the Essex Show Superteam Event.





## THE ESSEX SCENE

The year of 1984 will probably be best remembered for the visit of Princess Anne to our display stand at the Essex Show in June, followed the next day by a magnificent Grand Ring Performance — the Superteam Finals. Our appearance at the Essex Show was sponsored by the Red Advertiser Newspaper, who also provided a cup and individual trophies for the Superteam Event. This form of assistance is becoming more prevalent as it does give a tangible return for financial involvement. Through NABC Biactol are now sponsoring the five-a-side football competition. This is an area that needs to be developed within our county, to attract local firms and companies that would "adopt" an event, giving it their name.

The past year also saw a change of personnel — Chris Wright moved on to NABC Headquarters and Alan Cook took over the helm in Essex. Roger Phillips, the Chief Constable's nominee on the Executive Committee, was promoted and left us with our best wishes and gratitude for his help. In his place we welcomed David Series.

Club leadership is of vital importance to the Association and there is always a need for further voluntary help in our clubs. It is pleasing to see senior members offering their services to the Association. Chris Overton (Wivenhoe) was one of the NABC party to visit Keystone Clubs in America in 1984 and has produced an illustrated report of his trip. Kevin McNulty has had an extremely busy year having been elected treasurer for the British Youth Council.

The change in structure of NABC Development Grants has meant that Clubs and the Association have had to look in earnest for alternative sources of funding. This has not deterred clubs from major projects and in addition to re-decorating, re-roofing and re-flooring schemes there are now three clubs, Berry, Chelmsford and Hornchurch Drum & Trumpet Corps currently involved in projects to provide new club premises.

One of the aims of this Association is to stimulate the Boys' Club movement in the County. This can be achieved by encouraging participation in county events, leader and senior member training and general communication with clubs, leaders and members. It became apparent during 1984 that to run an efficient office AND to ensure that club servicing was effective we would need extra manpower. With limited financial resources the appointment of an Assistant County Secretary at this stage is not feasible, but effective support committees could relieve some of the

workload. Thus the finance committee was re-formed under the chairmanship of Rupert Cottrell, who immediately set about the establishment of our '100 Club'. It is intended that there should also be a "Development Committee" which will oversee club servicing, training and new affiliations, and an "Activities Panel" to oversee the County Events programme, to monitor participation and thus suggest modifications to the current events. With these ideas firmly in the pipeline the Association and its member clubs should reap the benefits in 1985.

## KEYSTONE AWARDS

Presented at A.G.M. on 16 May, 1984 in recognition of voluntary service to Boys' Clubs. (Bronze - 10 years, Silver - 20 years.)

### Great Danes Boys' Club

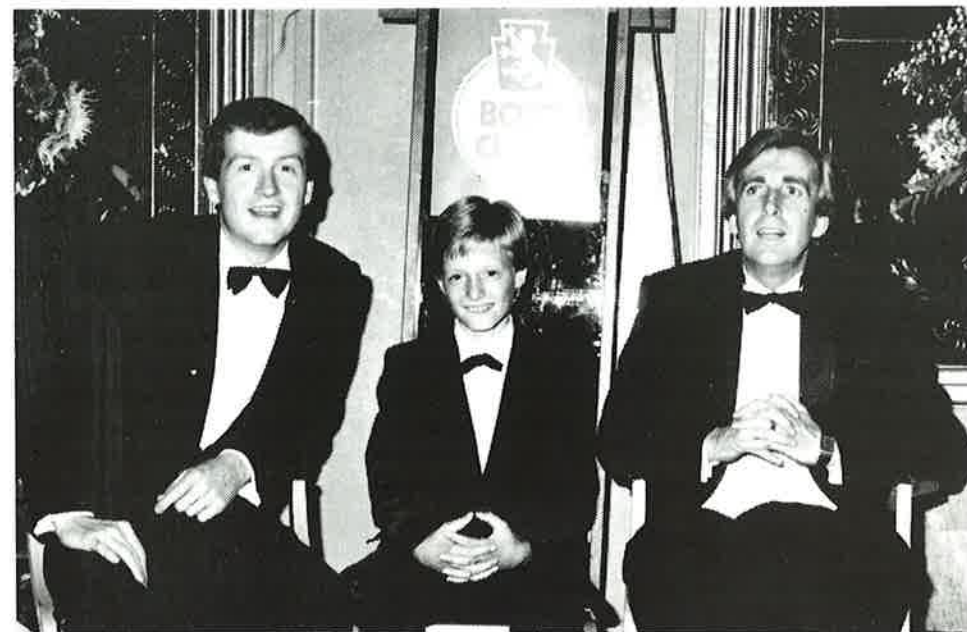
Mr Tommy Wilson (Bronze)  
Mr Les Bass (Bronze)  
Mr Tony Carroll (Bronze)  
Mr Douglas Cox (Bronze)  
Mr Peter Coote (Bronze)  
Mr Roy Chappell (Bronze)  
Mr Nigel Taberer (Bronze)

### Island Boys' Club

Mr Ken Simson (Bronze)  
Mr Brian Hills (Bronze)

### Thorpe-le-Soken Centre

Mr Leslie R Ellis (Silver)



James Axcell (Ashingdon) pictured with Steve Davis and Terry Griffiths at the NABC Gala Snooker Evening at the Cafe Royal. James was one of the five winners in the national Snooker "write-in" Competition.

# WHAT A YEAR!

**Alan Cook** (County Secretary)

"You'll be alright — just telephone if you need any help" were the parting words from Chris Wright when he handed me the office keys and left me at the helm in May 1984. Back in Essex again, where I had previously been involved in teaching, youth work and running a sports centre, I soon felt at home as old contacts re-introduced themselves. I had hoped for an easy start while I got my bearings in the movement, but no chance. Less than a month ahead was the Essex Show, with a visit from H.R.H. Princess Anne AND a Grand Ring Display to co-ordinate. In the meantime there were meetings with the Project Committee about our Chelmsford Development, the fund-raising committee for the project and visits to the clubs to fit in. Why couldn't there be thirty hours in the day, or eight days in the week? Liz, our secretary was a mine of information and ensured I had the correct notes and went to the right venue for each of my meetings.

The assistance-seeking telephone calls became less frequent as I unravelled the intricacies of club leases, insurances, covenants and trusts. Help was on hand from Liz, from Roland Smith, our Admin. Officer and from N.A.B.C., plus the support and advice readily available from our Chairman Robert Laurie and the members of the Executive Committee.



E.A.B.C. Chairman, Robert Laurie and County Secretary, Alan Cook meet with Frankie Vaughan at the 1984 Club Week launch at the Guildhall.

'Yes', I replied to the common enquiry "are you enjoying the job". No two days are the same, no two clubs are the same. Nobody could fail to be motivated by the enthusiasm of the youngsters and the leaders — most of whom are volunteers — to use my own quote from the Essex Chronicle — "this is a fantastic organisation to be involved in . . .".

Autumn heralded my first involvement in the boxing world with our Essex Championships and I am most grateful to all the boxing fraternity for their help, advice and tolerance as I underwent my apprenticeship. At our Club Week launch I met some of the celebrity supporters of our Association and was most impressed by their genuine interest in what we were doing.

Our major fundraising event, the Jailbreak was a great success financially and publicity wise. This on top of day to day matters of affiliations, fund raising, Club Week returns, etc. etc. I looked forward to Christmas thinking next year it will be easier. But wait — 1985 — International Youth Year AND Boys' Clubs' Diamond Jubilee; Special Youth Jailbreak; a three-day Youth Spectacular at Danbury as well as the Essex Show — Is this where I came in?

## DEVELOPMENT

### Letter from Club Leader

Dear Alan

Every teacher, every youth worker must feel it — some more regularly than others — that no-one seems interested to help and even take part . . . enthusiasm wanes.

I must admit I came to the Liaison Meeting on Saturday last feeling just this way and inwardly grumbling that you had made the effort to remind me to attend "yet another time consuming non-productive" meeting. I had just spent nights gearing up Adult Classes, Junior Classes, Youth Club Programme only to find the resulting rush of responding people a mere trickle.

However, listening to other people's problems — many feeling as I did, and racking my brain to think of solutions, I found I was being forced to think positively again and to consider new ways, new ideas for recruitment. Then as we discussed the events and the new possibilities, that old enthusiasm gradually seeped back in again. It only needed an injection of inspiration to refresh those parts that were flagging!

Thanks for the reminding phone call Alan, and thanks for the morning. It certainly wasn't time wasted or non-productive as far as I am concerned. It has recharged the batteries. Sometimes though it is hard in the morass of gloom to be honest with oneself and admit that a recharge of enthusiasm is necessary.

I do hope the others attending experienced the same "lift".



# THE ESSEX SHOW 1984

E.A.B.C. were invited to take a stand at the Essex Show and to put on a Grand Ring Display on the Saturday. Our last appearance in the Grand Ring in 1981 had been most effective in publicising our name throughout the county, so it was important to ensure our display stand and the Grand Ring Event were again of the highest quality.

As before, a small committee was formed to organise and effect suitable plans, and it soon became apparent that the Grand Ring Event needed an organising group of its own. Chris Whitworth co-ordinated this group and set up a Superteam Competition to produce four finalists to compete in the Grand Ring. At this stage we learned that the Chelmsford Red Advertiser Newspaper was to sponsor our stand and provide a cup and individual trophies for the Superteam Event. Shortly after we had the news that we were to be honoured with a visit to our stand by

H.R.H. Princess Anne. The pressure was on, but our committee was equal to it. Nissen agreed to provide a large multi-station weight-training unit and we had competitions arranged for darts and snooker. Together with the NABC lottery, sales items and a multitude of display items the stand was ready. Clubs responded by providing boys and leaders to keep regular displays of judo and boxing performing throughout Friday and Saturday.

The heats of the Superteam Event were held at Colchester Barracks, thanks to the T.A. contact via Chris Whitworth. The P.T.I.'s at the gymnasium set up an excellent event which proved to be testing but totally enjoyable. Our problem then was how to organise the finals in the Grand Ring. This was solved when Chris Whitworth arranged for a T.A. unit to set up a mobile assault course using 3-ton lorries and Land Rovers. Everything seemed to be working out fine — we had even been promised a brand new snooker table for our show competition. However, as the show date approached there was no table — the night before our Royal visit



H.R.H. Princess Anne having just received a cheque for the 'Save the Children Fund' from Jai Wurfbain (Ingatestone).

we had to borrow and set up a club table which eventually buckled under the effect of the sun!

Princess Anne's visit was the first high spot of the show, she expressed interest in all that she saw and was delightfully surprised when Jai Wurfbain (Ingatestone) presented her with a £200 cheque for the 'Save the Children' fund. £100 had been collected from the clubs and the Red Advertiser generously doubled it. Much interest was shown in the Association's stand throughout the weekend, the darts and snooker competitions proving to be very popular, particularly with a signed Steve Davis snooker cue as a prize.

Saturday brought with it the excitement of our Ring Display. Much of the day was spent in checking and rechecking the plans, showing teams what they would have to do and ensuring the vehicles would be in the right place. Our time came — the Essex Music Corps heralded our arrival, the teams ran in following the army vehicles which were billowing out red smoke from cannisters to provide a really spectacular entrance. Once ready the teams set off, carrying a ladder round the course and finally carrying each other. Ashingdon defeated Mersea in the final to receive the Red Advertiser Trophy and as the Essex Music Corps played us out we received congratulations from spectators and organisers. It had all been very worthwhile, and Essex Boys' Clubs were seen to be very much a part of Essex Show tradition.



The Superteam final reaches a critical stage and the Essex Music Corps look on.

# Sports Scene



David Hinch (Belhus Park) NABC Champion, Class B, 60 kg.

participation levels to see what can be done. Rather than holding one-off county events it may be preferable to have 'winter leagues' for events like darts, table tennis, snooker, pool and chess.

Our boxing championships were held this year at Garons, Southend and hosted as a Dinner Boxing Show by Rayleigh Round Table. These were extremely successful, resulting in Essex having four NABC quarter-finalists, two semi-finalists and FOUR boys reaching the NABC finals:-



Luke Evans (Canvey) receives his winner's trophy from John Conteh at the Herts. v Essex match.

The Sports programme inevitable plays a major part in the Boys' Clubs calendar and most clubs have teams competing in a variety of sports at all levels. Unfortunately the 1984/5 cross country and chess competitions had to be cancelled because of lack of entries, and the Night Exercise was postponed for the same reason. It is time to review the programme on offer and to institute one or two changes. With the imminent formation of an 'Activities Panel' it is to be hoped that the panel will look at



Dennis Adams (Colchester) NABC Champion, Class C, 51 kg receiving the best stylist award from Reg Gutteridge.

Paul Reynolds (Class A - Chadwell & Tilbury) and Richard Adams (Class C - Colchester) were runners-up while David Hinch (Class B - Belhus Park) and Dennis Adams (Class C - Colchester) became 1984/5 NABC Champions.

In December an Essex Representative Boxing Team travelled to Welwyn Garden City to box Herts. and Beds. Boys. The match score after a fine tournament was 4-4 and we hope to host the return match in the 1985/6 season.

The badminton and table tennis competitions were held this year at Basildon Sports Centre — very successful despite a disappointing number of clubs entering.

Our five-a-side football championships were very popular — the preliminaries at Chalvedon Sports Hall and the finals at Waterside Farm. Our county champions could not this year emulate the Basildon squad who last year were National Runners-up.

Our Gillette Cup squad again had a good season. This u18 representative football side had to play away at Plymouth then Reading after first defeating Hertfordshire at home. With hopes high they played Middlesex Boys at home in the semi final, but were defeated 4-0. They still have to play London Federation for the Peter Warner Trophy.

To finish on a successful note — congratulations to Dale Laughlin (Ingatestone) on coming second in the NABC 1500 metres in the summer then retaining his NABC Cross Country title at Stoke later in the year.



Dale Laughlin (Ingatestone) NABC Cross Country Champion.



1984/5 Gillette Cup u.18 Representative side.



# CLUB WEEK

Alan George (Berry) and Martin Haver (Hornchurch Drum and Trumpet Corps) presented messages of goodwill to H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester at the Club Week launch at the Guildhall in October. This marked the start of the Boys' Clubs' fundraising week, when clubs throughout the country make a special effort with some ingenious schemes for boosting their funds. Lottery tickets sold well, with a Fiat car as top prize, for the Club Week Draw and door-to-door collections proved to be very rewarding.

Club Week is an ideal opportunity for all clubs to raise much needed cash by way of interesting and fun events, using the promotional material provided by NABC and the national publicity that the Club Week events achieve.

It is to be hoped that more clubs will take advantage of Club Week in 1985 — perhaps by entering our Jailbreak which, for the first time, is to have a completely separate youth event — 26 October 1985.

## CLUB WEEK AWARDS

Courtauld Trophy — Essex Music Corps £5984

County Cup — Hornchurch Drum & Trumpet Corps £3163

NABC Award — Essex Music Corps —

Other results:— Basildon B.C. 139  
— Berry B.C. 415  
— County Park F.C. 128  
— Concord Rangers 20  
— Five Star 206  
— Hornchurch Elm Park & District B.C. 100  
— Ingatestone B.C. 542  
— Thorpe-le-Soken 27  
— Essex Association 8557

TOTAL £19,281

(1983 — £16,342)



Cannon and Ball — who spearheaded the 1984 Club Week campaign.



# JAILBREAK

The Essex Jailbreak is now firmly established in the "madcap" calendar and is the lifeblood of the Association. The 1984 event raised over £14,000 to be split between the Essex Association and teams chosen charities.

The ingenuity of the teams never fail to amaze, in 1984 we had Samantha Fox seeing them off, one team escaping in a horse drawn hearse and another speeding away to kidnap Ruth Madoc.

A presentation evening was held at Dukes Discotheque when the following teams received their trophies.

For 1985 there is to be a special Youth Jailbreak in addition to the open event. It is hoped that many clubs will enter in International Youth Year and NABC's Diamond Jubilee.

### YOUTH TEAM AWARD:

Good Easter Y.C. .... Walking to Colchester  
Oaklands Y.C. .... Wheelchairs to Southend

### MOST UNUSUAL ESCAPE:

Chelmer Bridge Rotary .... Horse drawn hearse

### FURTHEST NON-POWERED:

The Kraze .... Gt. Yarmouth on bicycles

### MOST COUNTIES (by car):

J. Day (Chelmsford) Ltd. .... 30 counties

### FURTHEST IN BRITAIN, BY LAND:

The Laing Gang Durness .... 513 miles

### FURTHEST IN BRITAIN, INC. AIR TRANSPORT:

Constabulary Travel Club Muckle Flugga.... 631 mls

### MOST COUNTRIES:

Chelmsford Taxi Association .... 8 countries

### FURTHEST LAND AND SEA:

The Copper Bunch Vienna .... 745 miles

### FURTHEST BY ANY MEANS:

Essex C.I.D. Los Angeles .... 5,439 miles  
Red Cross Runners Near Calcutta.... 4,577 miles

### SPECIAL AWARDS:

Essex Police Specials .... Most sponsorship raised  
Met. Police, H Dist. .... Kidnap/ransom of Ruth Madoc



Brian Winterflood keeps a tight grip on Ruth Madoc until the ransom is paid.

# WITH GRATEFUL THANKS

By far the most important contribution to the Association and its member clubs is that of people's time. The voluntary efforts of helpers, leaders and club officials are magnificent — the backbone of the movement.

We are also grateful for the support of individuals and organisations who assist us in fund-raising and publicity events, particularly the Essex Agricultural Society, the Staff of Chelmsford Prison, the Printing Place, Mr R Burrell, the Chelmsford Lions and, of course, members of our Executive Committee.

Thanks to the efforts of Roland Smith (Hon. Admin. Officer) with his appeal letters we receive donations throughout the year from many sources. We now also have a number of regular benefactors and without these sources of financial support, further development of the Association would not be possible.

We thank all individuals, companies, parish and town councils who have contributed in the past year. We are unable to list them all but those who gave substantially in the last year include: RHP Bearings Ltd, Essex County Council, Augustine Courtauld Trust, Fitton Trust, Hon. Robin Neville, N.A.B.C., Plessey PLC, Jonathan Parker Charitable Trust, the Rosca Trust, Worshipful Company of Saddlers, Strutt and Parker, the Tudor Trust, Coca-Cola/CC Soft Drinks, Essex Police Property Fund, Allied Lyons Trust, the Essex Club, Colonel Sherwood Trust, Lydia and Arthur Burns Trust.

## International Youth Year



# HONOURS LIST

Event	Winners	Runners-up
<b>Badminton</b>		
Boys singles	P Thomas (Basildon)	C Prior (St Osyth)
Boys doubles	C Prior/G Sharpe (St Osyth)	T Barlow/P Thomas (Basildon)
Junior singles	K Prior (St Osyth)	C Greenleaf (Basildon)
Junior doubles	C Greenleaf/D Lark (Basildon)	J Beer/K Prior (St Osyth)
Senior singles	M Collins (Berry)	K Oliver (Berry)
Senior doubles	M Collins/M Smith (Berry)	M Connell/A Levitt (Berry)

## Boxing Championships

Lions Team Trophy	Canvey
Best Stylist Class A	N Lucas (Norwood)
Best Stylist Class B	G Hinch (Belhus Park)
Best Stylist Class C	L Wilson (Berry)

<b>Chess</b>	J Wurfbain (Ingatestone)
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## 5-a-side Football

Boys	Canvey Island Majors	Wivenhoe
Juniors	Canvey Island Majors	Great Danes
Seniors	Wivenhoe	Berry
<b>Superteam</b>	Ashington	Mersea Island

## Table Tennis

Boys singles	P Fletcher (Ingatestone)	M Garrett (Ingatestone)
Boys doubles	Garrett/Fletcher (Ingatestone)	Baker/Goodwin (Berry)
Junior singles	D Razzell (Ingatestone)	C Ravenscroft (Ingatestone)
Junior doubles	Razzell/Ravenscroft (Ingatestone)	W.O.
Senior singles	M Garrett (Ingatestone)	N Abrey (Ingatestone)
Senior doubles	Abrey/Garrett (Ingatestone)	Peters/Burridge (Ingatestone)

# NABC EVENTS

## Athletics

Junior	D Laughlin (Ingatestone) 2nd 1500 m
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## Boxing

David Hinch Belhus Park Class B 60 kg National Champion  
Dennis Adams (Colchester) Class C 51 kg National Champion and  
Best Stylist, Class C Finals

## Chess

<b>Cross Country</b>	J Wurfbain (Ingatestone) 20th
<b>Five-a-side</b>	D Laughlin (Ingatestone) Junior National Champion Basildon u. 16 National Runners-up

## Gillette Cup (u.18 Representative Football)

Round 1	Essex 5 Herts 2
Round 2	Devon 2 Essex 3
Round 3	Berkshire 2 Essex 4
Semi-final	Essex 0 Middlesex 4
<b>Super Club</b>	

Wivenhoe 12th





# Essex Association of Boys' Clubs

## **BASILDON**

Basildon Boys' Club  
Berry Boys' Club  
Wickford Town Boys' Club

## **BRENTWOOD**

Great Danes Boys' Club  
Ingatestone Boys' Own Club  
Ingatestone Juniors F.C.  
Warley Stars Sports & Social Club

## **CASTLE POINT**

Canvey Boys' Club  
Canvey Island Majors Boys' Club  
Castle Point Kickstart Club  
Concord Rangers Boys' Club  
Island Boys' Club

## **CHELMSFORD**

Chelmsford Boys' Club  
Rettendon YC

## **COLCHESTER**

Colchester ABC  
Mersea Island YC  
Mersea Island Judo Club  
Tiptree County YC  
Wivenhoe YC

## **EPPING FOREST**

Loughton Athletic Club

## **HARLOW**

Norwood ABC

## **ROCHFORD**

Ashingdon Boys' Football Club  
Rayleigh Mill ABC  
Rochford ABC

## **SOUTHEND ON SEA**

Lifstan Boys' Club

## **TENDRING**

The Thorpe-le-Soken Centre  
St. Osyth Y.C.

## **THURROCK**

Belhus Park ABC  
Bulphan Boys' Club  
Chadwell and Tilbury Boys' Club  
Stanford-le-Hope YC  
Stifford Clays Boys' and ABC  
Thurrock Harriers  
Tilbury Dockers Athlone ABC

## **LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING**

Alma ABC  
County Park FC  
Essex Music Corps  
Five Star Youth Club  
Hornchurch Drum & Trumpet Corps  
Hornchurch Elm Park & District ABC  
St. Edwards Boys' Club

