

It's been a busy year for Young Carers' Crew. There have been some big changes: some of our young carers have grown up and moved on, new people have joined and staff, trustees and volunteers have changed too.

In 2016-17 **27** young carers accessed group.

Goodbye to: Adam, Amadou, Daniel, Dione, Esther, Karl, Liam, Matt, Martin, Oliver, Phil, Phoenix, Ruth, Sam, Shanae and Susie.

Welcome to: Achsah, Anji, Anna, Chiani, Daniel, Kayleigh, Matt, Martin, Natalya, Nick, Riley and Will.

We'd like to say a big thank you to the **Rowlandson Foundation**. Thanks to a grant of £9960 in May 2016 we were able to employ a group worker who helped make the group more sustainable through data gathering and analysis, continued fundraising and putting robust policies and procedures in place. Alongside this, the trustees attended a training session to develop a forward plan for the organisation. Finally, in May 2017, the group manager sent our submission to the Charity Commission to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). We are waiting to hear the outcome and will let people know as soon as we hear.

Financially, alongside the grant from the Rowlandson Foundation, we have

received £10,586.71 from a variety of sources. Alongside subs, members' donations and money raised from Easy Fundraising funding has come from London Luton Airport's Community Trust Fund, Hitchin Youth Trust, LV, Brathay Challenge, GlaxoSmithKline and Waitrose Community Matters.

Trips this year included a Christmas outing to Airspace in Stevenage, a visit to Pots of Art, the chance to see the panto at the Gordon Craig and a trip to Roller City in Welwyn Garden City.



Young Carers getting hands on with science

Back at base we were lucky to have young people from GlaxoSmithKline visiting group as part of their Brathay Apprentice Challenge. They had to build a community project that would benefit young people and they chose to work with us at YCC, running science workshops at group and fundraising to take the young carers to Roller City. After the project was over, two of the apprentices opted to sign on as volunteers and now come regularly to group.



Some great messages on these tee-shirts!

Group activities as always have included cooking, sports and arts.

Favourite tasty treats included cake (a decorating competition resulted in some colourful creations!), cheese straws, pizzas and paninis. In the art room Plasticine and Lego were popular and we learnt how to make friendship bracelets. Our last group meeting of the year was held in a local park where the sun shined and everyone joined in playing rounders and eating pizza. A great end to a busy year.



The space at Nightingale House is perfect for hoola-ing

Our online presence has changed too.

The new website is now live (www.young-carers-crew.org) and we've rebranded our Facebook and Twitter accounts to match.