

# St Hilda's East Community Centre

ANNUAL REPORT

# 2017-2018



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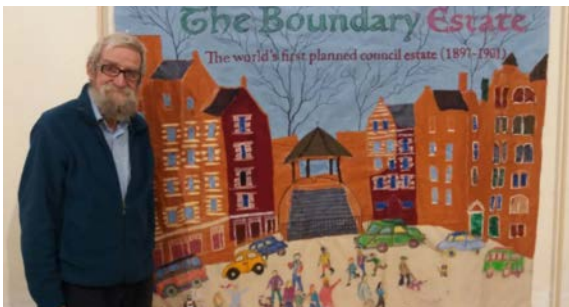
# 2 About Us



## Who we are and what we do

St Hilda's East Community Centre is a vibrant multi-purpose community organisation, providing a wide range of life-changing services and opportunities for local people of all ages experiencing social isolation and economic disadvantage - from pre-school activities and youth projects, support for older people, to free Legal Advice, volunteering and training placements. St Hilda's works across two sites within the Borough of Tower Hamlets, our community centre in Bethnal Green and a second site, Sonali Gardens, just under two miles away in Shadwell. The organisation both provides a resource for the local community in the Weavers Ward in northwest Tower Hamlets, while also delivering borough wide social care services.

St Hilda's East has been serving the community for nearly 130 years, having been set up as a 'settlement' in the East End of London in 1889. Nowadays a locally managed charity, we continue to provide support and opportunities for those facing disadvantage and social exclusion. We will celebrate our 130th Anniversary during 2019!



## How we do it

At St Hilda's East we believe that our strength lies in our diversity, helping to meet the needs of local people and supporting their aspirations. We also aim to promote understanding between all sections of the local community, offering a setting for multicultural, interfaith and intergenerational exchange.

# About Us 3

## Our Aims and Values

St Hilda's East aims to combat the challenges arising from deprivation and social exclusion in the local community through a range of high quality social, healthy living, educational, and recreational programmes. In all we do, we aim to break down barriers and reduce isolation, enabling access to learning, training and opportunities, empowering people to reach their goals.



### St Hilda's East is guided by its commitment to:

- Provide the highest standards of service and continually improve performance
- Actively involve people using our services in agreeing priorities and setting standards
- Achieve equality of opportunity and learning from diversity
- Make the best use of resources
- Develop staff to achieve their full potential
- Work in partnership with others to pursue common objectives

### ▪ Patron:

Carolyn Kirby OBE (President of The Law Society 2002-2003)

### ▪ President:

Mrs Eve Jardine-Young

### ▪ St Hilda's Management Board members during 2017/18 were:

Ms Suzette Barry  
Ms Nandini Basuthakur (Treasurer)  
Miss Arifa Choudhury  
Ms Harriet Edwards  
Ms Naseem Khan OBE (Deceased 8/6/17)  
Ms Alison Klarfeld  
Mrs Jean Locker  
Ms Fawziyah Rahman  
Mr Dennis Twomey (Chair)

# 4 Message from the Chair



St Hilda's East continues to deliver much needed services of very high quality. Although the services offered by our centre have always been valued by our local community, the need for these has grown increasingly in recent years. Changes in the part of East London where St Hilda's is sited, to the benefits system and reductions in public expenditure, have all had an increasing impact on those most in need. It has been a challenging year, and not just for our service users. As you will see from the accounts St Hilda's experienced a funding deficit in 2017/18. Fortunately, prudence exercised over a number of years meant that we had a strong balance sheet and were able to absorb a shortfall with a degree of composure.



We are able to continue our work through the generosity of our many funders, and St Hilda's is very fortunate in being the Mercers' Company Charity for three years. Not only are they providing us with a significant annual grant, but they are also funding a consultant to help us devise a new fundraising strategy to eliminate such deficits and to ensure that St Hilda's thrives for many years to come.



Notwithstanding the challenges faced by St Hilda's and other voluntary organisations, we continue to provide an impressively wide range of services: from those for the very youngest to those for people, like me, of more mature years. It is this rich diversity of service provision that makes St Hilda's such a wonderful and exciting place to be, and ensures its continued relevance in a rapidly

changing world. Details of those services are set out in this Annual Report and demonstrate the continuing commitment of St Hilda's support and opportunities for those most in need. That we are able to do this is testament to the commitment, dedication and loyalty of those many staff and volunteers who provide those services. These are the real heart of St Hilda's.

I offer my thanks to all of my fellow trustees who are using their knowledge, experience and skills to help guide St Hilda's safely through challenging times.

Dennis Twomey - Chair of Trustees

# Message from the Director 5



This is an incredibly exciting time for St Hilda's East, and a challenging one. We will celebrate our 130th Anniversary in 2019, and certainly have a lot to shout about. With ever increasing demand for our services, we are used by over 500 people from the local community each week, with some 3,000 people using the centre each year. In spite of financial challenges, St Hilda's continues to provide life-changing services and opportunities for people of all ages, with an enormous impact on those who use them.



Last year saw our free Legal Advice Service expand with the involvement of Macfarlanes LLP in launching a new Legal Advice Clinic on our community centre site. This complements our longstanding Clinic at Sonali Gardens, recognised at the 2017 national LawWorks Awards as a runner up for best pro bono partnership award. Meanwhile, St Hilda's other services went from strength to strength, from our Under 5s Project providing vital early learning opportunities for pre-school children living on local housing estates, to social care delivered through our Older People's Project and Sonali Gardens Day Centre. St Hilda's community development initiatives offer an exemplar for bringing together people from all parts of a diverse community in the East End of London. Notably our highly popular Food Co-op acts as a social hub for local people at the same time as providing affordable fruit and vegetables, along with money advice for those on low incomes. Our Boundary Women's Project provides an innovative and much needed source of support for women experiencing exclusion, from ESOL (English) courses to textile training. We were also delighted to offer a resource during 2017/18 for local residents to organise activities, notably a very well attended Fun Palace



event and a programme of debates on housing issues. In short there is something available for virtually everybody at St Hilda's East. We offer opportunities for all members of the community, reaching parts others do not reach!

We are delighted to have the support of the Mercers' Company as we approach our anniversary. As its Company Charity until 2020 we are receiving support for our youth work with girls and volunteering in the community. The Company is also kindly making the Mercers' Hall available for a grand celebration event in October 2019, the culmination of a programme of anniversary activities. Additionally, the Mercers' Company is funding St Hilda's to develop a new business plan with the help of the Charities Aid Foundation. With reduced local authority funds and increased competition for charitable grants, this new business plan will make our organisation more resilient to the challenges of the times.

We are truly grateful for the assistance of our all supporters. From funders and individual donors to much valued pro bono partners, their commitment makes a real difference. We invite others, both locally and nationally, to lend their support, in order to ensure that our vital provision continues to develop and thrive in the future!

*Rupert Williams*

Rupert Williams - Director

# 6 Advice Service

St Hilda's Daytime Advice Service provides a trusted and valued source of independent free advice and assistance for residents in the Weavers Ward and surrounding area. Accredited under the national Advice Quality Standard, the Advice Service is busy, well used and much needed - providing a lifeline to many clients. Advice is available through appointments and drop in sessions, supplemented by telephone advice and home visits. Assistance provided includes basic help with filling in forms, advising on and calculating benefits, as well as more complex issues, advocating on behalf of clients by phone or in writing.



## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- St Hilda's Advice Service helps an enormous number of individuals with the limited resources of a part time and sessional Advice Worker. Over the last year there have been 763 advice appointments during which over 637 hours of face to face advice was provided on a range of issues. Of these 556 appointments involved welfare rights matters, 84 debt and 64 housing.
- St Hilda's Advice Service successfully underwent an Advice Quality Standard (AQS) audit in September 2017 and continues to be AQS certified, demonstrating the ongoing high standards of work carried out.
- St Hilda's runs additional and well used drop in sessions alongside a City Bridge Trust funded anti-poverty Food Co-op initiative and our newly launched community centre Legal Advice Clinic. This extends advice available on benefits and related issues to people living in our local community.

*"I was so worried about my late benefit appeal and thought the authorities would not accept it, but after help from the Advice Service my appeal was accepted."*

*"St Hilda's helped me with my Social Fund application. As a result I was finally able to furnish my property after they originally told me I wasn't eligible."*

## Plans for 2018/19

- To update our Advice Service data protection policies to ensure continued compliance with the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) requirements which came into being in May 2018.
- Assistance from volunteers helped us increase the capacity of the Advice Service during the year, with an increase in the number of advice appointments from 696 in the previous year to 763. We hope to recruit new volunteer advisors in the coming year, liaising with Island Advice Centre's NVQ advice training scheme.
- St Hilda's Advice Service relies greatly on sponsored funds raised through the London Legal Support Trust's annual Legal Walk to enable it to continue its much needed provision. A St Hilda's East Team will take part in the May 2018 Legal Walk to raise new funds, alongside teams from our law firm partners – to whom we are indebted for their continued support.

*"I was told by Social Services that I would have to pay for services, which I couldn't afford. The advisor helped me get a new assessment carried out which found that I did not have to pay any more."*

# Legal Advice Service 7



St Hilda's daytime Advice Service is complemented by weekly evening Legal Advice Clinics. Advice is provided by volunteer City law firm staff to members of the public on a pro bono basis. Open to all in the local community, this service enables those in need to obtain legal advice in easy to access drop-in sessions.

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- During 2017/18, 450 drop-in 'appointments' took place at Legal Advice Clinics held in Sonali Gardens in Shadwell and St Hilda's community centre site in Bethnal Green. These included advice enquiries on 188 housing matters, 108 on welfare benefits, 43 employment issues, and 24 consumer concerns, as well as a wide range of other subjects.
- In an exciting development, a new Legal Advice Clinic was launched at our community centre in November, run in partnership with Macfarlanes LLP and supported by BPP Law School. This provides a much needed resource - making legal advice more available to working people on low incomes and operating alongside St Hilda's Food Co-op and welfare benefits drop in sessions.
- The value of pro bono advice given during the year amounted to £215,981, indicating the immense contribution made by our law firm partners.
- Volunteer staff from Berwin Leighton Paisner, Crédit Agricole and DLA Piper raised £5,211 for St Hilda's advice work through the London Legal Support Trust's annual sponsored walk in May 2017, in addition to St Hilda's staff raising over £5,000!
- St Hilda's East's Legal Advice Service also provided valuable practical experience to Queen Mary University and BPP Law School students who help to operate a triage system for clients at our clinics.



## Plans for 2018/19

- Our new Legal Advice Clinic in Bethnal Green and long established Sonali Gardens Clinic in Shadwell will work together to provide a cross borough service, making free legal advice available to people on low incomes living throughout Tower Hamlets.
- A new programme of public education legal workshops for the community. Delivered by law firms through our community centre projects, these will enable an increased number and range of people to be aware of their rights.



*"The solicitors have helped me a lot with getting my landlord to do my repairs. I had a leak from the upstairs flat which has now been dealt with."*

*"St Hilda's have been an incredible support through our ordeal and I would like you to know that we really appreciate everything."*

*"The adviser was very knowledgeable on benefits and gave me good advice on my case."*



# 8 Boundary Women's Project



Boundary Women's Project works with local women to develop skills and enable them to realise their own potential, especially individuals experiencing social exclusion or those facing language barriers. Up to 70 women a week participate in a wide ranging programme of regular activities, including ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes, IT sessions, craft and textile training, keep fit, and yoga. The project also has an outreach service, helping individual women overcome isolation and providing one-to-one support.

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- Supported by a grant from The Henry Smith Charity, the Boundary Women's Project provided a diverse programme of training and healthy living opportunities as well as individual support. The Project had a huge impact on local women, with 310 participating in its activities during the course of the year.
- Our ESOL provision expanded with employability skills, volunteering, IT and CV development embedded into the programme. Women who had never previously had CVs were able to produce them, while also learning interview skills. Over 90 women accessed these sessions, individual women going on to take up volunteering opportunities and find paid work. Other training activities included textile garment production courses, introducing participants to machine sewing and producing their own clothes.
- A health and wellbeing programme included weekly yoga sessions, fitness classes and a cycling course for women. In total over 120 sessions were held, accessed by in excess of 100 women, many attending health focused activities for the first time. In a ground breaking initiative, Boundary Women's Project delivered a six week combined music and singing project: 'Sangeet' aimed to reduce anxiety and depression through integrating cognitive behavioural therapy with a programme of Bengali cultural music and group singing.
- The Centenary of Women's Right to Vote was celebrated with an International Women's Day of festivities in St Hilda's community centre. Over 100 women learned about the Suffragette movement and took part in workshops and activities, ending the day by releasing balloons with messages saying how they want to positively change the world!

## Plans for 2018/19

- To develop language skills provision through new embedded language classes within arts and crafts, textiles and employability activities. Plans include a poetry-based language class in conjunction with art for 2018/19.
- To increase volunteering opportunities for women among St Hilda's other services and elsewhere, providing 'on the job' experiences that will increase the employability of women in our community who face the most barriers in gaining employment.
- Boundary Women's Project will work together with St Hilda's Older People's Project to share their skills as part of a textiles themed workshop programme. Women will come together from the local community to swap experiences and create a needlework banner displaying their common heritage to be exhibited.

*"Coming to learn new skills has meant the world to me! I didn't even know what a CV was until I found out about this at St Hilda's – now I have used a computer to put one together, volunteer every week and feel much more confident!"*

*"Coming to the language class has really helped me. I came to the classes to help my confidence in speaking English, but I learned so much more and now I work and earn my own income!"*

*"I feel so isolated and alone most days of the week at home. But I know that the weekly women's exercises are my way of coming out, seeing new people and feeling more alive."*

# Inspire Mental Health Consortium 9



St Hilda's East Community Centre is part of 'Inspire' consortium, delivering a borough wide Mental Health Recovery and Wellbeing Services contract for Tower Hamlets Council and CCG. Led by a sister voluntary organisation, Community Options, consortium members including St Hilda's work together to support anyone over 18 years and who experiences mental ill health to become more independent and reach their personal goals.

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- St Hilda's worked in partnership to provide opportunities and raise awareness around mental health issues. Our Inspire Mental Health Project Worker provided vital one-to-one support to individuals experiencing mental ill health, while developing group activities increasing confidence and social contact. Collaboration enabled reach across all communities in Tower Hamlets: in addition to Community Options, our consortium partners were MIND in Tower Hamlets, BowHaven, Working Well Trust, Beside, Hestia, and Vietnamese Mental Health Services.
- Working closely with Tower Hamlets Community Mental Health Team (CMHT) more people were supported through Long Term Support to achieve their goals of being more independent, self-managed and reduced dependency.
- A new programme of therapeutic art sessions was run through our ongoing partnership with Create arts charity. Other group activities delivered at St Hilda's for Inspire service users included a women's fitness group activity and craft workshops.
- Working in partnership with Tower Hamlets Children Centres and the maternity wards at Royal London Hospital, a group for women with young children and suffering from postnatal depression or isolation was developed. This enabled mothers to meet with other women going through the same experience and benefit from peer support.



## Plans for 2018/19

- We will continue to collaborate with partner organisations in the Inspire consortium to deliver a co-production model for support and recovery in the area of mental health within Tower Hamlets – promoting individual growth and confidence, and reducing dependency.
- To develop another postnatal peer group, based at St Hilda's, in partnership with our Under 5's Project, enabling women to access other services such as the community centre Food Co-op and volunteer opportunities. We will continue to work closely with Children's Centres, the Royal London Midwives Team and parent groups across the Borough.
- To deliver a new programme of other group activities in St Hilda's East Community Centre, enabling individuals experiencing or recovering from mental ill health to access and enjoy opportunities in a community setting.

*"Good courses and groups, has helped me so much."*

*"Gives me personal reassurance, helps me be more self-aware and helps me explore a way forward."*

*"The group assisted me to find other services and support, I had time to talk about the different things which help me."*

# 10 Community Volunteer Project



St Hilda's provides enriching volunteering experiences for those wishing to help their local community, while expanding the capacity of our projects. A wide range of people volunteer, from unemployed individuals, students and school work experience placements, to teams from corporate companies. Volunteers themselves benefit, gaining skills and experience, while also enriching the life of our centre. We are very grateful for the huge contribution they make to St Hilda's services.

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- 116 volunteers joined us across 10 projects and services, from our Advice Service to Under 5s' play. 87% were not in employment and we were able to provide them with valuable experience and skills. We also welcomed more than 70 corporate volunteers taking part in team challenges and activities, including groups taking our Older People's Project on outings, arranging parties or painting and decorating at the centre.
- A successful volunteer training programme was implemented, funded by the Big Lottery's Awards for All, providing experience and employment-ready skills for 57 volunteers. Those taking part receiving structured training in Customer Care, Basic IT, First Aid, and Food Safety, alongside valuable 'on the job' work experience in our projects.
- The first year of our partnership with The Mercers' Company was marked by a number of highly successful volunteering opportunities. Mercers staff and members repainted our community centre Older People's Project room, creating a wonderful environment for our daily lunch club. Planting and gardening sessions were arranged at our Sonali Gardens site following donation of an accessible planter, greatly enjoyed by day care and LinkAge Plus users. Mercers also led our monthly Guides group cooking workshops and joined us in our London Legal Walk sponsored team, among many other activities!
- The Volunteer Project also welcomed overseas students from the USA, undertaking volunteering placements in the UK alongside their studies. This involved spending several months working with our community centre services, from the Food Co-op to fundraising activities. Wonderful links have been forged with St Hilda's staff and users as a result, with some marvellous 'international flavoured' activities!



*"I really like to volunteer here a lot, and now I have got a job because of getting experience at St Hilda's."*

## Plans for 2018/19

- Development of volunteer roles: many of our volunteers work alongside St Hilda's staff to provide day-to-day services, but we have seen through events this year such as 'Science is for Girls' and supporting a local Fun Palace weekend that volunteer-led one off activities or pieces of work can also be a great way to enrich our community. We therefore hope to expand our links with creative individuals and groups who can lend their skills in this way.
- Our volunteering partnership with The Mercers' Company will focus on St Hilda's organisational development as well as work with users. Planned volunteering includes the redesign of our website and help with film production, as well as further decoration of our centre premises, new cooking workshops for young people, and continued gardening support for our Sonali Gardens users.
- A new programme of CV workshops. Feedback from volunteers has indicated the enormous benefit of CV and interview skills sessions to unemployed volunteers seeking work, improving their written and spoken communication skills.

*"I did some volunteering at St. Hilda's through the Rank Foundation. I thoroughly enjoyed my time there."*

*"[Volunteering at St Hilda's] was truly an unforgettable experience that I will cherish. I learnt so many things about working with older people....[and] in the food coop, and learning to work with children...It was an incredible opportunity."*

# Community Food and Advice Project 11



Supported by a three year grant from City Bridge Trust, our Community Food and Advice Project is a ground breaking anti-poverty initiative offering a weekly Food Co-op, providing fresh affordable fruit and vegetables, alongside drop in advice on welfare benefits and money issues. The project is also a wonderful example of social cohesion, a popular 'hub' bringing together people from surrounding area. The Co-op is run by a team of volunteers and provides valuable opportunities for local people to gain experience, skills and confidence.

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- St Hilda's weekly Food Co-op is open during both the daytime and evenings, increasing accessibility for working people on low incomes. An average of 70 people per week have used the Co-op, while 187 people have used the new and much needed drop in advice sessions. Since November a new Legal Advice Clinic has also operated alongside the Co-op and welfare benefits advice sessions, offering local people a truly holistic service.
- 53 volunteers were involved in running the Food Co-op, contributing 2116 hours of volunteering. From managing the till, ordering produce and assisting elderly customers with shopping to producing our popular Co-op e-newsletter, we could not do without them. This year Co-op volunteers included women learning English in our Boundary Women's Project ESOL classes. 13 volunteers achieved their Food Safety Level 2 qualification, 9 volunteers achieved Emergency First Aid at Work and 4 volunteers received training in Manual Handling awareness.
- The project plays an important role in promoting health awareness, and quarterly volunteer-led healthy living workshops have taken place in conjunction with weekly Co-op sessions – aimed at encouraging people to use creative and engaging ways to eat healthily at low cost. One of our volunteers is a trained sushi chef, enabling us to run a vegetarian sushi workshop at the Food Co-op!
- Food Co-op sales increased this year by over 50%! While operating on a 'not for profit' basis the Co-op aims to be sustainable by breaking even. It sold £22,139 worth of vegetables and fruit last year, making a small surplus of £132, the ideal break even result for a not for profit venture!

## Plans for 2018/19

- To develop the reach and impact of St Hilda's community food project, through monthly Food Co-op outreach sessions at a local Children's Centre in south Hackney, Tower Hamlets Children's Centre Stay and Play sessions, and pop-ups in the local area.
- New programme of training for volunteers, including Food Safety and Health and Nutrition so that they can cascade information learnt down to customers. This will include diabetes awareness training, and nutrition issues among elderly people and young children.

*"I'm able to do my own shopping with the help of the Co-op [volunteer] staff, picking out fruit and veg as I used to when I was mobile. It gives me great pleasure."  
[Elderly housebound person]*

*"Fresh lovely veg and fruits – the quality is great!"*

*"I love that I can support my local community. I'd much rather buy from the Co-op than from big supermarkets."*

*"I am able to use my customer service skills and will continue volunteering until I get a job. I would still like to continue volunteering at the Food Co-op then."*

*"Helping at the Food Co-op makes me feel great and happy and I always learn new things." [volunteer]*

# 12 LinkAge Plus



St Hilda's runs LinkAge Plus (LA+) in the southwest of Tower Hamlets as part of a borough-wide service led by our voluntary sector partner, Toynbee Hall. LA+ offers residents aged 50 plus a range of social and health related activities to maximise wellbeing and make the most of life. Our LinkAge Plus team is based at Sonali Gardens in Shadwell, one of five LA+ Hubs in the Borough. With over 200 older people regularly using its services, our Hub acts as a 'One Stop Shop' linking up individuals with other agencies, delivering group activities and support for isolated older people.

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- A partnership with the English National Ballet was launched, delivering an exciting new Dance and Movement project combining music and chair based exercises. A very successful eight week pilot took place with older people thoroughly enjoying the experience. To the great delight of participants, the National Ballet will run further sessions during the coming year.
- Our Sonali Gardens 'Happy Gardeners' group has gone from strength to strength, aided by a magnificent oak planter donated by a member of the Mercers' Company and installed in July. Horticultural produce has included carrots, herbs, broad beans, squash, onions, kale, lettuce, and vast array of colourful flowers enjoyed by all. We look forward to the new planting season and harvesting some amazing vegetables later in 2018!
- A wide range of other activities also take place throughout the week in Sonali Gardens, from darts sessions to line dancing and Tai Chi. A new weekly men's group has been established, with those attending enjoying a game of pool and a chance to catch up over a cup of tea. Our LinkAge Christmas party for local older people topped off 2017 with a bang, with a traditional festive lunch and lively disco led by DJ Billy. A great afternoon was had by all!
- An annual programme of outings enabled a large number of older people to visit places that otherwise would not be possible for them, including the ever popular Kew Gardens and trips to the seaside.

*'Thank goodness I found this place! I'm doing things I've never done before.'*

## Plans for 2018/19

- An intergenerational project with Half Moon Theatre. Older people will meet young people who will interview them about their childhood and growing up in the 50's, 60's and 70's. This will lead on to four pieces of performance by the young people and the production of a booklet.
- A brand new monthly reminiscence group is also planned, older people sharing memories and discussing the good old days, with themed trips out.
- The Sonali Day Trippers (a service user group supported by LinkAge Plus staff) will take on responsibility for organising outings, with a trip out to a local fish and chip restaurant and a coach daytrip to Rye.
- In addition to its regular Sonali Gardens menu, St Hilda's LinkAge Plus runs activities elsewhere in southwest Tower Hamlets, including Wapping. A new exercise group on the Ocean Estate in Stepney is planned in the second half of 2018/19.

*'I like going because every time I go it's different and it is like an oasis in the middle of the City.'*  
[about trip to Kew Gardens]

*'It's good to get out in the fresh air amongst nature. I enjoy planting and watching seeds growing and making friends with both the flowers and fellow gardeners!'*  
[Happy Gardener]



# Older People's Project 13



The Older People's Project provides a range of services to cater for the varied needs of older people living in the East End of London. Opportunities on offer include a drop in 'Lunch Club Plus', day care for more frail older people, with regular activities including a Computer Club, arts and crafts, outings, indoors sports, exercise sessions, and Tai Chi classes, to name just some. Transport is arranged for our day care and other less mobile service users, enabling all to take part!

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- Our Older People's Project plays a key role in reducing isolation and promoting wellbeing; over 150 older people having benefited from its provision during 2017/18, from regular group sessions to one off events. 115 members currently use the service regularly.
- A new and expanded Older People's Healthy Living Group programme of activities was delivered, incorporating highly popular Zumba and Pilates sessions, Tai Chi and Boccia – a Paralympic sport accessible to all. 82 exercise sessions were provided during the year.
- Intergenerational activities included an Intergenerational Olympics during the summer, with Older People's Project members collaborating with St Hilda's Guide Group and having great fun! A new partnership was forged with students from Queen Mary University Islamic Society, fostering social contact across different age groups and communities, and resulting in a number of Skills Exchange workshops.
- A new 'Out and About' programme of outings supported by a grant from the Grocers' Company took place. Volunteer assistance from Crédit Agricole and other corporate companies helped us to implement this, enabling older people to access and enjoy public spaces and amenities. Trips included the National Maritime Museum, the V&A Childhood Museum (to view an exhibition to which our members had contributed), Southend on Sea, and a summer party at the offices of City law firm Berwin Leighton Paisner.
- A programme of health information workshops was delivered by St Hilda's staff in collaboration with other agencies such as Barts & London NHS Trust, Diabetes UK, and the Stroke Association. Sessions included alcohol consumption, health and hydration, flu, stroke prevention, and management of diabetes. Other information sessions included a talk on preventing fraud provided by TSB Bethnal Green.



## Plans for 2018/19

- Following successful grant applications to the Drapers' Charitable Fund and Garfield Weston Foundation, a new community Older People's Singing Group will be launched, with support from Spitalfields Music.
- Aided by a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, older people will share their memories and skills as part of a textiles themed workshop programme in partnership with St Hilda's Women's Project. Older Caribbean women and other pensioners will come together with Bangladeshi women from the local community to swap experiences and create a banner displaying their common heritage.
- We will expand our Healthy Living Group activities, with new additional sessions to include 'Music and Keep Fit', 'Strength and balancing' and Walking Netball. Alongside our already existing activities such as Tai Chi and Boccia we want to make St Hilda's the place to go for for older adults' exercise!

*"Coming to St Hilda's makes a real difference. Without it I wouldn't see anybody except carers."*

*"The centre is a place I can come to meet new people and get a great lunch. I don't have to worry about things when I come here."*

*"Tai Chi leaves me feeling calm, relaxed and well exercised. It is the most important part of my week."*

# 14 Sonali Gardens Day Centre



Sonali [Bengali for 'Golden'] Gardens Day Centre provides person centred care and support throughout the week for Bangladeshi and other communities. A borough wide resource, it is run at St Hilda's second site in Shadwell. A team of bi-lingual Bengali speaking staff provide culturally appropriate care and facilities, with activities designed with our users to help promote their independence and wellbeing. Accessible transport is used to enable housebound and other users with reduced mobility to come to the Day Centre from all parts of Tower Hamlets.

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- Last year 105 users accessed services offered by Sonali Gardens Day Centre. Our Monday to Friday Day Centre provided 40 places daily, supplemented by weekend day care provision offering up 12 places per session.
- Health and wellbeing is at the heart of our service. Alongside regular keep fit sessions within the Day Centre, a new healthy walking programme was launched during the year. NHS staff from Mile End Hospital gave information talks on cardiovascular health and strokes, managing diabetes (including during the fasting month of Ramadan), continence, as well as bowel and breast cancer awareness sessions. London Hospital dental students also ran sessions, providing information on oral cancer and the use of 'betel nut'.
- Living up to the centre's name, Sonali Gardens Day Centre service users teamed up with our LinkAge Plus Happy Gardeners to grow vegetables in a magnificent oak planter donated through the Mercers' Company. The hot weather of 2018 has aided the impressive growing of Bangladeshi south Asian vegetables including kodu (pumpkin) and lai saag (mustard spinach) side by side with produce such as carrots and onions.
- Intergenerational involvement of younger people included visits by Health and Social Care students from nearby Mulberry Girls School, medical students from Kings College and Queen Mary University meeting with service users, and a beautiful Christmas Choir performance by children from Harry Gosling primary school. 28 young adults and students volunteered during the course of the year, helping older service users to stay in contact with the wider community.



## Plans for 2018/19

- Planting and cultivation of a new crop of vegetables in Sonali Gardens' garden. We are fortunate to have the use of a large garden area and this provides wonderful therapeutic opportunities for Day Centre users who do not have gardening space at home, including the opportunity to grow vegetables from 'back home' in Bangladesh.
- A new programme of offsite outings for Day Centre users, including the seaside at Southend, fruit picking and shopping trips.
- A new craft group within our Day Centre users, making traditional Bengali and not so traditional items, using embroidery and other skills.



*"I wouldn't eat a freshly cooked hot meal every day if I didn't come to the Day Centre."*

*"I have been coming to Sonali Gardens for seven years and visited so many places, my favourites are Kew Gardens and Southend. I would never do this if I did not come to the centre."*

*"I had a stroke and couldn't move or speak. Coming here has helped me to speak properly again and get some [mobility] back."*

# Surjamuki Project 15



Our Surjamuki Project promotes independence, positive learning and involvement in the wider community among young people with learning and physical disabilities. Based around a weekly transport assisted group at St Hilda's, its on-site and outdoors educational and recreational activities are guided by the principles of Every Child Matters framework and Hear by Right. Project facilities include a Sensory Room within the community centre, offering a fun and stimulating environment for young people with sensory impairment to explore. 'Surjamuki' is Bengali for sunflower and reflects the colourful and vibrant nature of the project!

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- Surjamuki members made and starred in their own Hollywood blockbuster film in partnership with staff from Create arts charity. The Big Day, a wedding horror comedy, was suitably ghoulish and hilarious, proving a big hit at a showing for families and friends, and at its public premiere at a community Great Get Together event held at St Hilda's. The 'B' film, The Great Escape, was equally popular!
- A creative arts programme, Surjamuki Makes Headlines!, started during the year, with young people learning further film making and art skills. This features continued partnership with Create to make a new user-led film, young people designing the plot, acting and filming it – along with making T-shirts and postcards displaying positive disability messages inspired by ideas from making the film.
- Surjamuki is all about welcoming young people with disabilities, with six new members joining the group during the year. It is also about equipping and supporting young people to build their lives as they get older, with members becoming volunteers in St Hilda's East Community Centre and gaining employment – this year including jobs in the NHS and catering industry.
- An exciting programme of trips took place during the summer, with destinations and activities chosen by young people themselves - included fruit picking, Woburn Safari Park, Margate seaside, and picnics in the park.

## Plans for 2018/19

- Our Surjamuki Makes Headlines! programme will continue with a public showing of their latest blockbuster film. They will also produce block / silk printed T-shirts and postcards displaying positive disability messages inspired by ideas from the film.
- As part of Surjamuki's 'Ambition' fundraising activities, members hope to sell postcards and block printed T-shirts made by themselves to local businesses.
- A new summer programme of user led outings including picnics, fruit picking and trips to the seaside.

*What Surjamuki means to us – from its members:*

*"We stand together as a team."*

*"We are a success and united as a family."*

*"We value and respect others."*



# 16 Youth Project



St Hilda's Youth Project works with young people aged 13-19 with the aim of developing life skills, widening horizons and raising aspirations. While providing a welcoming environment to young people from throughout Tower Hamlets, the Project acts a local Hub for the Weavers Ward and surrounding Bethnal Green area. We aim to create life changing opportunities for young people - so that they can develop confidence and new skills to reach their full potential in life.

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- Over 70 young people participated in the Youth Project's activities during the year. Based around two weekly sessions, young people took part in a wide range of activities from IT and creative arts to cooking and movie nights!
- Five members achieved the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Skills Certificate, while ten others successfully completed Emergency First Aid courses, helping to develop confidence and life skills. St Hilda's East Community Centre is a registered ABC learning centre, able to offer accredited learning.
- Sports activities included fun opportunities such as table tennis, badminton and football sessions, helping young people gain confidence and learning team skills as well as keeping fit. A volunteer led weekly Muay Thai kickboxing class remains highly popular, with those taking part benefiting from increased strength and self-discipline. This aspect of the Project is very important in an area like Tower Hamlets, marked by high levels of obesity and ill health.
- A visit to the East London Mosque in Whitechapel included a tour and workshop enabling members to learn more about the Islamic faith. This followed a previous visit to the Jewish Museum in north London, giving an understanding of the Jewish way of life and history in the East End. With discussions in the Youth Project these activities encouraged respect for different faith groups.
- The Youth Project provided support for older teenagers around the transition from college or school to employment, including CV and job application form workshops, practice interviews, and job searches.



## Plans for 2018/19

- St Hilda's puts young people's voices at the forefront of our service delivery. We will hold a series of engagement events and activities to make sure that the type of support we offer meets the changing needs in our community.
- Following a request from pupils and teachers at our local Virginia Primary School, we plan to start a new club for boys aged 8-13, providing them a safe space to run fun activities and become active citizens.
- A residential trip to north Wales – a popular destination in past years, this will provide fun and challenging experiences for young people, helping them develop character, resourcefulness, team work and leadership skills.

*"I can come and chill here with my friends."*

*"I'm really happy to have got the [Duke of Edinburgh] certificate."*

*"I can talk and be listened to here when I need it. Thank you."*

# Unity Girls' Project 17



St Hilda's Unity Girls' Project works with girls and young women aged 10-19, providing those who use it with a chance to take part in new and empowering activities. The project has become a focal point for girls wishing to learn skills, gain confidence, build friendships and, very importantly, enjoy a space of their own. Activities include arts and crafts, sports and fitness, trips, emotional wellbeing workshops and a study space for older girls.

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- A highly popular St Hilda's 1st Guide Group is run weekly in collaboration with Girlguiding UK for girls aged 10-14. Weekly Thursday evening sessions are hugely popular, often with over 20 girls attending. Regular activities include games and challenges, movie nights and achieving Guide badges, along with outings and visiting speakers. Three Guide members won Jack Petchey awards for outstanding young people of £250 each this year, financing much enjoyed trips to Trampoline Park and Chessington World of Adventure!
- St Hilda's Girls' Project organised and ran a hugely successful 'Science is for Girls!' public event in March 2018. Aimed at encouraging girls from local schools to enjoy and pursue science as a subject and potential career option, activities included a coding workshop, the science of taste, brain twisters and Ohbot fun! It was a busy evening with over 50 enthusiastic participants.
- Our Unity Girls' Project members took part in an intergenerational programme with St Hilda's Older People's Project during the 2017 summer holiday. It was inspiring to see older and younger members cooperate to complete sporty team challenges, rewarded by prizes, medals and having great fun together.
- Mental health workshops were run in a partnership with Muslim Mental Health, an excellent way for girls to be able to open up in a safe environment and discuss the topics of anxiety and bullying, and to get reassurance that they are not alone.
- Monthly cooking workshops were run with a volunteer chef from the Mercers' Company. With recipes to rival Jamie Oliver, girls learnt the skills of preparing healthy meals while becoming more aware of nutrition and food contents.



## Plans for 2018/19

- To organise a residential trip outside London to help break barriers and provide girls with a lifetime opportunity, as many of them have never been away from home.
- To develop programmes of activities aimed at engaging more older girls aged 15+, based on community consultation at local schools.
- A new mental health project supporting young women aged 18-25 to explore issues such as family pressures, relationships, body image and prejudice – and to provide each other with peer support. We hope that this will lead to a podcast to share with the wider community.
- St Hilda's has been asked by Virginia Primary School to start a new club for boys aged 8-13. Our Guide Group has been so successful that boys have said that they want their own version of this!

*"Girlguides opened a new me and helped me find out who I really am."*

*"Coming to St Hilda's helped my confidence and has taught me new skills."*

*"Girlguides has taught me to never give up on myself."*

*"I had a great time making slime and was able to use an Ohbot for the first time ever!" [Science is for Girls event.]*

# 18 Under 5's Project



St Hilda's Under 5's service provides pre-school activities for young children from 6 months to 5 years, offering them the opportunity to explore and learn, both indoors and outdoors. Our sessions also play a key role for parents, providing them with a safe place to talk, have fun with their child, and make friends. Our Ofsted registered crèche childcare provision enables parents to take part in other activities within the community centre such as training events or ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes.

St Hilda's remains a key partner of the local Mowlem Children's Centre. As part of this, our partner Toyhouse Tower Hamlets delivers Children's Centre commissioned active play for toddlers in our community centre hall. St Hilda's and Tower Hamlets Children's Centre provision complement each other, aiming to help children to get the best start in life through availability of a wide range of play and learning opportunities.

## Key Achievements in 2017/18

- More than 80 children used our fun early years activities during the year, enjoying stay and play, crèche childcare, and parties. Based on the Early Years Foundation Stage, our soft play and messy play activities provide great introduction for children going on to nursery school and beyond.
- Children and parents enjoyed highly successful Active Ants and Splatter Time programmes of activity during the year. Using St Hilda's outside crèche garden and play area, young children were encouraged to discover nature, the environment and to be more physically active. Our crèche garden was replanted and improved in the last year, creating a great environment for these activities.
- In an exciting partnership St Hilda's provided crèche support for a 12 week programme of floristry training activities for refugees delivered by Bread and Roses social enterprise in the community centre. Those taking part not only gained employability skills, but also improved language abilities and increased personal confidence.
- St Hilda's partnership with Spitalfields Music continued with a brand new 'Musical Rumpus' show about friendship. An interactive opera for children under 2 ½ 'Fogonogo' proved a real success, a delightful and different experience for all present and introducing children to the world of musical instruments.
- A wonderful Christmas Party in December saw over a hundred local parents and children having a great time. Santa's Grotto was predictably the most popular feature, with our resident Santa giving out an enormous number of lovely presents, kindly donated by Cheltenham Ladies' College and nearby Tea Building offices in Shoreditch. The party was a great success with many parents commenting that it was by far the best Christmas party that they had ever attended!



## Plans for 2018/19

- Following the success of our nature play activities, we will provide a new programme of Splatter Time activities, funded by the Balcombe Charitable Trust. Activities will include off site excursions to introduce children and parents to outdoor spaces such as local parks and Spitalfields City Farm.
- To run a new summer Play Scheme for young children, with fun arts and crafts activities, for both existing users and new families.



*"My child can't wait to get here in the morning."*

*"I could not have done my course if there had been no crèche to look after my daughter."*

*"I was worried about my child playing in the soil but he loves it!"*

# 130th Anniversary 19

## 130 YEARS - HELPING YESTERDAY'S AND TOMORROW'S GENERATIONS

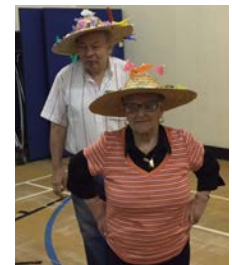
St Hilda's East was started by Cheltenham Ladies' College in 1889 as a 'mission' to the East End of London.

Launched mostly by Oxbridge colleges and public schools, a fleet of settlements docked in the pools of urban industrial poverty from the 1880s. As prototype community centres, they were equipped with classrooms, clinics, chapels, dining halls, gymnasiums - and living quarters for the students who volunteered to work in them.

Settlements had a mission to bring about social improvement through interaction between their young educated helpers - the future elite, who often became passionate reformers.

In this spirit St Hilda's offered many services for local people, young and old. Meals were provided for factory girls who worked long and hard hours. There was a Skilled Employment Committee encouraging young people to find apprenticeships as an alternative to unskilled labour.

This settlement model continued for many years until the 1960s. With changes in society and growth of the welfare state people began to think in terms of 'community development', a term which describes people coming together to improve their own conditions. St Hilda's East became a 'community centre' with this approach and remains so to this day. We face different conditions and challenges from the 1880s but our mission of serving the community remains.



# 20 Summarised Balance Sheet

## ST HILDA'S EAST SUMMARISED BALANCE SHEET - AS AT 31 MARCH 2018

|                                       | <u>2018</u>    |                  | <u>2017</u>      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                       | £              | £                | £                |
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                   |                |                  |                  |
| Tangible fixed assets                 | 1,532,963      |                  | 1,595,726        |
| Investments                           | <u>68,221</u>  |                  | <u>64,004</u>    |
|                                       |                | 1,659,730        | 1,659,730        |
| <b>Current assets</b>                 |                |                  |                  |
| Stock                                 | 5,637          |                  | 4,852            |
| Debtors                               | 156,713        |                  | 158,766          |
| Cash at bank and in hand              | <u>514,211</u> |                  | <u>537,761</u>   |
|                                       | 676,561        |                  | 701,379          |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                    |                |                  |                  |
| Creditors falling due within one year | <u>119,082</u> |                  | <u>84,955</u>    |
| <b>Net current assets</b>             |                | <u>557,479</u>   | <u>616,424</u>   |
| <b>Net assets</b>                     |                | <u>2,158,663</u> | <u>2,276,154</u> |
| <b>The funds of the charity</b>       |                |                  |                  |
| Unrestricted funds                    |                |                  |                  |
| - General                             |                | 418,450          | 476,223          |
| - Designated                          |                | 225,310          | 225,310          |
| Restricted funds                      |                | <u>1,514,903</u> | <u>1,574,621</u> |
| <b>Total charity funds</b>            |                | <u>2,158,663</u> | <u>2,276,154</u> |

The Designated Funds represents monies set aside by Trustees for specific purposes and include £134,507 for building maintenance and £90,803 for staff contingencies.

These summarised accounts have been extracted from the full audited accounts of St. Hilda's East for the year ended 31st March 2018 and they may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information, copies of the full audited accounts can be obtained from St. Hilda's East, 18 Club Row, London E2 7EY; Tel. 020 7739 8066.

The full audited accounts were approved by the Trustees on 4th September 2018 and have been submitted to the Charity Commission and the Registrar of Companies. The audit report thereon was unqualified.

### AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST HILDA'S EAST

We have examined the summarised accounts, which have been extracted from the full audited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018. In our opinion the summarised accounts are consistent with the full audited accounts.

RAMON LEE & PARTNERS  
REGISTERED AUDITORS  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

EAGLE HOUSE  
167 CITY ROAD  
LONDON EC1V 1AW

4TH SEPTEMBER 2018

# Statement of Financial Activities 21

## ST HILDA'S EAST SUMMARISED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

|                                                                              | <u>Unrestricted Funds</u> |                       |                         | 2018                    | 2017                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                                                                              | General Funds             | Designated Funds      | Restricted Funds        |                         |                         |
|                                                                              | £                         | £                     | £                       | £                       | £                       |
| <b>Income</b>                                                                |                           |                       |                         |                         |                         |
| Donations and legacies                                                       | 42,334                    | -                     | 15,000                  | 57,334                  | 64,404                  |
| Income from charitable activities                                            | 632,238                   | -                     | 542,399                 | 1,174,637               | 1,515,225               |
| Income from other trading activities                                         | 155,500                   | -                     | -                       | 155,500                 | 119,400                 |
| Investment income                                                            | 3,065                     | -                     | -                       | 3,065                   | 3,755                   |
| <b>Total income</b>                                                          | <b><u>833,137</u></b>     | <b>-</b>              | <b><u>557,399</u></b>   | <b><u>1,390,536</u></b> | <b><u>1,702,784</u></b> |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                                                           |                           |                       |                         |                         |                         |
| Cost of raising funds                                                        | 73,483                    | -                     | -                       | 73,483                  | 53,965                  |
| Expenditure on charitable activities                                         | 821,644                   | -                     | 617,117                 | 1,438,761               | 1,798,066               |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                                                     | <b><u>895,127</u></b>     | <b>-</b>              | <b><u>617,117</u></b>   | <b><u>1,512,244</u></b> | <b><u>1,852,031</u></b> |
| <b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>                                            |                           |                       |                         |                         |                         |
| <b>&amp; net movements in funds before gains &amp; losses on investments</b> | (61,990)                  | -                     | (59,718)                | (121,708)               | (149,247)               |
| Net gains/losses on investments                                              | 4,217                     | -                     | -                       | <u>4,217</u>            | <u>400</u>              |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>                                                 | <b>(57,773)</b>           | <b>-</b>              | <b>(59,718)</b>         | <b>(117,491)</b>        | <b>(148,847)</b>        |
| <i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>                                              |                           |                       |                         |                         |                         |
| Total funds, brought forward                                                 | <u>476,223</u>            | <u>225,310</u>        | <u>1,574,621</u>        | <u>2,276,154</u>        | <u>2,425,001</u>        |
| <b>Total funds, carried forward</b>                                          | <b><u>418,450</u></b>     | <b><u>225,310</u></b> | <b><u>1,514,903</u></b> | <b><u>2,158,663</u></b> | <b><u>2,276,154</u></b> |

### CONTINUING OPERATIONS

None of the organisation's activities were acquired or discontinued during the above two financial periods.

### TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

No other gains and losses were recognised in the year other than those shown above.

The restricted funds totalling £1,514,903 includes capital funding of £1,456,653 relating to the community centre building and vehicles and revenue funds of £58,250.

**National Westminster Bank Plc.**  
280 Bishopsgate  
London  
EC2M 4RB

**CAF Bank Limited**  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4TA

**The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc.**  
62-63 Threadneedle Street  
London  
EC2R 8LA

**Lloyds Bank Plc.**  
25 Gresham Street  
London  
EC2V 7HN

**Scottish Widows Bank**  
67 Morrison Street  
Edinburgh  
EH3 8YJ

# 22 Thanks and Acknowledgements



## SUPPORTERS

St Hilda's East Community Centre's sincere gratitude goes to all the funders and donors who have supported the organisation in 2017/18 including:

The Alchemy Foundation  
Ally Capellino  
Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust  
Balcombe Charitable Trust  
Bedford Memorial Trust  
Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP  
Big Lottery Awards for All  
Canary Wharf Group PLC  
The Carmen's Benevolent Trust  
The Cheltenham Ladies' College  
The Incorporated Guild of Cheltenham Ladies' College  
City Bridge Trust  
Charles S. French Charitable Trust  
Co-op Local Community Fund  
Crédit Agricole CIB  
The Denton Charitable Trust  
DLA Piper LLP  
Davis Rubens Charitable Trust  
Derwent London Community Foundation  
Dischma Charitable Trust

Duncan Norman Trust Fund  
Garfield Weston Foundation  
GLA Community Athletics Fund  
Gowling WLG (UK) Charitable Trust  
The Grocers' Company  
The Henry Smith Charity  
St James's Place Foundation  
London Legal Support Trust  
Macfarlanes LLP  
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust  
Mercers' Charitable Foundation  
The Rank Foundation  
The Joseph Rank Trust  
Shanly Foundation  
Sport England  
The Tea Building  
London Borough of Tower Hamlets  
Tower Hamlets Homes  
The James Wise Charitable Trust

Special thanks also go to:

All the local businesses that supported our work through donations or in kind during the year. We are proud to announce that Sainsbury's store in Bethnal Green Road has chosen St Hilda's East Community Centre as its charity of the year in 2018/19 – for the third year in a row! We were also very grateful to be chosen as TSB Bethnal Green Branch Charity of the Year.

All our Friends of St Hilda's East members who continue to support our much needed work from year to year.

All the people who make regular and much appreciated contributions to the organisation by standing order.

We are also very grateful to all the individuals and others who made donations during the course of the year.



# Thanks and Acknowledgements 23



## **VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers make a key and much valued contribution to St Hilda's projects and last year was no exception. Some of our services depend upon volunteers to function and all benefit in some way or other. The volunteering community at St Hilda's is a rich and diverse one, and we would like to thank all the many individuals who generously committed time, energy and skills to help the organisation achieve so much during 2017/18.

## **PARTNERS**

Our acknowledgement and appreciation also go to all the partners with whom we have worked during 2017/18, enabling us to together deliver services and activities for and with local people. We would especially like to thank Tower Hamlets Council, from whom St Hilda's receives a range of grant, service agreement and other funding, as well as our many other partners across the voluntary and community, statutory and corporate sectors.

We would particularly like to thank:

The Mercers' Company, whose members have chosen St Hilda's East Community Centre as their Company Charity for a three year period from 2017. We are delighted to receive this honour, which involves much appreciated volunteering involvement by Mercers and Company staff as well as financial support for our youth work with girls.

Our law firm partners, Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP and Macfarlanes LLP, for the tremendous commitment of their staff in running pro bono Legal Advice sessions at Sonali Gardens Centre and our community centre site - as well as for the support given to St Hilda's with fundraising and activities.

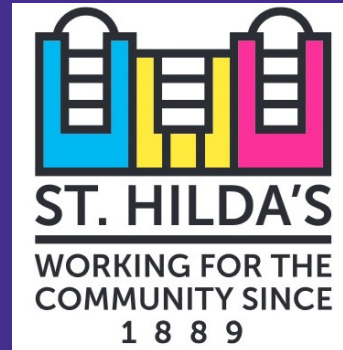
Thank you to Crédit Agricole CIB for its greatly appreciated support, not only financial assistance and raising funds through the London Legal Support Trust's annual sponsored walk, but also through staff time and resources enabling our Older People's Project to deliver its programme of activities and outings during the year, making a real difference to a great many lives.

Thank you also to Barbican Centre & Guildhall School of Music & Drama HR Department for its support during the last year.

Last but not least, we are indebted to staff from Credit Suisse who have shared their time and skills to assist with the design and production of this Annual Report - for the 12th year running!







St Hilda's East Community Centre  
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London  
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[www.sthildas.org.uk](http://www.sthildas.org.uk)

Sonali Gardens Centre  
79 Tarling Street  
London  
E1 0AT  
Telephone: 020 7265 9211



Founded by The Incorporated Guild of Cheltenham Ladies' College in 1889  
St Hilda's East is a Company Limited by Guarantee No: 52880 and Registered Charity No: 212208 with registered  
offices at 18 Club Row, London E2 7EY.  
Grant funded by London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council.

