

SPRING 2016

GIYM Sites

Our three newest sites, in Hounslow, Hemel Hempstead and in Barnet, all got under way towards the end of 2015 and we are pleased to say that all three programmes are doing well. Looking ahead and with a new school year looming in September 2016 we are constantly on the lookout for opportunities to expand the number of programmes funded by GIYM further.

News and Events

Thank you to Statoil

In March 2016 GIYM concluded its four-year sponsorship arrangement with Statoil. GIYM is extremely grateful for its lengthy partnership with the company, which has enabled the charity to grow and expand its programme from five to sixteen sites across the country. One of the first programmes started up by GIYM as a result of the Statoil sponsorship was in Paddington in 2012. Since that time over 4,000 primary school children have enjoyed the opportunity to play tennis in this one area alone.

Another benefit of the partnership is the number of children from various GIYM programmes who have had an opportunity to participate in coaching clinics, held annually at the Royal Albert Hall, with Heather Watson and Tim Henman. The clinics, held during the Statoil Masters event each December in 2013 – 2015, were part of Statoil's "Heroes of Tomorrow" project.

Michael Stotesbury, founder of GIYM, commented, "Without the support of Statoil, who has been our most staunch supporter, we could never have grown and developed the charity as much as we have during the past four years. So many children, because of Statoil, have had the opportunity to play tennis and, we hope, have enriched their lives with everything that tennis can bring. We are extremely grateful to Statoil for its support".

GIYM 10 Year Anniversary

2016 marks GIYM's 10-year anniversary. To celebrate this landmark we have produced a brochure highlighting our accomplishments during this period. To view the brochure or to find out how to obtain a copy, please go to www.giveityourmax.org

Hedley Foundation

The Hedley Foundation, a charity that awards grants to small charities working with young people in sport, kindly donated £2,000 to GIYM last autumn. This money has been allocated to The Elena Baltacha Academy of Tennis (EBAT), which will enable the Academy to purchase five new mini tennis kit bags that they will use when delivering their GIYM programme. GIYM is very grateful to The Hedley Foundation for this generous grant.

GIYM Coaches Forum

In February this year, GIYM held its first ever GIYM Coaches Forum at the All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC). The primary purpose of the evening was to enable GIYM coaches from across all sites to meet up and have any opportunity to share experiences and ideas, including any challenges encountered when working with schools. Nine coaches from various GIYM sites in the South East attended the forum, which kicked off with Dan Bloxham, Head coach at the AELTC and the Wimbledon Junior Tennis Initiative (WJTI), working with the coaches on court before giving the group a "behind the scenes" tour of Wimbledon. Dan then provided an overview of the WJTI and its successes, including insight into what he and his coaching team have learnt over the 15 years the WJTI programme has been up and running. Dan was followed by Chris Howard, Head Coach of the GIYM Lewisham site (2015 LTA AEGON Coach of the Year & LTA AEGON Community Coach of the Year), who kindly presented on the GIYM Lewisham programme, providing insight on his approach



Coaches attending the GIYM Coaches Forum at the AELTC

The Tennis Ball 2015

In November 2015, over 450 guests descended upon the London Hilton Park Lane Hotel to raise funds for GIYM and the International Lawn Tennis Club's Philanthropic Development Programme. This wonderful event, held every two years, raised in excess of £160,000 for the two charities through its raffle, donations and auction items. Many celebrities, including GIYM Patron Tim Henman and Heather Watson attended the evening, which was hosted by GIYM Patron, Sir Trevor McDonald and featured Alistair McGowan as master of ceremonies.

Support from "New Balance"

GIYM is extremely grateful to Heather Watson who decided in December, to nominate GIYM as her charity of choice for New Balance's "Giving Tuesday" project (whereby GIYM received over 90 pairs of children's New Balance shoes). Congratulations to the five GIYM sites which were selected to receive the shoes, namely Aberdeen, Canterbury, The Elena Baltacha Foundation, Lewisham and Paddington.



Children from Aberdeen wearing their new New Balance shoes

GIYM Parents & Coaches Survey

In order for GIYM to gain a better understand of how its funds are having a positive impact on children's lives and in an effort to ascertain whether we are achieving our objectives, we are reviewing how we might seek feedback from coaches and parents of children who attend after GIYM school programmes on a regular basis. Feedback, once collected, will provide a useful insight into how GIYM funding is helping to share children's lives, in terms of health, self-confidence, behavior in the classroom and so on and how we might adapt and improve our programmes to achieve better results going forward.

Tennis Foundation and GIYM Joint Partnership

Following on from the news delivered last summer that GIYM will team up with The Tennis Foundation to work to provide fifteen mainstream or Special Educational Needs (SEN) schools with a three-year tennis programme, it is very pleasing to announce that the first five schools, located in Bath, Oxfordshire, Poole, Huddersfield and Portsmouth, will begin receiving their first year's tennis programmes this coming summer. Another five new schools will join the programme in 2017 and the final five schools will join in 2018. This joint project with the TF is the first GIYM programme to be directed specifically towards children with physical and/or learning disabilities.

SAVE THE DATE

GIYM Mini Orange Tournament

GIYM will once again host its third annual Mini Orange Tournament on Sunday June 12th at Paddington Recreation Ground. Last year our London sites, including Paddington Lewisham, Merton, Peckham and Borehamwood, participated and this year we are hoping that some of our newer sites will also sign up.

You can now follow GIYM on our Face book page – www.facebook.com/giveityourmax and on Twitter - <https://twitter.com/GiveityourMax>.

For more information on GIYM, please visit our website (www.giveityourmax.org).