

**PRE BOXING MATCH PRESS RELEASE:**

**YOUR PHOTO HERE**

**Charity Boxer is an Uppercut Above**

A local (**occupation here**) has put down their (**tools, pen, etc**) and taken up boxing to help raise funds for charity.

(NAME) who lives in (HOMETOWN) decided (s)he would take part in an exhibition fight, to help to raise money for the Dearne Valley Personal Development Centre charity, after discovering the project required vital funds to survive.

(NAME) is taking part in an eight-week intensive boxing training course to prepare for the charity bout, with the team at Empress Rooms White Collar Boxing delivering a professional training regime at no cost. (SURNAME), who has no boxing experience, is hoping to raise over £1000.

The (**occupation here**) said, "I have done some other fundraising before, (**name them here**), and when I saw Empress Rooms White Collar Boxing, I thought I would give it a go.”

“I always wondered whether I would be able to get in the ring and take a punch. It's just six minutes in the ring, so it's not a lot of time taken up for a great cause, and it’s a chance to make some incredible memories. We should all try to give back at some point in our career if we’re able to, and now it's my turn.”

The Empress Rooms White Collar Boxing founder, and former featherweight British and commonwealth champion John Jo Irwin said, “Tickets are already selling fast, and we are already planning the next event. The event fight night is staged (**date here**), and more dates will be published shortly.”

"The events are proving really popular too. Supporters of the fighters and the charity can take advantage of VIP ringside tables which seat ten people and include a two-course meal, but there are a variety of ticket options available for what are amazing nights of entertainment. Wherever you are sitting in the venue, you’ll get a great view of the fights.”

Empress Rooms WCB offers participants the chance to step out of their comfort zone and raise money for charity by competing in a boxing match. All events are open to male and female participants over the age of 18, and include eight weeks of free professional coaching, before a showcase event where they become a superstar to their friends and family over three 2-minute rounds, and raise funds for the Dearne Valley Personal Development Centre.

DVPDC was founded in 2012 by John and Jackie Irwin, and is a place which provides education to young people that have previously found it difficult to fit into to mainstream education. The learning programs at Dearne Valley PDC have been tailored to meet their service users’ specific needs, and the centre aims to create a positive pathway back into mainstream education or college, by providing an alternative curriculum, that will re-engage the most challenging individuals.

The main event is to be held at the recently refurbished historic Empress Building, Mexborough, the ballroom will provide an amazing venue and with the decorative ornate high ceilings creates a wonderful atmosphere. The building, which dates to the 1920s, was built to mirror the great dance halls in places such as Blackpool and for decades it was the hub of social activity in the area.

For more information on the ERWCB event visit [www.erwcb.co.uk](http://www.erwcb.co.uk)

-Ends-

If you would like to interview the fighter: (**your name here**) Tel: (**your mobile here**) or email: (**your email here**)

To speak to someone about the boxing event, contact John Irwin call **07855 545124** or email [info@erwcb.co.uk](mailto:info@erwcb.co.uk)

To learn more about the charity visit the website <http://www.dearnevalleypdc.co.uk/>

**Notes:**

The Empress Building was sold at auction June 2017. Jason Mace acquired the iconic Empress Buildings in Mexborough and has ambitious plans for its future. Jason has investing so far £150k into refurbishment of the former ballroom and dance hall into a hub of business, health and community activity.