

YOUTH PRESS

Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight

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The St Thomas Centre, 20 Southgate Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 9EF. 01962 852307 www.ychiow.org.uk

WELCOME ON BOARD

We would all like to extend a very warm welcome to Charlotte Salmon our new Active Citizenship Development Officer.

Charlotte will be working with the In 2 Action team delivering our workshops, young leader training, CAT Mark assessments and events.

Charlotte is looking forward to meeting and working with as many of you as possible!



BEACH PARTY 2009

YOU ARE INVITED...

WHEN: Saturday 4th July 2009

WHERE: Shanklin of the Isle of Wight

ARRIVE: 11:30am

DEPART: 8pm

COST: £4 per person

See Flyer For More Details!



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CALLING ALL YOUNG LEADERS

Have you got or are you currently working with young people taking part in the YCHIOW Young Leader Programme? If you are, we have an exciting opportunity to offer them; to attend our second Young Leader Residential!!!

A weekend away at Fairthorne Manor, just outside Southampton, the weekend includes outdoor activities, more young leader training and a fantastic opportunity to meet other young leaders.

You'll need to get in touch and request further information, permission forms etc for the young people you work with and workers, you must attend some Young Leader Training on Thursday June 11th, or your Young Leaders won't be able to attend.

There are only 20 spaces, and a maximum of 5 young people from each club/group/project can attend. We recommend you act quickly, this gets booked fast and the next opportunity to go on a Young Leader Training Residential won't be until the end of this year!!!!

If you need to know anything else, or have any questions, contact Lynsey or Charlotte on 01962 852307.

THE CAT THAT GOT THE CREAM!!!!!!!

On Thursday the 19th March YCHIOW were delighted to hold the first ever CAT Mark Awards Ceremony, it was a fabulous evening which everyone enjoyed.

The CAT Mark is a mark of quality, awarded by young people, for any organisations providing services to young people.

Awards were presented by John Coughlan, Head of Childrens' Services at Hampshire County Council, to all the projects and young assessors who had been involved with CAT Mark in the last year.

We heard from several young people, who are assessors about why they were assessors and how it has benefitted them. Zachary Allgood from Hayling Island said "this scheme empowers young people to take an active role in their local and wider community. It gives young people a chance to take charge and shape the future for the benefit of everyone"

We also heard from Sue McKenna of Hampshire Dyslexia Association about how helpful her CAT Mark Assessment had been for them, and Howard Firth who was involved in setting up the CAT Mark programme.

It was a great celebration, and since the event we have had some hugely positive feedback from lots of people who attended. We are delighted that we have been commissioned by Hampshire County Council to run this piece of work for 2009/2010.

If you would like to know more about CAT Mark, if you have young people who would like to become assessors, or if you would like to have your project CAT Mark Assessed, please contact Lynsey on 01962 852307 or ac3.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk or look on our website www.ychiow.org.uk



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COMMUNITY CHALLENGE!!

Saturday March 28th, was the first YCHIOW Activity Day of 2009! It was held at the Tilebarn in Brockenhurst and saw three groups of young people taking part in all sorts of challenges throughout the day.

The Source Youth Café, The Garage Youth Club and Youth of Burley all brought along a team, ready and raring to go! Despite some dodgy forecasts the weather held off, with only one quick shower and we had a superb day.

Each team formed their own mini community, they were given a number of challenges which they could complete at their own pace throughout the day, such as building a shelter in the woods, transferring water from a water station, rescuing an egg from a tree, making a team charter and a flag and lots more, for each challenge the teams were awarded points based purely on good teamwork and communication skills.

All of the teams worked well and worked hard all through the day, even in the chilly weather, when the sun went in! If a team did something above and beyond and showed real team work, they were rewarded with toy money, which could be used to buy extra equipment for their challenges or kept until the end of the day.

Each of the groups completed all 12 challenges plus an extra one! They showed some amazing team work skills, listening to each other, negotiating, being flexible, communicating, problem solving and creative thinking! Finally at the end of the day all of the points were added up, and the results were unbelievably close with only 100 points in it! But The Source Youth Café came first and were awarded £50 to spend on their Youth Club.

We were cold and tired by the end of the day, but everyone felt a real sense of achievement and pride in what they had accomplished. When asked what they had enjoyed the young people said 'not arguing with my mates', 'having fun', 'working as a team' are just a few of their answers.

All in all it was a marvellous day and we can't wait for the next one.



In2Action

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positiVe images

ARTS EVENT 2009

We're offering some of our member youth clubs, groups and projects the opportunity to take part in our exciting new Positive Images project. The clubs, groups and projects who decide to take part will have an artist come and work with them in their own organisation over 3-6 weeks to prepare a performance or exhibit under the theme of Positive Images.

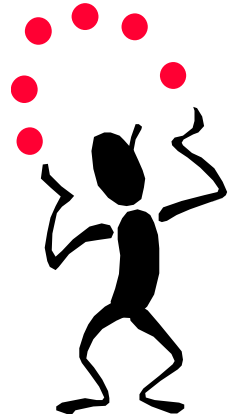
The workshops available are likely to include dance, recycled fashion, junk sculpture/ percussion and a making/craft project. All the groups will then come together at Farley Mount near Winchester on Saturday 17th October for an outdoor performance and exhibition.

If you are interested in taking part please email Ally at fo.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk and your details will be forwarded to the Positive Images Project Manager, Kathy who will then get in touch with you to provide more details etc.

CLUB VISIT WORKSHOPS

It's the start of the new affiliation year and that means you're now entitled to another 2 free club visit workshops. These can be booked for any time during the affiliation year but do bear in mind that the earlier you make your booking the more chance there is of getting the dates that suit you best.

Workshops on offer include: Juggling & Circus Skills, Initiative Challenges, Masks, T-Shirt Painting, Healthy Lifestyles, Banner Making and Scrap Sculpture. Call us on 01962 852307 or email fo.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk to book your workshops.



STOP PRESS: Did you know that it is possible to undertake an apprenticeship in youth work? Maybe you're already working with young people who are looking at their future career options or young leaders who are interested in the next step?

Why not find out more by visiting the website: www.apprenticeships.org.uk.

To find Youth Work follow the links to 'Types of Youth Work' and then 'Health, Public Services and Care'.

STOP PRESS: The Hampshire Community Foundation administer a number of grants programmes that youth clubs, groups and projects may be eligible to apply for. In particular their Grassroots Programme is aimed at small, local groups. To find out more visit their website: www.hantscf.org.uk

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ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB CHARITABLE TRUST BURSARIES

The Royal Thames Yacht have offered the young people of Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight 2 bursaries for sailing trips with the Jubilee Sailing Trust with the intention of enabling young people who might not have the funds to be able to experience sailing at this level.

A list of voyages planned for the Jubilee Sailing Trust can be viewed on <http://jst.org.uk/events/default.aspx?t=voyages> and the bursaries being offered are for £600.00 each.

We have copies of the booking form so if you would like to nominate a young person please contact the office on 01962 852307. Booking forms will need to be accompanied by a letter telling the RTYC something about the young person's sailing background, if any, and why they think that they would benefit from such a voyage.

Please be aware that Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight's involvement is simply to advertise this opportunity. We have not vetted the Jubilee Sailing Trust and none of our staff will be taking part in this event.



• HOT TOPIC • HOT TOPIC • HOT TOPIC • HOT

DUTY OF CARE

Youth clubs and projects provide an essential service to the communities they serve by providing young people with safe and secure places to learn and practice the skills necessary to become successful adults. In order to achieve this they accept a Duty of Care (DOC) for the young people they work with, contracting with parents and the community that they will hand the young people back in one piece.

Often the boundaries relating to this DOC become blurred. The youth clubs staff feel they are clear when their DOC starts and stops. The parents and community also feel they are clear when the clubs DOC starts and stops. The blurring occurs when the community feels it starts at a particular time and place and the club staff understand it to start at a different time and place.

For example: the *youth club building may be on the edge of a recreation ground and be open from 6.00pm to 8.00pm. The staff may arrive half an hour earlier to plan and set up and stay half an hour late to debrief and tidy up.*

As far as the community is concerned the club is open from 5.30pm to 8.30pm and therefore the staff have a DOC for the young people between these times. The staff may understand that their DOC starts when the young person signs into the building. The community often has other ideas ranging from the DOC starts when the young people enter the recreation ground or the grounds the club is built on to it starts when the young person leaves their front door (not very reasonable but nevertheless true).

• HOT TOPIC • HOT TOPIC • HOT TOPIC • HOT TOPIC •

DUTY OF CARE CONTINUED...

I had an occasion when I was running a club when a young woman was injured on her way to club, she lived 3 miles away and walked to club, the parents blamed the club and it was then that we pointed out to the parents that she was not our responsibility until she arrived at the club and the club was open. Both sets of adults felt terrible for what had happened to this young woman. An extreme example, I admit, but one which highlights a fundamental breakdown in communication and the problems this can cause. So how do we let the young people and the wider community know when our DOC starts and ends?

So how do we let the young people and the wider community know when our DOC starts and ends?

- Let the young people know on a regular basis via the club rules and/or contract, about the DOC e.g. put it on the wall of the meeting place as a constant reminder.
- Let the parents know via communications home and the enrollment process.

Don't compromise your own regulations. For instance if you agree your DOC starts when you open the club at 6.00pm but there are young people hanging around from 5.30pm don't let them in as you are just confusing the situation. If you make it clear you will not let them in before 6.00pm they will soon get the message especially if it is cold outside.

If you have parents who persistently drop their young people off at 5.30pm or earlier and/or are always late to pick them up speak to them first and explain they are in danger of being reported for Neglect, one of the areas of Child Abuse.

So in short be clear amongst yourselves when your DOC starts and stops.

- Don't compromise your own rules.
- Make sure you let the young people and the community know when your DOC starts and stops and take every opportunity to remind them.

If you'd like to discuss your organisation's Duty of Care in more detail or get some more information about this please call us on 01962 852307.

STOP PRESS: Are you interested in making more of your Table Tennis equipment? Why not get started with this free downloadable information pack. Although the pack was developed for use in schools there's some really useful information in there that can be adapted for the youth club environment:

www.estta.org.uk and click on the 'Development' tab.

Perhaps you don't currently offer the young people you work with access to Table Tennis but would like to do so in the future? Why not get in touch with Sara Lunn, Table Tennis Development Officer at Sport Hampshire and Isle of Wight on 01962 847285 or sara.lunn@hants.gov.uk.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If you want to discuss any of the topics included here please call us on 01962 852307.

WHAT IS THE ISA?

ISA stands for Independent Safeguarding Authority. ISA has been created to help prevent unsuitable people from working with children and vulnerable adults. The ISA will do this by working in partnership with the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB), which will gather relevant information on every person who wants to work or volunteer with vulnerable people

The ISA is working to implement a new national register for people working with children, young people or vulnerable adults. This will require all paid workers and volunteers to be registered as well as having to be CRB-checked. Organisations will be legally obliged to ensure their staff are registered and cleared to work with vulnerable groups. The new legislation will also have an impact on management committee members too.

To keep up to date with how this will affect you and your colleagues we strongly suggest you visit the ISA website www.isa.gov.org.uk to find out more.

CAN YOU REFUSE TO TAKE A YOUNG PERSON ON A TRIP/VISIT?

The short answer is 'yes'. Taking young people off-site on a trip or visit can be a rewarding and valuable experience for everyone involved and can have many positive and lasting benefits for the young people but there are a few things to consider before you go.

Before you start signing-up young people it is important to ensure they have enough information about your trip to decide if they want to go along and take part. A young person who is bored and doesn't want to join will cause difficulties for you and your group whatever activity you are doing. If they're not interested in taking part then this isn't the trip for them.

Another important part of planning any trip or visit is undertaking a Risk Assessment and this includes looking at the group of young people who might be interested in attending and deciding if it is safe and appropriate for them to do so.

For example: if you are going to take young people into a new environment it is important that the group are comfortable with the expected behaviour and are both willing and able to follow any instructions they are given. If you know a particular young person frequently ignores instructions and breaks your Code of Behaviour or Group Contract then you could put them and the rest of the group at risk if you take them on the trip.

Remember to talk about and discuss your decision with the young person as this in itself can be a valuable learning experience for them.

SHOULD WE HAVE REGULAR FIRE ALARM PRACTISES AT OUR YOUTH CLUB?

In any school, college and place of work there will be regular fire alarm practises. This is to help ensure that everyone who uses the building knows how to get out should an incident occur and to ensure that the systems in place work effectively.

A youth club is no different, it is just as important that young people know how to exit their youth club premises in an emergency as it is that they do at school. If you want to develop the experience further why not involve the young people in reviewing the evacuation procedure and looking at any ways that it can be improved?



• Affiliation • Affiliation • Affiliation • Affiliation •

HAVE YOU REAFFILIATED?

If you have re-affiliated to Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight for the 2009-10 affiliation year then "welcome back"! You will continue to have access to our all our services including...



- Access to discounted insurance
- Funding information
- Regular newsletters
- Workshops
- Events
- Training

If you have not re-affiliated you will no longer be able to access these services and this will be the last YCHLOW Newsletter you receive.

To find out more about re-affiliation, if you have any questions about affiliating your organisation or you need a re-affiliation form please call the office on 01962 852307 or email sec.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk.

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A reminder of some of the training options available to you as a member of Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight...

Training Option 1, You Come to Us: A series of courses run at our offices in Winchester open to members from any youth club, group or project. To book a place simply complete and return a booking form which you can now download from our website.. Here's an overview of what's on offer.

First Aid

Saturday 16th May 09, 9:30am-4:30pm

Dealing with Challenging Behaviour

Saturday 20th June 09, 10am-4pm

Training Option 2, We Come to You: A range of different courses that you book and we come to you to run for you and your colleagues. Choose from any of the wide range of courses in the Training Programme leaflet or give us a ring to discuss your needs.

Training Option 3, The Basics: An introduction to youth work for those who are new or feel in need of a refresher. Comprising 4 units each of 2-3 hours each. We can deliver this training in Winchester or we can come to you. This is an ideal induction course for new volunteers.

For more information about any of our training or to discuss your training needs give us a call on 01962 852307.