

Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and a safe and restful festive period.

New Year, new start? The New Year is a great time to make a few changes and shake things up a bit; what are your New Year's Resolutions for your youth club, group or project? Here are a few suggestions:

Book a club visit workshop: members are entitled to 2 free workshops per affiliation year

Offer more opportunities for young people to get involved in running your organisation

Talk to our In 2 Action team about multi-session workshops

Book a CAT Mark Assessment

Check out your concerns or worries by asking us for advice and support

Start a Young Leader Training project



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YOUNG LEADER RESIDENTIAL !!!!

Our first Young Leader Residential, took place on November 21st – 23rd, and everyone had a great time, (although we needed a rest after!).

Instead of us telling you all about it, we've decided to show you with some pictures from the weekend. So, please look at the Youth Pages to discover what actually happened.

Our Young Leader programme continues to be very successful, if you have young people at your club/group/project who would be interested, please contact the In2Action team on 01962 852307 to find out more and book some dates! There will be another residential next year for those young people already taking part in Young Leader Training.

CAT MARK THE AWARDS CEREMONY.....

By now you should all have heard about the CAT Mark. It is a mark of quality awarded by young people, for any organisations providing services to young people.

The CAT Mark has been a great success over the past year and to honour those young people and organisations taking part, we will be holding an awards ceremony! This event will be **Monday February 23rd from 6-9pm**, at **Littleton Millennium Hall**. It will be great fun as well as a chance to thank all those involved for the work that goes in to this project. Invites will go out in December but please save the date in your diary now.

In the meantime if you or any organisation you know would like to undergo a CAT Mark Assessment or if you have Young People who would like to become CAT Mark Assessors, please do get in touch! For more information, please contact Lynsey on 01962 852307

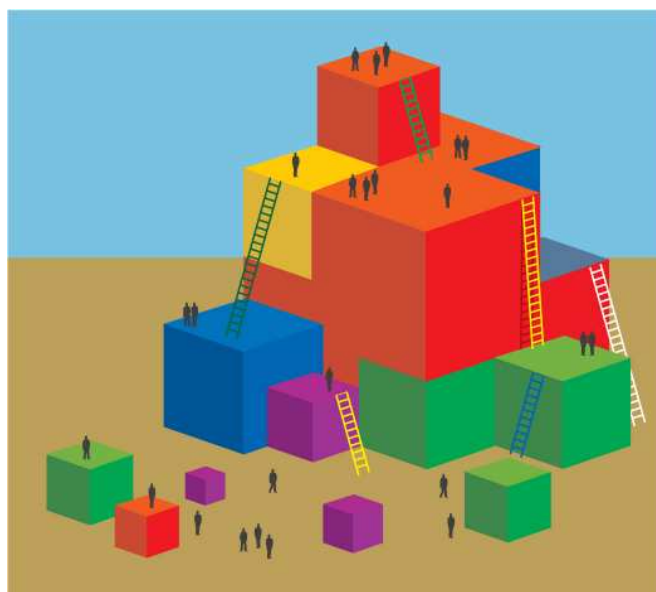
2009 ACTIVITY DAY!

After the fantastic success of our In2Action Activity Days last year at Fairthorne Manor, we are very excited to announce our new Activity Day for next year!

The day will be on **Saturday 28th March 2009** at the **Tilebarn in the New Forest**. The theme this time will be **'Building Communities'** and it will involve some outdoor, physical activities as well as some fun In2Action workshops. The day will be for young people aged 13-19 and their workers.

Both days last year were booked up quickly, and spaces are limited so we wanted to give you plenty of warning to get it in your diaries! We'll be sending out booking forms and posters in the new year!

If you have any questions, please do give us a call on 01962 852307.



• Round-up • Round-up • Round-up • Round-up •

PRIZE WINNERS

At our recent Annual General Meeting we had the pleasure of awarding our 2 annual prizes.

Participation Competition: The Club of the Year Award

This award is to celebrate the contribution to the lives of the young people made by clubs, groups and projects affiliated to Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight.

This year, the award went to: **Shanklin Voluntary Youth and Community Centre.**

This project and its team have shown amazing dedication and commitment to the young people of Shanklin for many years and are an example to us all of just what can be achieved through sheer hard work and dedication.

At their recent birthday celebrations, Alan Titchmarsh, High Sheriff of the Isle of Wight congratulated the club on their award which was presented to them by our Chief Executive, Andy Upson.



The John Oliver Bellasis Award: The Worker of the Year Award

This award recognises the dedication of those adults who give so much of their time unstintingly without whom there would be very little or no provision for the young people of Southampton, Portsmouth, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Although there is only one award and therefore only one recipient it is given in a spirit of recognition for the wonderful job done by so many.



This year the award went to: **Ben Hogbin of the Winchester and District Young Carers Project and St Cross Youth Group.**

Ben has shown outstanding commitment not only to ensuring the young people he and his team work with have somewhere to go and something to do, he has also made sure that they are provided with a safe and nurturing environment and provided with access to positive activities and new experiences that will help enable those young people to fulfil their potential and grow up to become successful adults.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation have a new funding stream available that you might be eligible to apply for. Grassroots is an exciting new funding programme aimed at helping small, local voluntary organisations. Visit www.hantscf.org.uk to find out more.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

This page looks at some of the things we are most frequently asked by our members. Whilst we cannot give you definitive answers as the settings you work in vary a great deal, we do hope that what we can do is give you some food for thought and some key points to consider. If you want to discuss any of these matters in more detail, please give us a call on 01962 852307.

Should Young People Have To Sign Out?

When you run a youth club, group or project you take on a Duty of Care for the young people you are working with. At a particular time and place you start being responsible for these young people and at a later time this responsibility ends.

But if a young person leaves without letting you know how will you, they or their parents know that you are no longer being responsible for them and keeping them safe?

In addition to this it is really important to keep an accurate list of people in the building in case there should be an emergency situation, such as a fire. If you call out the Fire Service and you can't demonstrate that there is definitely still someone in the building they may not go in and look for them. Keeping an accurate record solves this problem.

A final point is that if you are insured through BJK then it is a requirement that you keep accurate membership records. This means you should know who has attended and when they left. If an incident occurs during a session and you haven't done this your insurance may not cover you.

Contact your insurer for more information on your cover or contact YCHLOW for more information on signing out and record keeping in general.

Should Young People Pay to Come in?

This is a question that really doesn't have a simple answer except that it is really up to you and your colleagues to make this decision based on your own particular situation. For some clubs the fee young people pay to come in is their only source of income and therefore a very important funding stream. For other clubs young people's subs are just a small drop in a much larger pool of funding.

So, you need to consider whether subs are important in terms of funding and whether you'll be sustainable without them. You should also think about the young people you work with, what access they have to money to actually pay the subs and how your charges compare to other local activities.

A useful way to put your subs into perspective is to compare you charges to the cost of each parent having to pay a babysitter to look after their child for the same period of time. When you look at it like that, whether you charge 20p or £2 you're still providing a great service that really is value for money!



OUR NEW WEBSITE

Don't forget to check out our new website: www.ychiow.org.uk

BE HEALTHY - AN OUTCOME FROM EVERY CHILD MATTERS

The health of our young people is a cause for concern and nowhere is the debate around this subject more fiercely fought than in our youth clubs. Two areas come to mind straight away. The first; to sell young people "penny sweets" high in sugar and E numbers and watch their behaviour become uncontrollable or provide them with healthy snacks? A no brainer I would have thought.

But the argument seems to be they won't eat the healthy options. The short answer is that if they don't have any other option they will eat what is on offer. Why, I've even seen young people eating fruit and raw vegetables.

"We won't sell as much" is another argument; is this really a problem? Tuck shops take up staff time so if you are not selling so much this will free up some staff time. Maybe this member of staff could be used to run an activity with the young people.

"The young people would not turn up if sweets were not on offer". If sweets are the most interesting thing on offer in the youth club it begs some serious questions. Whichever way you look at it loading young people up on sugars late at night is damaging their health.

"It's noisy in here tonight" I shout to a member of staff, "What?" they shout back. And I repeat the question twice more and listen for the shouted reply. There are healthy levels of noise and there are damaging levels of noise. Gradually we become used to loud noise and end up taking it as normal. It's not until we start to lose hearing that we are aware that damage has been done.



I believe that if you have to raise your voice to make yourself heard then the noise level is too high. Again and again I hear (almost) that "they are always this loud and anyway what can we do about it?" Ask the young people to be quieter, explain why, refuse to talk in a loud voice, introduce quiet time activities, have a quiet room if you are lucky to have multiple spaces, turn the music down, turn the music off, stop the club and explain the noise has got too loud, buy a decibel meter and get young people to research safe noise levels and then get them to take some readings during the session (a bit of health ed). Remember you are setting an example to young people about what is acceptable and safe.

If you want to talk about any of the issues raised in this article give us a call on 01962 852307.

MOMENTUM MANAGER VACANCY

We are currently looking for a new Momentum Manager to work 17.5 hours per week to coordinate the delivery of First Gear and On Two Wheels. Could this be you?

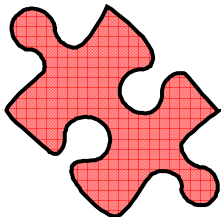
Download an information pack from our website www.ychiow.org.uk to find out more or give us a call for an informal chat on 01962 852307.

• Training • Training • Training • Training • Training •

Why do training? We always ask training participants to let us know what they've got out of taking part in the training. So if you're thinking of doing some training but aren't sure if it's right for you, here are a few of the things recent participants told us:

*I feel much more confident now
It gave us a chance to think about things as a team
I'll know what to do before a problem actually crops up
I learnt a lot but also realised I already knew quite a lot too!*

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.

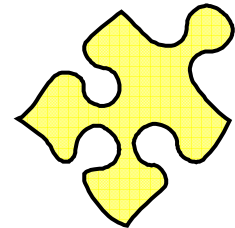


Risk Assessment

Saturday 21st March 09, 10am-4pm

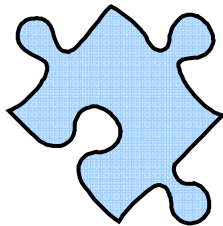
First Aid

Saturday 13th December 08, 9:30am-4:30pm
Saturday 16th May 09, 9:30am-4:30pm



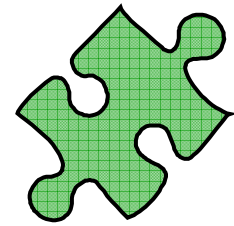
Child Protection (Safeguarding)

Saturday 17th January 09, 10am-4pm
Saturday 25th April 09, 10am-4pm



Dealing with Challenging Behaviour

Saturday 28th February 09, 10am-4pm
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 of 4 units each of 2 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.

OTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

If you work with young people in Southampton then you might be eligible to take part in a wide range of training opportunities offered by Southampton Voluntary Services visit their website at www.southamptonvs.org.uk/training to find out more.

Many other Councils for Voluntary Services (CVSs) also offer training opportunities, to find out where your nearest CVS is log on to www.farehamaction.org.uk/hiwcvsnetwork.