

Kent Youth matters

Broadstairs club celebrate funding success



Steven Ladyman MP for South Thanet with members of The Zone Youth Club celebrating the "Awards for All" grant

Both club members and volunteers were in high spirits at The Zone Youth Club, based at St Andrew's Church in Broadstairs, on Friday 15th May when their theme for the evening was "celebration and fun". Everyone was there to celebrate the award of an "Awards for All"

grant from The Big Lottery. MP for South Thanet, Steven Ladyman, joined in the fun and some of the activities during his visit to the club.

The young people were also able to take part in a Graffiti Art

workshop during the evening and learn how to make healthy smoothies in addition to all their normal activities. Read more about how the club secured the grant and what they hope to do with it over the coming months on the next page.

WELCOME – from Eve Johnson, Director Kent Youth

This new look Kent Youth Matters is my first since taking on the role of Director in February. It is also the first for our new Funding Manager, Carol Wynn who joined us in April. Time seems to have flown by for both of us, but perhaps that is a good measure of the amount of work that goes on both from our offices in Gillingham and all around the county through the many clubs, activities and programmes that come under our umbrella. I am full of admiration for the many hours of hard work and commitment that are contributed by both staff and volunteers alike to ensure that young people throughout the county have safe places to go and positive activities to participate in. Our young people are an amazing resource for the future and we feel very proud of the part we all play in helping them to achieve their true potential. So a huge thank you needs to go to everyone involved. I hope to meet many of you during the coming months, but meanwhile, if you have any comments about this newsletter, what you'd like to see in future issues etc, please do not hesitate to let us know – kymatters@kent youth.org

This year our annual golf day will be held at the magnificent Broome Park Golf Club, near Canterbury on Wednesday 16th September, teeing off at 1p.m. The day will include:

- ▶ 18 holes of stableford golf in teams of four
- ▶ Team and Individual competitions
- ▶ Presentation dinner

This is a great opportunity for you to get involved as well as a chance to enjoy a challenging round of golf with friends, colleagues or clients. There are also opportunities for you to advertise your company. For further details email golf@kent youth.org



Future events

25 June - Kent Youth Awards at Maidstone Grammar School ▶ 5 September - Really Wild Challenge at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park
16 September - Charity Golf Day at Broome Park Golf Club ▶ 5 December - Carol Service at All Saints Church, Maidstone
15 May 2010 - Lieutenantcy Focus on Youth Event, Detling Showground

Club Matters

Our cover story club, The Zone at St Andrew's Church, Broadstairs really had a great deal to celebrate on 15th May. Earlier this year, the club was on the brink of closing. Funds were tight and much of their equipment needed replacing after four really busy years. Membership was also on the decline. After a number of unsuccessful grant applications, youth leader Victoria Suchak was down but certainly not out. She talked to the members and volunteer helpers about what they wanted to achieve through the club and also checked out other local clubs and facilities. The Zone has a solid core of supporters and volunteer helpers who all agreed that they needed to keep the club active and exciting and be able to offer activities that wouldn't normally be accessible by the young members.

After a meeting with Kent Youth, Victoria decided to go for an "Awards for All" (A4A) grant. The application was project based on five themes around their aims and objectives – art, sport, music, food and media. The bid included a wish list of equipment and resources and covered staff training, sessional worker expenses and outside agency costs.

The approach worked and, because the A4A process is simple and quick, the result was known and the money (£9556) received within 10 weeks. The club then set about buying all the new equipment and resources and also, importantly, conducting a recruitment campaign for new members. The rest is history as they say! The club now has 50% more members and runs two sessions on a Friday evening.

Some of the money was spent bringing in Street Art Studio for a graffiti workshop for the celebration evening and some new musical instruments had been purchased enabling the club's band to reform and perform on the night – they have yet to choose a name. Victoria says, "The grant has given the club a real boost . We have a great team of helpers here whose skills complement the resources we have available. We have something for everyone!"

Good luck to everyone at the Zone and thank you for sharing your success. If any other clubs have a story, successful or otherwise they'd like to tell, please get in touch – kym@kent youth.org



Activities

The new Activities Programme is also out and this year we are offering a wide range of activities that can take place within individual clubs including drugs and alcohol awareness, careers advice, circus skills, craft, sports and Internet safety. The external programme is as varied as ever and includes theme park and theatre trips, jousting at Leeds Castle, bowling, skating and football and boxing competitions.

For more information, please go to our website or contact michele@kent youth.org

Training

Earlier this month we launched the new programme of Step by Step training. Three new courses were added – Sexual Health, Sports Activity Programmes and the Sports Leaders UK Day Certificate in Sports Leadership. We also hope to add more new titles to the programme later in the year. Early booking is recommended as many of the courses are oversubscribed.

Details on all the training available are posted on our website or you can request a copy of the booklet. For this and any other queries or bookings, please contact Angela Mason on 01634 281841 or email angela@kent youth.org

Young people from across Kent visit The Stadium of Dreams

Young People aged 16-25 from Kent Youth's Active Youth project recently enjoyed an all expenses paid visit to Wembley Stadium as a reward for completing their Sports Leaders UK Level 2 award in Community Sports Leadership. The trip to the Stadium of Legends saw the newly qualified Community Sports Leaders stride through the tunnel onto the hallowed turf, following in the footsteps of legends such as Bobby Moore and David Beckham.

These young people have all completed their award as part of Kent Youth's Active Youth programme, currently funded by the charity "v". As



part of the award, the Community Sports Leaders have delivered a range of sporting activities to many of the Kent Youth affiliated youth groups across the county. They have delivered a minimum of 30 hours volunteering, passing on their sporting and leadership skills to young people across the

county. Nicola McCormack, the Active Youth co-ordinator says " these young people have consistently showed dedication and commitment to providing sporting activities to a number of our youth groups across Kent, so it has been nice to reward them with such a memorable trip". The programme is designed to give young people new skills and encourage them to become volunteers within their own communities as well as giving them the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification. Other successful participants have elected to complete an FA football coaching course as their reward, further enhancing their skills and showing a real commitment to volunteering.

For more details on the Active Youth programme, please contact nicola@kent youth.org



Movers & Shapers

Working in partnership with Maidstone Young Families, the Movers and Shapers Project is part of a national pilot supported by UK Youth. Ten young people aged 16 to 19 will be consulting with over 300 young people about health services that they have used. The participants will then feed their findings back to the health service providers and work with them to improve services for young people. The group consists of ten young mothers who would like to research about midwife services, health visitors and sexual health services in general. Whilst taking part in this pilot, the young mums are also completing the BTEC in peer education. In a recent session, three of the group met with Jonathan Shaw MP and engaged in a frank and honest discussion on how they thought teenage pregnancy could be reduced. alison@kent youth.org



Kent Youth fundraising

**Kent Youth teams up with
The Aspinall Foundation
for the**

TOTALLY WILD CHALLENGE 2009

Why not challenge yourself to a fun run or bike ride or maybe even both and raise money for Kent Youth? We need funds to carry out our work supporting youth groups, clubs, activities and face to face work with young people throughout Kent and what better way to do it than having fun! The event is on



Saturday 5th
September and starts
and finishes
at Port
Lympne
Wild
Animal
Park. All
the family
can join in
for a great
day out and
you will be
able to
explore the
park once you
have finished.

There is a small
entry fee and then we
would ask that you raise funds
through sponsorship for Kent Youth.
More details are on the enclosed
leaflet and entry form or you can call
Carol Wynn on 01634 282841 or
email fundraising@kent youth.org

Fundraising

As an independent charity working with young people throughout Kent, we are very reliant on generous support from the public to help us deliver all the services and programmes that we have on offer. Our current costs are around £375,000 per year and although we get some grants from statutory bodies and trusts for specific work, we still need significant sums to go towards our support for clubs and core costs as well as some of the face to face work. The current financial climate is bringing challenges for everyone but charities like Kent Youth may face the prospect of having to close or restrict services if we don't keep up the momentum of fundraising. Having said that, we do appreciate that times are tough too for many of our supporters.

There are many ways in which you might be able to help:

Events: These represent real value for money. We have kept the cost of entering the Golf at the same level as 2008 and there are sponsorship opportunities to suit all budgets – it really is a great opportunity to entertain clients and network with other businesses. "Really Wild" is a fun day out with all the family.

Companies: Payroll Giving, Staff Volunteering, Charity of the Year or Sponsorship are just a few of the ways that companies can support the charity and gain corporate hospitality opportunities, PR and advertising and new skills for employees.

Donations: Whether a one off donation or giving regularly through your bank account or company payroll, we can ensure that you give tax efficiently.

Sponsorship: There are a number of opportunities to sponsor the some of our running costs - events, this newsletter or the Annual review or the materials and resources for some of our face to face work.

If you feel you would like to explore ways of working with us, then please do get in touch with Carol Wynn, our new Funding Manager – carol@kent youth.org.uk

How you can help Kent Youth

Please tell us how you would like to make a difference.

Name:

Address:

..... Postcode:

Email: Tel No:

I/we would like to:

Donate To make a one-off donation – cheque enclosed for £

Donate Regularly Please send me a standing order form.

Corporate Support – please send details of how my company can help.

Volunteer I/we can give our time. Please send details about volunteering.

Take part Please send details about your fundraising events.

If you would like to find out more about supporting Kent Youth
please contact fundraising@kent youth.org or phone Carol Wynn on 01634 281841