



# **Worcestershire Council for Voluntary Youth Services**

## **NEWSLETTER MAY 2006**

***Young People To Have Their Say***

### **WORCESTERSHIRE'S CHILDREN'S PLAN INCLUDING PRIORITIES FOR CHANGE**

**For every child and young  
person, every agency, one plan**

**LAUNCH 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY**

**Then open for consultation by:**

- Children
- Young People
- Adults

**Consultation runs until July**

**Plan and action plans will be published  
in September**

**WCVYS will circulate the plan as soon  
as it is published**

***Young people, adults and groups have  
your say!***

### **YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES FUND AND YOUTH CAPITAL FUND**

**Two Year's Funding  
Over £500,000 for  
Worcestershire**

- To give a voice and influence to young people, particularly disadvantaged young people
- Improve things to do and places to go in line with what young people want in their neighbourhood
- Increase the well-being of young people by contributing to the achievement of the Every Child Matters outcomes
- Change the way activities and facilities are provided for young people, especially in deprived neighbourhoods
- Provide opportunities for young people to develop their confidence, knowledge and skills

## **WCVYS Update**

### **• Grants**

On 24<sup>th</sup> April these grants were approved:

#### **Equipment Grants**

1<sup>st</sup> Welland Girlguiding – up to £200 for 2 tents  
Worcester Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs - up to £500 for a camcorder and TV/DVD

Wythall YFC – up to £104 for Kwik Cricket and stopwatches

Worcester Action for Youth – up to £200 for a digital camera

#### **Minibus Training/Assessments**

Redditch Guides – 80% costs for two people  
Kidderminster Rangers – 80% cost for one person

#### **Training**

Harvington Youth Project – bursary for JNC Course, 80% of fees up to £940

Hereford and Worcester Scouts – quarterly return at 80% and 20% - £688

Worcestershire Girlguiding – quarterly return at 80% and 20% - £795

#### **New Initiatives**

Medway Road Youth Club – support for a new session for boys only - £2,234

Splat Youth Group – support to attend Greenbelt Music Arts Fest - £672

Harvington Youth Project – support for a new session for a discussion group - £750

#### **Grants 2006 / 07**

WCVYS has been told by the County Council that grant funding similar to 2005 / 06 will be made. It has been asked that the grants should be made in line with the priorities for change identified in the Children's Plan. Work is in hand on this. It is hoped to circulate details of the grants criteria with the next newsletter.

WCVYS has also received £194 from an Easter Egg raffle at the Granary Hotel and Restaurant in Kidderminster. Many thanks to them for their generosity. It will be used to support work with children. More information next month.

### **• CRBs & Summer Projects**

Are you appointing workers for your summer activities or to start work in the autumn? The Criminal Records Bureau recommends that Disclosure applications should be submitted as soon as possible to avoid possible delays. WCVYS provides a CRB Disclosure service for voluntary and community groups working with children and young people. For more information contact the WCVYS office.

#### **Youth Opportunities Fund**

It's not too late for young people to get involved. There are two dates for assessor training for young people.

Wed 31<sup>st</sup> May Bromsgrove 2.00 – 5.00pm

Thur 1<sup>st</sup> June Worcester 2.00 – 5.00pm

Contact Joe Green on 01905 827489 if you are interested.

## **Round the County**

### **Children's Fund – 3 Year's On**

An entertaining and stimulating morning was enjoyed by over 100 people on Thursday 30 March when a celebration event was held to commemorate three years of the Children's Fund.

The Children's Fund has been recognised as a great success. Many new and innovative projects have made a difference to children across the county. Some of these projects have been 'mainstreamed', others have come to an end.

An evaluation by Mark Farmer from the University of Worcester commented on the involvement of the voluntary sector. 'Establishing and maintaining positive engagement between voluntary and statutory partners is a significant challenge, The apparent success of the Fund in this area could provide a significant legacy if similar engagement methods are adopted more widely.'

A key area of work developed by the Children's Fund has been the involvement of children in advising on the all the many applications for funding made over the last two years. Dave did a lot of travelling earlier this year to consult with a wide range of groups on the bids for the new funding round. These new projects are just starting.

It is hoped that the legacy of the Children's Fund will be a new way of thinking about how integrated services can be planned and delivered for the benefit of the children of Worcestershire.

### **Training Provider Consortium**

Does your organisation provide training? If it does you may be interested in a development to create a voluntary sector training provider consortium for the joint delivery of learning and development services by the voluntary and community sector.

The development is at an early stage. The Learning and Skills Council has provided funding for the set up of the Consortium but has made no further promises. Proposals include the mapping of voluntary sector training provision across Worcestershire and Herefordshire.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

Contact Cathy if you would like more information.

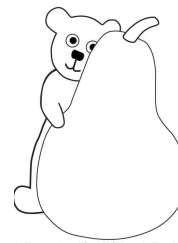
### **Worcestershire Compact**

A new stage in the Compact development will take place on 7 June. The Compact is an agreement stating how the voluntary, community and statutory sectors will work together for mutual advantage and the benefit of the community. The Compact will be signed and launched on 7 June.

Following this event work will continue developing service particular protocols detailing expectations.

Copies of the Compact can be obtained from Jenny Murray or Julie Bishop on 01905 763763.

A Volunteering Strategy for Worcestershire will be launched on the same date.



Worcestershire Children's Fund

### **Worcestershire Safeguarding Board**

The recent meeting of the Safeguarding Board has agreed, after a request from WCVYS, that there should be a voluntary sector representative on the board.

Discussions are taking place about which might be the most appropriate organisation to field the representative.

### **Enclosures**

Included with this mailing are:

Training Bulletin No 30

Little Directory

CAFOD Youth Topics No 38 Express Yourself

### **Programme Ideas**

#### **Blackwell Adventure**

A new 250m Zip Wire (the longest in the Midlands) is one of the new attractions at Blackwell Adventure (previously Blackwell Court Scout Camp).

A range of activities are available for a single session, a day or a residential. Facilities on offer include an indoor climbing wall, mountain-biking and the heated swimming pool.

There are advantageous rates for voluntary youth and children's groups.

For more information phone 0121 445 1285.

#### **Ten Pin Bowling**

Always a popular outing and an activity where everyone can have a go.

Bowlxtreme is situated at Perdiswell on the outskirts of Worcester. Prices vary from £2.75 for juniors before 6.00pm Monday to Fridays to £4.50 for adults (over 16) on Fridays and Saturdays after 6.00pm.

For more information phone 01905 757475 or visit [www.bowlxtreme.co.uk](http://www.bowlxtreme.co.uk)

#### **BELA**

##### **(Basic Expedition Leader's Award)**

A locally-based course is planned for the autumn.

23 – 24 September at Upton Warren

13 – 15 October at Blackwell Court

18 – 19 November at Upton Warren

1 – 3 December at Brown Clee Hill

The cost of the course is £190. There is a £50 bursary for up to 10 students who are under 25.

Contact Jules Isaacs Garfield on 01905 771386 for more information.

#### **Malvern Theatres**

'Stan Won't Dance' are Sinner performances which will take place on Thursday 15th and Friday 16th June.

Emma-Jane Benning has just returned to Malvern Theatres as Education Manager. She says that this show is really good for young people. There is a special offer of two tickets for the price of one for these shows.

Malvern Theatres also offer subsidised workshops that are available to youth groups as well as schools.

For more information contact Emma-Jane on 01684 580943

or email [education@malvern-theatres.co.uk](mailto:education@malvern-theatres.co.uk)

### **Giant Sleepover**

The third annual BT Giant Sleepover is here and will be held over the weekend of 17 and 18 of June. Raising money for Childline, the sleepover will also try to break the Guinness World Record of largest sleepover which they gained in 2005. There will also be a simultaneous teeth brushing challenge. The organisers will send you all the information needed and a **free treasure chest** of goodies for the children. Last year 31,000 children and young people, sleeping over in the UK and around the world, became Guinness World Record breakers with a certificate to prove it! This year they want to **smash** the record. Sign up now at [www.giantsleepover.com](http://www.giantsleepover.com). Or call 0870 240 1640.

### **Education Maintenance Allowance**

EMA is the weekly payment of £10, £20 or £30 a week depending on the household income. The money is intended to help with the day to day costs such as travel, books and equipment when a young person stays on at school, college or with a training provider.

It is paid directly into the young person's bank account if they stay on in learning at school or college after your GCSEs. It is available during term time for any academic or vocational course (up to level 3) which involves at least 12 hours of guided learning per week.

There are also bonuses of £100 depending on progress.

So, not only could they get more cash in their pockets right now, and also go on to earn a brighter future with better job prospects when they finish their studies.

From April 2006, EMA is being extended to those young people on an LSC-funded E2E course or taking a learning programme that leads to an apprenticeship.

The household income must be less than £30,810 per year.

For information call free on 080 810 16219 or visit [www.dfes.gov.uk/financialhelp/ema](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/financialhelp/ema)

### **Useful Websites**

#### **RUCKUS**

RUCKUS is the new on-line magazine for young people from the National Youth Agency.

The magazine is available to down-load free. (It is a PDF document so be patient.)

As well as being available to read the magazine is also seeking contributions from young people.

Visit [www.nya.org.uk](http://www.nya.org.uk)

#### **Know Your Rights**

The Shelter campaign 'Know Your Rights' aims to raise awareness of their new website which provides information for young people on their housing rights. It is targeted at 16 to 25 year olds and offers in-depth practical and legal advice on the full range of housing problems. There is an email service which provides advice for young people facing homelessness.

Visit [www.shelter.org.uk/knowyourrights](http://www.shelter.org.uk/knowyourrights)

### **Funding Opportunities**

#### **Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards Scheme**

The scheme offers one-off donations of between £1,500 and £5,000 to voluntary and community groups in areas where Tesco has stores. [www.tescocorporate.com/charitiesandfundraising.htm](http://www.tescocorporate.com/charitiesandfundraising.htm)

**The Russell Commission charity** has launched a free programme of capacity-building activities to help organisations work effectively with young volunteers. The programme, which will be available across all nine regions of England between mid-April and early June, includes training and support on designing and developing volunteering programmes, making consortia work, media and communications, accreditation and working effectively with business. It has been divided into three levels, according to participants' expertise and experience in youth volunteering. Places will be offered on a first come first served basis. Book online at [www.russellcommission.org/capacity-building-events](http://www.russellcommission.org/capacity-building-events)

#### **The People's Millions**

What could you do with £50,000? Last year the Big Lottery Fund teamed up with ITV to make 53 awards to projects around the UK. ITV voted for projects including children's play areas.

The Lottery wants to fund projects that make your community a better place to live by improving its environment. This means buildings, amenities, green spaces and the natural environment.

The purpose is:

- To get more people involved in your local community
- To help people in your community who are most in need

Entry packs can be obtained from 0845 010 1112

The deadline for entries is 5.00pm. on 18th May.

#### **Hear By Right**

This is a standards framework for organisations to assess and improve policy and practice on the active involvement of children and young people. It was developed by the National Youth Agency and is becoming increasingly used by councils and the voluntary and community sector.

Worcestershire County Council has signed up for Hear By Right.

Increasingly funders are requiring applicants to demonstrate that they engage children and young people in decisions that affect them. Hear By Right is a very good way of proving this as organisations have to provide evidence under seven headings.

Hear By Right will enable you to record what you are already doing to actively involve young people whether it be by involving children and young people in recruiting staff, deciding on programme, budgeting for residential etc.

Go to [www.nya.org.uk/hearbyright](http://www.nya.org.uk/hearbyright) to see how others have used Hear By Right.

Contact Cathy or Dave if you would like to know how your group can sign up.

### **Young Partners Award 2006**

The Young Partners Award is a celebration of youth participation within the voluntary sector. It aims to inspire others by publicly highlighting the creative and dynamic ways in which young people have become actively involved in the running of voluntary organisations.

Youth participation means many things to different people. The Young Partners Award is all about working in partnership with young people to ensure that their knowledge and expertise, their skills and creativity and their roles as active citizens are at the centre of an organisation's work.

Originally launched in 2001, the Young Partners Award recognises that young people are the experts about what ingredients are essential for them to engage with the decision-making processes of an organisation.

The Young Partners Award is unique because of panels of young people come together to plan, manage and judge the Award.

This year's Award will be no exception. NCVYS is now looking for young people aged 11 to 25 who have a good understanding, interest and enthusiasm for the issues around youth participation to be on the management and judging panel. The Award ceremony will be in autumn 2006.

Experience is not necessary and applications will be welcomed from young people who have not done anything like this before.

For more information email [steven@ncvys.org.uk](mailto:steven@ncvys.org.uk)

#### **Positive Images of Young People**

In Parliament Edward Milliband welcomed the Positive Images campaign being led Young People Now magazine to improve the media coverage of young people.

Research carried out by Mori showed that 57% of press articles about young people are negative, an improvement of 14%. He called on the media to celebrate the achievements of young people.

#### **Dates for your Diary**



##### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am**

Malvern Network Meeting at Malvern Sea Cadets for voluntary organisations in Malvern working with children and young people.

##### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 7.00pm**

Redditch Network meeting at DOW, Park House for voluntary organisations in the town working with children and young people.

##### **Thursday 15 June 1.00pm.**

Worcester Network Meeting at Perdiswell YPLC for voluntary organisations in Worcester working with children and young people.

##### **Thursday 29 June 1.00pm**

Wyre Forest Network Meeting at Kidderminster Youth House for voluntary organisations in Wyre Forest working with children and young people.