

## Integrated Youth Service - Youth Work Team

### Report to South West Wiltshire Community Area Board - 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013

The past few months have seen a number of new young people making contact with staff through opportunities offered by the IYS in South West Wiltshire as well as others continuing to develop skills and make a positive contribution. A partnership between Zeals Youth Trust, local volunteers and staff from Mere DC4YP has enabled the reopening of the youth club in Zeals which we anticipate will grow and develop over the coming months. This has also helped to establish relationships between young people in Zeals and IYS staff and some members are now accessing other opportunities. Five young people from the South West Wiltshire area took part in a Peer leadership residential in January and now are carrying out peer leader roles in local clubs to complete their ASDAN Leadership Award.

Regrettably Sophie Fergusson the Lead Assistant Youth Worker for the Wilton community area left her post at the end of December. Before leaving however, she had implemented a number of positive projects and activities leading to some great outcomes for young people. Sessions at Wilton DC4YP continue to run with transport provided from some of the rural communities on a Monday evening. Interviews for a replacement Lead AYDW took place on Monday and we hope that the successful candidate will be in post in early March.

Leisure Credits continues to develop as an initiative across the community area and work restoring the footpath around Long Hill has continued (when the weather has not been too grim) as well work in Semley, Bishopstone and Tisbury. The MTCV group are currently building raised flower beds for Nadder Close as well as also working on a footpath in Fonthill. A group are also hoping to set up a website for the new charity Seeds4Success to promote the positive work of young people and assist with fundraising efforts to support the longer term sustainability of Leisure Credits.

The Youth Advisory Group (YAG) met for a second time in January and whilst disappointingly there were no members from voluntary youth organisations or community groups present this time, the meeting was very positive with the group identifying some priorities and making some decisions around how the meetings should run in the future. The group identified they would like to organise and run a community event to build stronger relationships between older and young people in the South West Wiltshire Area. The next meeting will take place at Nadder Hall, Tisbury on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 6 - 7:30pm (before the next area board meeting) and if anyone would like to come along and get involved they would be most welcome. For more information about the YAG please contact myself, Steve Harris or Bridget Wayman.

Community Area Young People's Issues Groups (CAYPIG's) are continuing to meet and will feed into the YAG. They will support young people to get involved in more local projects such as skate parks and campus development.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Jaki Farrell

Youth Development Co-ordinator Mere & Tisbury (Locality Team Leader)