

Integrated Youth Service – Youth Work Team

Report to South West Wiltshire Community Area Board – 17th July 2013

The past couple of months have seen young people continue to engage positively in a variety of opportunities through open access sessions at the Development Centres for Young People in Mere, Tisbury and Wilton. Through participating in these sessions a broad range of young people have built relationships with youth workers as well as sought information, advice or support with things such as CV writing and job applications, relationships and sexual health, education and training as well as engaging in activities such as sports, crafts, woodwork, mechanics and cooking. These young people have also had access to a variety of additional developmental opportunities such as Leisure Credits, Voice and Influence work and the National Citizen Service.

The graffiti project that received funding from the Area Board's youth fund went ahead in June and there were over 16 young people involved in either coming up with designs, painting the back ground or spraying the designs on the wall. The group really enjoyed the project and those using the spray paints learnt the various techniques needed to create effective lines and pictures.

The South West Wiltshire Youth Advisory Group (SWWYAG) held their first event, a community quiz, at Tisbury's Nadder Hall on June 29th. Over 60 people from a variety of communities and age groups attended the event. There was an opportunity for networking and finding out about different groups across the area before the quiz as well as a BBQ (the first item was free) and a raffle. The young people wrote to local businesses asking for donations for the raffle and they received a number of good prizes. The event raised £157.99 and the feedback indicated that people would be interested in taking part in a future community event.

In partnership with the newly formed charity Seeds4Success, Leisure Credits has continued to run weekend sessions across the 3 community areas and there will be additional days running throughout the summer holidays. There will be reward opportunities during this period too. In addition to practical work sessions 12 young people involved in Leisure Credits and NCS have recently gained a first aid qualification.

The members of the National Citizen Service (NCS) team for South West Wiltshire have begun working together and there have been a couple of team building sessions over the past few weeks. These 15 young people, aged 16 or 17, will be engaged in two 5 day residential experiences, one away from the area doing various outdoor, team building activities and one at the Ancient Technology Centre in Cranborne completing training courses and developing skills. The team will then focus on planning and delivering a social action project that will benefit the local community. This project is being run in partnership with Youth Action Wiltshire who are delivering 2 teams in other parts of the county. There will be a graduation event for all 3 teams at Oxenwood Outdoor Education Centre on 30th August 1:30pm – 3:30pm for those who would like to see what they have been up to and to celebrate their achievements.

The next 6 or 7 weeks will be full of lots of positive activities for young people and we thank you for your support which continues to enable this to happen.

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