



networks

The Journal for Youth & Children Workers in Lothian

CONTENTS

Snippets

Youth Scotland AGM

LAYC News

LAYC AGM

Projects

Greater Pilton
Summer Programme
2005

Healthy Respect

Healthy Respect
introduces its latest
campaign!

Edinburgh Leisure

Open all Autumn

Training

Tune in to LAYC's
Programme

EYSIP

Young Persons Service
Forum

Snippets

Edinburgh Youth get
their Say

EDINBURGH'S PLAYDAY EVENT

Playday is the biggest national celebration
of play in the UK, and falls on the first
Wednesday in August each year

Page 12



Volunteer Fair

The Volunteer
Centre Edinburgh is
hosting Scotland's
Volunteer
Recruitment Fair.

Page 2

Liberty X

Edinburgh's Go4It and
Play4It summer activity
programmes ended on
a high this year with a
special concert.

Page 4

New Department

Children's and Families
Department has taken a
further major step
forward with the new
structures in place.

Pages 6 & 7

Your Place - Your Say

Young people in Edinburgh
are telling the city's
Landlords what they want
and need most from Social
Housing

Page 11

snippets . . . snippets . . . snippets . . .

Youth Scotland AGM

Our national organisation is hosting their AGM at The Adventure Centre, Ratho on Saturday 1st October, starting at 3.00pm.

In addition to the usual business, a young musicians project Cozy Blanket Youth Music Project from Bo'ness will be making a presentation. The project seeks to develop musicianship and provide training in aspects of technical support such as recording, stage lighting and sound engineering.

More details about the AGM can be obtained by contacting Youth Scotland on 0131 554 2561.

National Training Conference

Youth Scotland's highly successful national conference 'Practical Problems - Sensible Solutions' will be held over the weekend 5/6 November 2005 at the Hilton Hotel at Edinburgh Airport.

With an extensive series of 14 workshops covering a range of key and topical issues, youth workers have ample choice to select from. Workshops include arts based ones with drumming and dance; health related topics such as healthy eating and mental health and issue based topics such as participation, challenging behaviour and drugs/ alcohol.

Application forms have already been sent directly by Youth Scotland to member groups. If you require any further information please contact Angela Mitchell at Youth Scotland on 0131 554 2561.

Arts Workshop for After School Clubs

LAYC has been approached by Julie Lacombe, a freelance children's illustrator who is interested in running workshops with small groups of children as part of an after school provision. This could be a one-off or as a series.

The workshops would look to encourage children to develop their drawing skills and create interesting characters using a range of different techniques and materials. She would also be available to run more general art and craft workshops.

If you are interested in discussing what's possible and the costs involved please contact her directly on 0131 229 1174.

Volunteer Fair

The Volunteer Centre Edinburgh is hosting Scotland's Volunteer Recruitment Fair on Thursday 6th October at the Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh.

With some 100 voluntary organisations having stalls at the event it's a real opportunity for those thinking about undertaking voluntary work to see what's on offer.

For further information contact either Paul Wilson or Jill Smith at the Volunteer Centre Edinburgh on -0131 225 0630.



National Youth Conference

Youthlink Scotland National Conference is being held on Thursday 27th October at the Caird Hall, Dundee. Entitled 'Engaging Young People: Promoting Positive Practice' the conference will be exploring a series of related themes from how youth work can compliment formal education to the latest research into consulting with young people.

Minister for Education, Peter Peacock will also address the conference. A complimentary series of 17 workshops will follow on from the key presentations.

A conference booking form is available online at www.youthlink.co.uk or for further information contact Susan Symington on 0131 313 2488.

National Children's Awards 2005

'It's all about kids' is a new awards scheme to celebrate the achievements of Scotland's children and young people (4-18). Supported by Kids Club Direct and Scottish Power.

Learning it has 4 categories - Making a Difference; Building Community Spirit; Learning through Involvement; and Reaching for the Stars. It also has an adult award to recognise the work of those who have made a real difference to the lives of children and young people.

Nominations close on Friday 14th October and for more information contact The Children and Young People's Awards 2005 on 01355 222297 or by e-mail to Christine@kidsclubsdirect.com You can also visit their website on www.kidsclubsdirect.com

Working with children and young people?

Need some ideas and materials for arts and crafts activities? Then come along to Bits and Bobs - a unique community Arts Resource, which supplies a wide range of scrap and art materials at low prices. We also run regular 'scrap art' workshops led by community artists and produce instruction guides to promote reuse of materials.

Bits and Bobs collect safe, clean and unwanted resources from commercial businesses, voluntary groups and individuals, which would normally be sent to landfill sites, which are sorted and displayed in a warehouse ready for play and art activities. The warehouse is an Aladdin's Cave of treasures for play leaders, teachers, childminders, art and education students or anyone planning an event.

The type of scrap which we usually have in our warehouse is paper, card, fabric, sticky-back plastic, cork, picture frames, tiles, paint, ribbons and wool.

Please ring 0131 4439490 or 4752425, to speak to someone from Bits and Bobs or email : bitsandbobs@intowork.org.uk

Unit 15, New Lairdship Yards, Broomhouse Road, Edinburgh EH11 3UY

Annual Membership fees

Individual/Family - £10

Small Group (up to 100 members)-£15

Large Group (over 100 members)-£30

Supporting Member - £50'

Opening Times: Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday from 10am-5pm.

NEW AFFILIATION FEES FOR 2006 DUE SOON

LAYC members are reminded that their fees for the new 2005/06 affiliation year are due when your membership expires on 31st October!! And when your membership expires that means you are no longer covered for insurance.

A separate affiliation mailing will be sent to the contact address LAYC has for your club. Please make sure that this is completed and sent in (with the appropriate fee) as soon as possible. Last year clubs getting their forms in promptly were entered into a draw with a £200 cash prize - we are hoping that insurance brokers McDonald Reid Scott are feeling similarly generous this year.

Cost wise (touching all sorts of wooden items with fingers and toes crossed), it looks like this year will not produce the massive rises in insurance costs that have happened over the past two or three years. However negotiations with brokers and insurers are ongoing at the time of going to print to make sure that what your club gets is reasonably priced and well supported. This includes having a friendly and accessible telephone helpline for clubs to get all their insurance questions answered, arrange additional insurances for special purposes, etc.

Get your affiliation renewed as soon as you get the forms - you know it makes sense.

A Tale of Two years



Ian Boardman has recently returned to LAYC after a two year secondment as PA to Cllr Ewan Aitken, Executive Member for Children and Families, City of Edinburgh Council. Here he reflects on what the experience has meant to him.

I remember being asked at the interview what I saw as being some of the key issues for education over the next few years. Having studied TES and Newsnight Scotland for weeks prior, I rattled off references to attainment, Higher Stills, McCrone, PPP, job sizing, etc in the hope that this was vaguely in the right territory.

It couldn't have been way off as later the following day I got the offer of the post. However, what I hadn't done was to ask the panel what they foresaw as the critical issues that the department would be facing. A fatal mistake! Some weeks later they were beginning to be clear - review of catchment areas, school amalgamations, a second phase of PPP and latterly the creation of a new Children & Families Department, all alongside the day to day issues and crises that erupt around the Executive Member. It was a baptism of fire.

For the past two years challenge and change has been the mantra for the department and its political leadership. The challenge to improve the quality of education and support for all its students and their families and to put in place the necessary changes to make that work.

But that is never a comfortable route either with the public, local communities, staff or politicians. Years of public disquiet and scepticism about politics, combined with degrees of public self interest and natural resistance to change produces a fiery cocktail. And more often than not these were lobbed at regular intervals at Cllr Aitken.

Being at that interface gives you a unique insight into that process of change and a fair degree of sympathy all round.

Because you see up close the pressures that face political administrations and senior officers in making critical long term decisions, often under significant external pressures, that appear to the public to disregard their concerns. Concerns that are genuine and often heart felt.

I saw Cllr Aitken face many a difficult meeting as he sought to balance those public concerns with the need to change. These were never easy, but often the force of his arguments, approach and commitment proved enough to open the door to enable some serious dialogue or least a degree of mutual respect for each others positions.

Democratic politics is a tough game, but unless we come up with an alternative, someone has to do it. Any lingering thoughts I may have had about the glamorous role of a politician were quickly shattered. The usual cliches 'rock and a hard place' or 'no win position' are spot on and sadly too true.

And constant bad press does our democratic tradition no favours. Feeding a cynical public with stories of failure, crisis's and ridicule may look good on the daily headlines, but makes genuine progress even more difficult.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time with Cllr Aitken and was hugely impressed by his and senior officers commitment, dedication and pursuit of improving the quality of services to children, young people and their families. I hope that LAYC can play its part in ensuring that the voluntary youth and children's sector can benefit from this commitment.

LAYC AGM

LAYC's AGM is once again being held during National Youth Work Week (1st-7th Nov 2005) to recognise the time, effort and commitment that youth and children's workers demonstrate in clubs like yours throughout the length and breadth of Edinburgh and the Lothians.

Thursday 3rd November 2005, from 7pm at Update, 27 Beaverhall Road, Edinburgh is the time and place.

Apart from the legal formalities of the AGM, LAYC will be launching its Quality Development Unit - the new project funded through City of Edinburgh Council Changing Children's Services funding to help clubs comply with the new legislation around Disclosure checking and the Disqualified from Working with Children List.

Within the separate AGM mailing, which clubs and groups will be receiving shortly, will be nomination forms looking for your suggestions of people worthy of a little bit of recognition.

LAYC awards youth and children's workers with Long Service Awards (fairly self explanatory that one!) and - Achievement Awards (you tell us why someone deserves a special mention!)

Young people are eligible to have their efforts recognised too - either individually or as a group. Did your club take part in a community project? Did some members pull out all the stops raising money for Children in Need?

New Award

This year LAYC introduces the 'Duncan Gorrie Award for Good Governance' - Duncan Gorrie who died earlier this year was LAYC's Honorary Treasurer for 10 years.

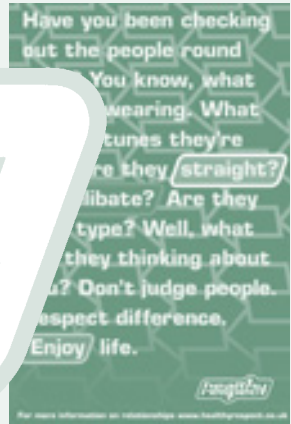
He approached his chosen task of making sure that LAYC could explain how it was using the money it received with thoroughness and professionalism even although he often said that he didn't know what actually was involved in work with children and young people. However, it was his intention to do his bit towards helping members understand how their organisation was spending their monies.

The Duncan Gorrie Award will be presented to someone LAYC feels should have their determined, sustained and often unnoticed efforts in support of youth and children's work recognised.





healthy respect



Healthy Respect Introduces its Latest Campaign!



INTRODUCTION

During National Youthwork Week (1-7 November), Healthy Respect's latest campaign 'adverts' will use radio advertising (Forth 1 and Beat 106), exterior and interior of buses, toilet advertising and adshel posters at bus stops and community sites across Lothian, particularly in northwest Edinburgh and Midlothian - Healthy Respect phase 2 areas. The campaign will ask young people to 'Respect difference, enjoy life' and to check out www.healthyrespect.co.uk for more information on relationships.

BACKGROUND

Social marketing campaigns are a key method for the delivery of Healthy Respect messages to target audiences of young people, parents and carers and professionals in Lothian. The campaigns are developed by a variety of people including Healthy Respect team members, NHS Lothian colleagues, researchers, advertising agencies, media buyers and **young people**, whose input during the whole process is vital.

SOCIAL MARKETING places an emphasis on target group research (in case of Healthy Respect, young people) and target group involvement throughout the process of campaign development.

HOW WE DEVELOPED OUR RESPECT CAMPAIGN

Research

Healthy Respect commissioned the Institute of Social Marketing, University of Stirling to carry out research to investigate what the term respect meant to young people. Their study revealed that respect was a familiar and positive concept with young people however there was a lack of recognition that difference is an integral part of respect, and some homophobic attitudes were demonstrated.

Dona Milne, Development Manager for Healthy Respect said: "Based on the research findings, our aim is to develop young people's awareness of the value of respect for themselves and others, and in particular to respect that people are different. We want to encourage young people to recognise and appreciate that differences in other people should be respected. Not everyone makes the same choices, or has the same sexuality, or likes the same things. Our campaign's key message is therefore not to judge others and to respect difference, leading to a healthy respect for all."

Adverts

A second stage of research was carried out to help develop 'the look and sound' of the campaign and a number of adverts were created by 1576 advertising agency. Five creative routes were developed by the agency based on the research findings and these were taken for pre-testing with the target groups. This stage of the research decided which advertising proposal the target group identified most with in terms of key messages, visual look and the media channels chosen to deliver the message.

FEEDBACK FROM PRE-TESTING

Respondents engaged particularly well with and related to one of the proposals, the 'what if it was you?' concept, and this centred on two factors:

High levels of identification

All respondents commented as they read though the text that they had made judgements about people on the bus and could all visualise doing it.

Challenging

The end text "are you sitting there making judgements? Well what if there was a poster like this above your head?" prompted respondents to consider how they would feel if they were being judged, and so to personalise the message.

Media timings

The campaign will deliver its message during three bursts: August, October/November 2005 and February 2006.

Evaluation

All campaigns are tracked by an external agency that carries out research with the target group. Campaign tracking is done before and after each 'burst' of activity to assess whether: the message has been seen/heard, perceptions of Healthy Respect, the media channels chosen i.e. buses, radio, were the best channels to deliver the campaign's messages and most importantly, understood by the target group!

For more information on our social marketing campaigns, or any aspect of our work, please contact:

Yvonne Powell

Communications Manager

Healthy Respect

NHS Lothian, Deaconess House

148 The Pleasance

Edinburgh EH8 9RS

Tel 0131 536 9063

Email

healthy.respect@lhb.scot.nhs.uk

www.healthyrespect.co.uk



NEW DEPARTMENT

Following the launch of the new City of Edinburgh Council's Children's and Families Department back in April, the new Department has taken a further major step forward with the new structures in place and functioning as of the start of August.

The new department, which was formed as a consequence of the highly critical O'Brien enquiry, sees the Education Services and the Children and Families element of social work being delivered by a single arm of the council.

As the largest department of the City of Edinburgh Council it will provide an extensive range of services with an increasing emphasis on delivering integrated services locally.



Key Services

- Adult Learning
- Childcare
- Child Protection
- Children's Residential Care
- Community Centres
- Fostering and Adoption
- Pre-5 Services
- Schools
- Support for Children with Disabilities
- Youth Justice
- Youth and Children's Work
- Voluntary Sector Support

So How Does it All Hang Together?

Key to the new structure is the creation of a new integrated services arrangement, which comes under the banner of Neighbourhood Services. Divided into five geographical areas, their boundaries have sought to be co-terminus with other services and informed by the new community planning areas, school catchment areas, practice

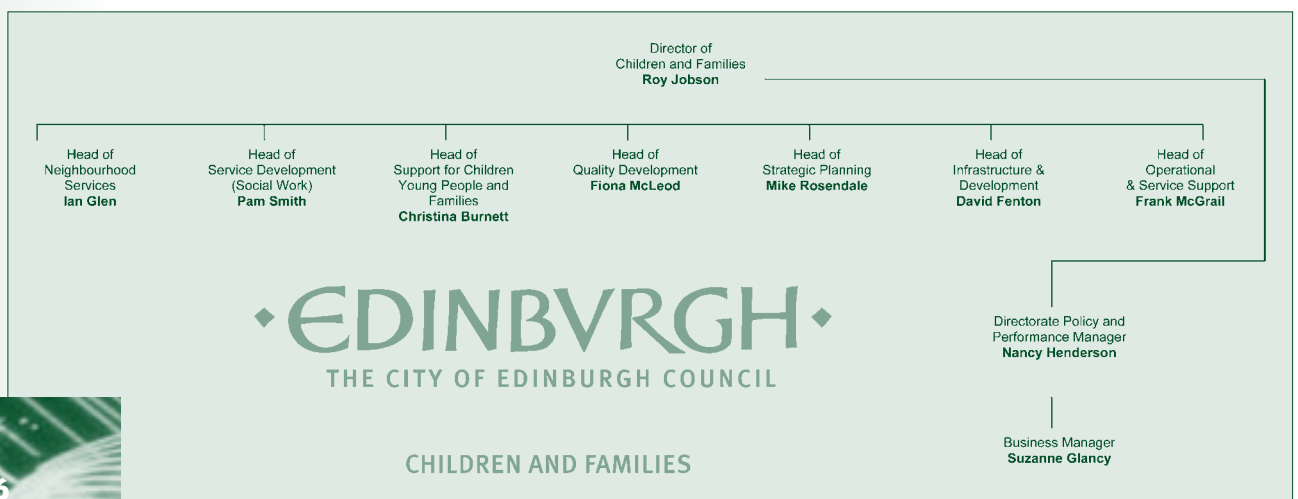
team management areas and pupil movements between areas.

Each area has an overarching Neighbourhood Manager with four Service Managers responsible for schools, early years and childcare, social work and working together and Community Learning and Development - the new title for Community Education.

The clear intention is that services will be delivered and developed locally across previously discrete services with the ambitious goal of 'joined up services' a set nearer reality.

The Directorate will sit above this with the Director supported by 7 Heads of Services.

Children and Families - Directorate Structure



children's work . . . children's work . . . children's work . . .

KICKS IN . . .

So What Are the Areas?

The five neighbourhood areas are Edinburgh East, North, South, South West and West.

The Neighbourhood Managers will be based centrally, but as we go to press details of locations have not been available.

So Where Does Youth and Children's Work Sit?

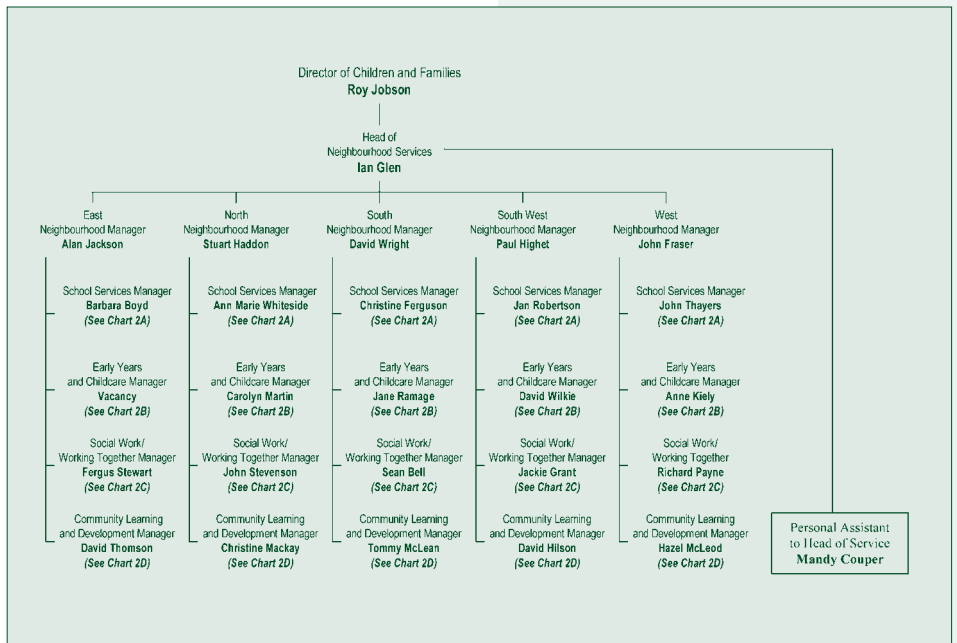
The Neighbourhood Service is the key player for the delivery of all local services including social work based services. Below the Manager of Community Learning and Development lie the existing Senior CEW Structure with lead staff for youth work, community based adult learning, community centres and community development.

Within the new structure there is also a Support for Children, Young People and Families, which focus on city wide services.

In terms of the delivery of youth and children's work this will be the responsibility of the Neighbourhood Services whilst city wide and strategic planning will rest with Strategic Planning headed up by Mike Rosendale.



Children and Families - Neighbourhood Services



What Other Parts of the Structure Might Impact on the Sector?

When going over the previous structures you may have noted that a number of senior managers from the then Community Education Service have not re-emerged within the Neighbourhood Services Structure.

That's because a new strand **Strategic Planning** has been set up with Mike Rosendale heading that up. He's joined by three managers who have specific responsibility for social inclusion, service planning and partnership development.

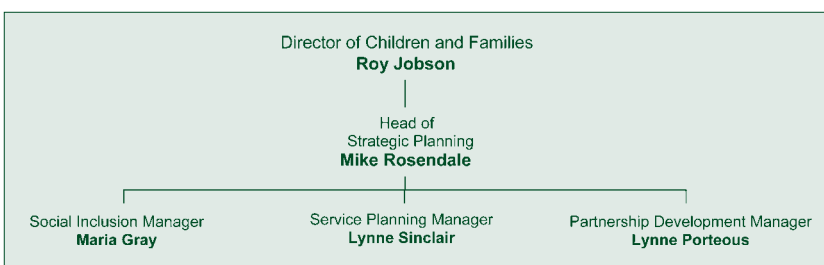
SO WHAT'S NEXT?

The final stages of matching and filling of remaining posts are currently being undertaken. The new structure is therefore operational, although there is a recognition that completely integrated services will not be fully in place until April 2007.

Parallel to this is the Council's review of its structure 'Servicing Communities Effectively'. Just announced is the creation of a new integrated department for the delivery of local services built around 'liveability' services. This will be delivered through neighbourhood teams, led by the recently appointed Director Mark Turley.

LAYC is organising a city wide briefing meeting for youth and children's groups in conjunction with senior managers. This is being held on **Wed 26 Oct at 7.00pm in South Bridge RC, Infirmary Street, Edinburgh.** It will provide an opportunity to hear presentations first hand and ask questions about how the new structures will affect your work and organisation.

Children and Families - Strategic Planning



Drumbrae Leisure Centre

has the following timetable of **Junior Coaching** classes running in the evenings during Autumn term.

Mondays

Short Tennis / Football / Girls Only Football

Tuesdays

Judo 5-8Yrs/Judo Intermediate

Wednesdays

Basketball 8Yrs+

Thursdays

Judo 5-8Yrs/ Judo Intermediate

Fridays

Musical Theatre/Gymnastics

Saturdays

Gymnastics/Activator Classes

Contact **Drumbrae** reception on **0131 312 7957** for more information or to book places.

Ainslie Park Leisure Centre

has **Weekend Activator** coaching sessions for 5 to 13 year olds available this Autumn. These camps cover a wide variety of coaching principals and sports including football, tennis, hockey etc. They are running on Saturdays from 11am until 1pm and each session costs £5.00. These sessions will encourage children to interact with each other and improve their basic ball sport skills.

Ainslie Park also have **Open All Hours** sessions beginning again on the 23rd September from 7pm until 9pm every Friday night. The programme will include football coaching and a **Mini Open All Hours football cup**.



Edinburgh Leisure

Managing leisure and recreation facilities for the City of Edinburgh Council

Open All Autumn!

Open All Hours offers young people (S1-6) loads of exciting activities for only 50p. Try out new sports, fitness and dance classes, work out in the gym, surf the net, chill with mates or do something totally different like making fruit smoothies or Graffiti Art. Girls only sessions also available, where the activities are chosen by girls for the girls. If you are a young person with a disability or have support needs contact Fabb Scotland on 475 2313 and come and join us.

Open All Hours Autumn term starts again on Friday 23rd September 2005. To find out where your nearest Open All Hours venue is please see below.

FRIDAYS

Ainslie Park Leisure Centre 92 Pilton Drive, Tel: 0131 551 2400
7.00pm-9.00pm, registration @ 6.45pm. For S1-4. Cost 50p

Drumbrae Leisure Centre 30 Drumbrae Terrace, Tel: 0131 312 7957
7.00pm-9.00pm, registration @ 6.45pm. For S1-6. Cost 50p

Gracemount Leisure Centre 22 Gracemount Drive, Tel: 0131 658 1940
7.00pm-9.00pm, registration @ 6.45pm For S1-6. Cost 50p

Jack Kane Centre 208 Niddrie Mains Road, Tel: 0131 669 0404
7.00pm-9.00pm, For S1-6. No charge

Kirkliston Leisure Centre Kirklands Park Street, Tel: 0131 333 4700
7.00pm-9.00pm, registration @ 6.45pm For S1-6. Cost 50p

Meadowbank Sports Centre 139 London Road, Tel: 0131 661 5351
6.45pm-9.00pm, registration @ 6.30pm For S1-6. Cost 50p

Portobello Swim Centre 57 The Promenade, Tel: 0131 669 6888
7.00pm-9.00pm, registration @ 6.45pm. For S1-6. Cost 50p

SATURDAYS

GIRLS ONLY Leith Victoria Swim Centre Junction Place, Tel: 0131 555 4728
4.00pm-6.00pm. For 11-18 years. Cost 50p

Craiglockhart Sports Centre 177 Colinton Road, Tel: 0131 443 0101
6.00pm-9.00pm. For S1-6. Cost 50p

MONDAYS

Queensferry Recreation Centre 30 Ashburnham Road, Tel: 0131 331 1880
7.00pm-9.00pm. For P7-S4 Cost 50p

For further details please contact the venue or visit our website:
www.edinburghleisure.co.uk



In Brief . . .

Edinburgh Leisure's Youth Development team wishes a fond farewell to Youth Development Officer **Rona Macgregor** this month (sob... sniff etc), Rona is heading to the **Factory Skatepark** in Dundee to help manage their Youth Development Programme. We wish her all the best and will miss her loads!

The Sports Development team would also like to welcome **Claire Ferry** to the team. Claire comes to us from helping to run the brilliant **Go4It** programme and will help to coordinate Edinburgh Leisure's schools projects. Good Luck with the new post Claire!

The House is a purpose built facility for 11-14 yr olds at Meadowbank Sports Centre, it offers a whole host of activities such as IT, **games consoles**, arts & crafts, **pool tables**, physical activities and much more. The House opening hours are Mon-Thurs 3.30pm-6pm, and Friday 12.30pm-6pm. The House is also available for private hire. If you would like any further information please contact The House Coordinator on (6615351) or email andrewmcintosh@edinburghleisure.co.uk

Healthy Respect SHARE Training

The **SHARE** (Sexual Health and Relationships Education) programme is a research-based sex and relationships education programme. It emphasises the development of skills and attitudes, which help young people to develop healthy, happy relationships. **SHARE** has been designed to be delivered to young people aged 13 to 16 years old in formal and informal educational settings.

Healthy Respect, the Lothian based young person's sexual health project, has been using a multi-disciplinary approach to deliver the **SHARE** programme and as such, are keen to encourage youth workers and staff from voluntary organisations participate in its training and delivery. Phase 2 of the project will concentrate on delivering the **SHARE** programme in North West Edinburgh and Midlothian, and the project would like to see youth workers from these areas in particular to sign up for the forthcoming courses.

The five day training course is open to all professionals who work with

young people and would like some training and experience in dealing with sexual health issues. The course is free of charge and all voluntary organisations need to provide staff time to attend the five days. A number of **SHARE** training courses are planned to take place during November/December 2005 and January/February 2006.

If you would like further information on these courses or any aspect of the work of Healthy Respect, please contact Kirsten Kernaghan on 0131 536 9182 or kirsten.kernaghan@lhb.scot.nhs.uk or visit our website www.healthyrespect.co.uk

Tune in to LAYC's Programme of Training

After a break over the summer, LAYC's programme of training is back. We are going with some of the old favourites initially and will look to roll out some new stuff in the New Year, where we'll be out and about on our travels bringing courses to venues near you, so watch this space! We have tried to stick with a formula that works for our member clubs and groups, namely one that includes affordable, relevant and accessible training. Places on our courses will be charged at between £10 and £15 per person for member groups and focus on practical youth and children's work topics and issues. We will be looking to run the majority of our courses on Saturday mornings when we think most people are able to attend, however some courses will be running during weekdays and evenings.



LAYC

Programme of Training



Date, Time, Course and Venue

- 1 October 2005 9.30am-1.30pm
Emergency Aid - LAYC
- 8 October 2005 10.30am-12.30pm
Child Protection - LAYC
- 22 October 2005 10.00am-12.30pm
Dealing with Challenging Behaviour (Youth Work) - LAYC
- 9 November 2005 10.30am-12.30pm
Child Protection - LAYC

Quality Development Unit Programme of Training



The following training events are aimed at those with a responsibility for recruitment within organisations, such as senior workers or management committee members. They are Free of charge to our Edinburgh clubs and groups.

- 12 October 2005 6.00pm-9.00pm
POC(S)A 2003 - LAYC
- 2 November 2005 5.30pm-9.30pm
Effective Recruitment - LAYC
- 19 November 2005 9.30am-1.00pm
POC(S)A 2003 - LAYC
- 3 December 2005 9.30am-1.30pm
Terms and Conditions - LAYC

Further details of venues, times, course content and trainers are available if you visit www.layc.org.uk and click on training. To book on to one of the above courses contact us on 0131 667 1828 or e-mail us at enquiries@layc.org.uk Finally if you are interested in hosting an LAYC training event in your area sometime in the New Year please get in touch with us as we are always open to offers!



Edinburgh's Youth get their say on Housing

Young people in Edinburgh finally had their say on housing and told the city's Landlords what they want and need most from Social Housing.

A group of 16-25 year olds living in Edinburgh and the Lothians are getting together at an event run by young people, for young people, where they were able to let Edinburgh's housing providers know what they think about housing issues.

Young people with housing knowledge were involved in running the workshops at the free fun event called Your Place Your Say.

The event featured workshops, quizzes, an Info Zone and even an opportunity for young people to give feedback in the Big Brother-style Diary Room.

Nikki Thomson from Edinburgh Tenants Federation: "There's a growing numbers of young tenants being housed in social housing, but not enough getting involved in influencing the decisions that effect them. Landlords want to learn how these young tenants would like to get involved, from the tenants themselves."

The views and comments collected from the young people attending Your Place Your Say will play a vital role in helping city landlords shape housing related services for young people.

Not only will the event provide young people with useful information about getting and maintaining a tenancy, and about their rights as tenants, but landlords will be able engage with young tenants to make tenant participation meaningful for them.

The event was free, with free lunch, free transport and a free crèche. Young people attending the event also received a goody bag and had the chance to win prizes throughout the day, including an iPod.

"Your Place Your Say" was organised by a working group including young tenants' support workers, tenant participation staff from Dunedin / Canmore and Castle Rock / Edinvar, City of Edinburgh Council, Move On and Edinburgh Tenants Federation and was supported by the Edinburgh and Lothians Tenant Participation Workers Forum and Communities Scotland.

For more information

**Keith Watson - Communications Officer
Housing Service - tel: 0131 529 7748
e-mail: keith.watson@edinburgh.gov.uk**

Venchie children premier videos of their vision of the new Craigmillar to "Housing Mandarins"

Craigmillar kids put their views face-to-face with top housing councillors and officials using the silver screen in August when they showed them two videos they've made about their hopes and dreams for housing and amenities in the new Craigmillar.

Young people from the Children Decide project at the Venchie Children & Young People's Project introduced and showed their work, which they have filmed and directed over the past 5 years.

The first video called "Over the Rainbow" and was made in 2001, just as change was emerging in Craigmillar. It features the old run-down tenements and shows the youths' dreams for new homes and play areas.

The second video was the sequel and is called "Pot of Gold"; it was completed last month. In the video, the young people of Niddrie are given the chance to transform their area when they are visited by a pair of magic genies. They knock down the old houses and shops and replace them with new ones.

Cllr. Gilmore was excited to attend. She said:

"It's today's young people who, most of all, will reap the benefits of what we are trying to achieve for Craigmillar. It is important to learn from their voices and ideas"



Cllr Perry said: **"I am really looking forward to seeing the children' view of the future and seeing how the Council might help to make it not just a hope but a reality"**

Local Councillor O'Donnell said: **"This has been a real labour of love and the young people are to be congratulated on their effort and tenacity as well as their creativity - who knows we may have another Stephen Spielberg in the making"**

The youths (aged 9-14) scripted and filmed the videos themselves, with support from Young People Speak Out. Megan Young (13) and Shaun Goodfellow (15) who were involved in making both videos, introduced the event.

Megan says: **"Children Decide was set up as a group to be involved in the regeneration in our area, this meant meeting up with local Councillors, Housing Co-op's and the Joint Venture Company (now PARC). The group thought by making the videos this would help get our views across"**

Both Children Decide and the video productions were funded by BBC Children in Need.

For more information and for copies of stills from the videos, ring Pete Gregson at CEC Housing Development weekdays on 0131 529 2274 (e-mail peter.gregson@edinburgh.gov.uk) or 07979 574020.

GAME

The Drummond Equality Game is an experiential game about social inequality.

It has been designed to raise young people's awareness of institutional inequalities based on social class, race, gender and disability.

Players are allocated a role which enables them to experience aspects of the first 20 years of life for a young person from a different background.

As they reflect on the identity of their character, they are led to a clearer understanding of inequality and its effect on life chances.

Using the Game

Designed by staff at Drummond Community High School, the game is intended for use as part of a programme addressing equality issues in secondary schools and youth work settings.

The target audience is 11+, and a minimum of five students is required per game.

The game is most effective when led by older students/youth group members, with support from teachers or youth leaders.

**For further information, to place an order or to discuss training please contact the school:
Drummond Community High School
Tel: 0131 5562651
email: thegame@drummond.edin.sch**

NEW EDITION

Improved and updated, the Drummond Equality Game is now in its third edition. As well as a re-designed board, the game cards have been updated to make the language more accessible. New scenarios have been added to introduce the issues of inequality based on sexual orientation and learning disabilities. Full instructions on playing the game and follow-up activities are included.

The Drummond Equality Game is available at £20 per game, plus £3 p&p per order. Game logo T-shirts (pictured) are also available at £10 each.

