



networks

The Journal for Youth & Children Workers in Lothian

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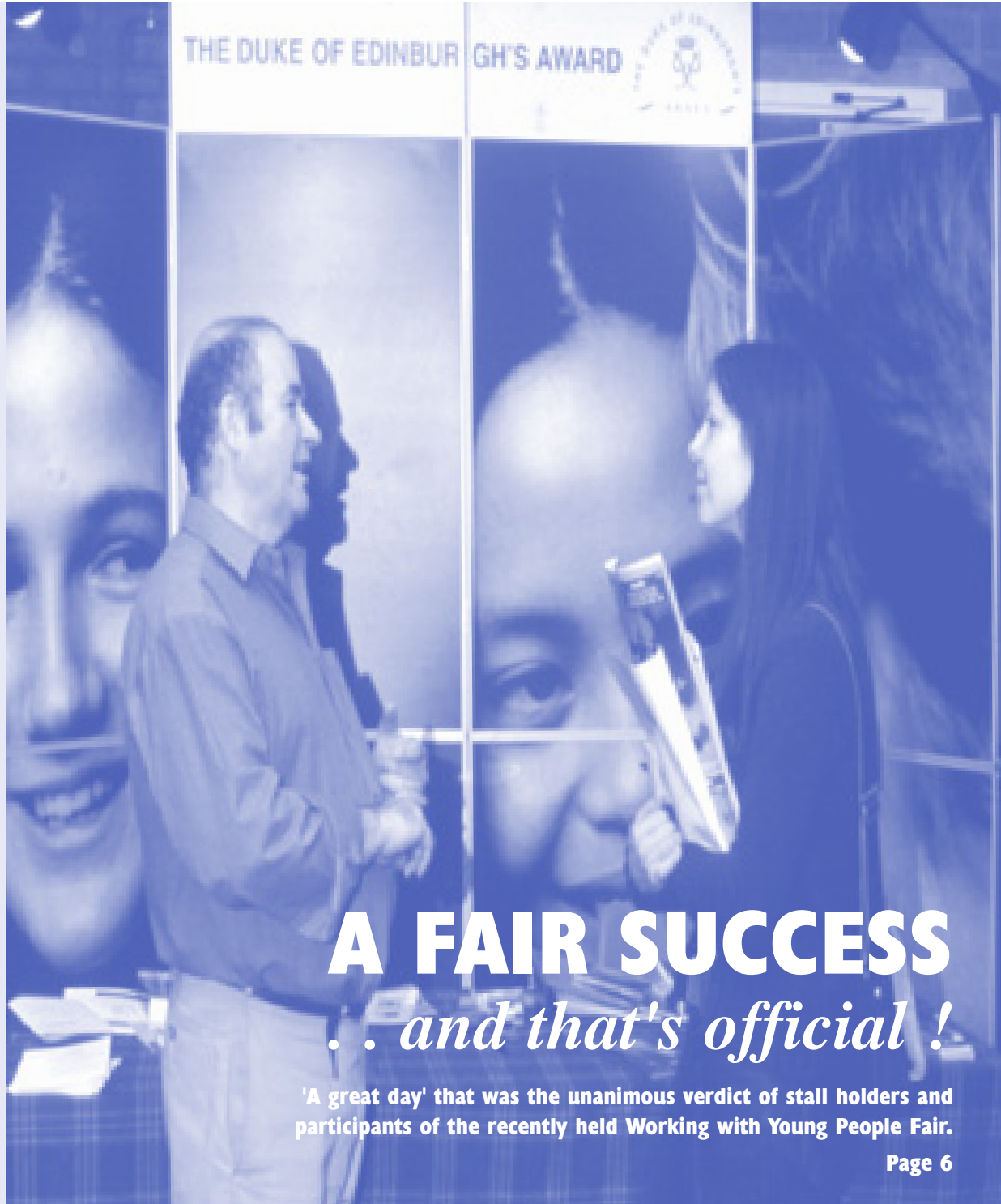
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TRAINING

All groups 'Working with Children' in Edinburgh should receive the Edinburgh Childcare Partnership Winter 2002/03 Training Newsletter.

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Bridges Project

has moved its central base and the Access and Advice Service to new premises at **Bogpark Road, Musselburgh EH21 6RT**

Tel No. 0131 665 1621

Fax. 0131 665 3179

Freephone for young people remains: 08000 685554

e-mail: mail@bridgesproject.org.uk

website: www.bridgesproject.org.uk

Please note the Education and Training Service (including Jumpstart and Way to Work) will **temporarily remain** at Mitchell's Close, Haddington EH41 3NB, telephone 01620 825024 until refurbishment is completed. We will inform you in advance of the date on which Education and Training will relocate to Musselburgh.

EDINBURGH SKATEPARK

Andy Brown from Edinburgh Skatepark Project has contacted Networks to pass on news about this project.

The ESP have fliers available for display in your Centre and if you could pass them on to anyone you think would be interested in the Skatepark Project. The Website could help young people to find more information about the project, it also entails the latest news about the project and tells you how you can get involved. There is a poll and a chance to join the mailing list which will keep you updated on the progress of the project.

If you require more information please contact Sharon Laird or Michele Armstrong on 0131 469 3459.

Youth Services The Way Ahead?

The City of Edinburgh Council's Youth Services Strategy (which has emerged out of the Summer 2001 Viewfinder Survey of 4,500 young people) has now seen the light of day having been presented to the Council in mid-October.

Billing itself as "Detailing Strategic Action to Improve Youth Services Over the Next 10 Years", it's obviously a document youth workers and projects should familiarise themselves with.

And running as it does to more than 50 pages, it's fortunate indeed that the Youth Work Partnership has agreed that the Community Education Service should prepare a brief summary document for widespread distribution. LAYC will look forward to circulating the précis in a future 'Networks' mailing.

Improving Access

A request from Zoe Eden, Patient Involvement Worker in North West Edinburgh to have some contact with young people.

"North West Edinburgh Local Health Care Co-operative (NWELHCC) are responsible for primary care services within North West Edinburgh. North West Edinburgh is a huge area covering South Queensferry, Kirkliston, Ratho in the West to Stockbridge, West End in the East, down to Corstorphine, Murayfield in the South and up along the waterfront in the North. One of the challenges faced by covering such a large area is making sure services are appropriate to the local population. A section of the population that we feel our services are not appropriate for is young people. We want to tailor our services so that young people feel more comfortable to access services.

In order to tailor our services we need to know what young people need from primary care. I know of work done with young people in Greater Pilton and also in South Queensferry, but I am unaware of consultation for other areas, eg Clermiston, Corstorphine, East Craigs." If any youth workers were interested in getting involved in something like this, then get in touch with Zoe Eden on 0131 334 5503 or contact Graham at the LAYC Offices.

'Indicators, Indicators'

1. The Audit Commission has launched indicators to enable local councils to monitor quality of life. MORI research showed last year that the thing people most wanted improved locally was activities for teenagers.

Leaflets on the 'Quality of Life Indicators' can be ordered (free of charge) on 0800 502030 from the Audit Commission.

2. Research funded by Joseph Rowntree Foundation suggests that insecure funding is hampering effective youth work. For more information go to www.sfefocus.co.uk

Editors Note: Did we really need research to find this out???

Parent Checklist

Have you seen this little blue and yellow Scottish Executive Leaflet yet?

It should have been distributed by all local authority education departments by now to all primary school aged pupils!?!

Have you come across it as a parent?

Has your group had any approaches from parents as a result of them reading the leaflet? - Keep LAYC posted please.

National organisations and local authority community education or community services department are mentioned as suggested places for people who aren't satisfied with the response they get from a club - LAYC will keep you posted if we hear of any such complaints.

Useful Starting Point

Youth Scotland have produced a very useful little leaflet called "Getting Started" - and guess what, it's aimed at anyone who is interested in starting up a youth club, group or project and has a very simple straightforward question and answer look at the issues of Planning, People, Premises and Programme.

Copies are available from the LAYC Offices. Tel: 0131 667

1828 or direct from Youth Scotland -

office@youthscotland.org.uk

Affiliated clubs should keep an eye out for the arrival of a new pack 'Up and Running' which Youth Scotland are about to launch to complement an updated version of the very popular 'Safe and Sound - building a safe youth work environment' pack.

Clubs will receive a copy - free - as part of their package of affiliation benefits when they are published.

FITTING TRIBUTES AT AGM

A moving series of tributes captured the life and work of LAYC's late President, Nancy Owens at the AGM held last week.

CLr Rev Ewan Aitken led the tributes by outlining the lifelong commitment she had made to improving the quality of life for young people and children in Edinburgh and beyond.

He also announced that the Council wished to name a forthcoming City Conference for young people in her honour. "The depth of her aspirations for young people knew no bounds. It is therefore fitting that her name should be associated with this major initiative that sought to make this city the most young person supportive in the UK."

Other tributes were given by Jim Rooney, now HMI, who as Co-ordinator in the late 70's had brought Nancy in as Vice-Chair.

Mo Colvin, LAYC Chair in the late 90's spoke affectionately about how Nancy had encouraged her as a youngster to get and stay involved - something she has done and is now a Community Education Worker in Edinburgh.

The family also presented a cheque for £2,700 to the Motor Neuron Disease Association. Judith Newton from the Association then gave a brief input as to the impact of MND.

Presentations were also made to Marion Hood for her long service at Corstorphine Youth Centre prior to her retirement and youngsters from the now defunct McGovern House who received their Dynamic Youth Awards.



The fondest of farewells was also given to Duncan Gorrie who had been Treasurer for some 10 years. With fond remarks, Duncan was presented Edinburgh Crystal glasses and a voucher for golf gear.

LAYC also announced their new nomination for President to be Eleanor McLaughlin, former Provost for the city.

The Office Bearers and Committee for the next year are:

<i>President</i>	Eleanor McLaughlin
<i>Chair</i>	Jamie Rennie
<i>Vice-Chair</i>	Helen Kelly
<i>Hon. Treasurer</i>	Vacancy

Management Committee

Helen Davies
Colin Duff
Louis Isbrand
Stephen McGlinchey
Danny Meachan

Co-opted Members

Stuart McCallum (PACE)

Affiliations and the Benefits

Affiliation forms were sent out to groups at the end of October following receipt of the new and sadly increased insurance premiums.

Despite the increases in affiliation fees that have had to reflect the new premiums we still believe that LAYC provides a range of benefits that give good value.

These include:

- A basic insurance cover that on the open market would cost £250+ (we've reports of quotes of £500)
- Access to training and resources held centrally and locally including discount vouchers
- Access to resource library and funder support
- Access to information, advice and guidance through our professional staff team
- Access to action grants through The Joyce Dunford Bequest
- Regular information mailings including Networks and other publications
- Access to the Leisure Links scheme for staff and groups (in Edinburgh only at the present time)
- Affiliation to Youth Scotland and UK Youth with access to all their services.

LAYC is always looking to increase its core services to member groups and added benefits will be emerging through the affiliation year.

One of the consequences of that is that staff time will be prioritised to responding to the needs/demands of affiliated groups first. That's not to say we wouldn't be able to offer other assistance, but our paying customers must come first.

If you wish to affiliate please contact Gillian to be sent information.

New Leisure Links Scheme for 2003

Things have been so busy recently that reviewing the PACE/LAYC/Edinburgh Leisure Links Scheme has been delayed (thanks for all those returned Survey Forms). Rest assured that all parties are very pleased with how the pilot phase has gone and will be working hard to announce the launch of an improved scheme early in the New Year. In the meantime keep using your little cards!!!



Ensuring Insurance

Groups affiliating to LAYC will only be too aware of how increases in the cost of insurance are directly affecting them.

Youth Scotland's efforts to strike the best deal possible highlighted the stark reality when it comes to insurance costs.

Despite a long term involvement, good claims record, a well oiled information system and significant purchasing power, the 'best' offer sent shockwaves through local Associations.

- A 70% increase in the basic insurance fee
- A loss of personal accident cover (which was previously integrated into the basic package)
- A reduction of public liability cover from £5 million per claim to £1 million.

Attempts by the brokers, Bank of Scotland, to secure further public liability cover might have been possible, but was exceptionally expensive.

LAYC and Youth Scotland will be working together to re-look at our affiliation arrangements over the next year to see if there are more appropriate ways to package them and the services they provide clubs.

We will also be raising concerns over affordable costs of insurance with local childcare partnerships, national bodies and The Scottish Executive. Indications are that similar increases can be expected over the next few years.

When bodies like the Care Commission talk loosely about the requirement to have adequate insurance, they need to be aware what the commercial reality is. This equally applies to other funders who need to be conscious of the increased costs and the limiting of their insurance risks through voluntary organisations cover.

We'll keep you posted.

INSURANCE ADVICE

The insurance advice through The Bank of Scotland has now changed following their merger with the Halifax. The insurance business has now been transferred from Edinburgh to down South.

A new helpline number is now in place which is :

0845 850 0777

LAYC staff will still help where they can, but given the intricacies of insurance (and the fees we are now paying), don't feel unable to phone them direct.

MEDICATION

Over the past few months we've had enquiries in relation to the giving of medication to children.

On both occasions the insurers indicated they would **not** cover the administration of insulin nor any drugs in respect of any nut allergy.

The potential costs of medical liability are high and the recent case where a school in Dundee injected the wrong child with medication has given further opportunity for the insurers to take a hard line.

On the basis of these cases, we urgently advise that no medication should ever be administered until checked directly with the insurers.

That's not to say that with the proper safeguards and permissions you may wish to provide that service, but in doing so may not be covered and therefore the club/group would be wholly liable in the event of any successful claim.

Dynamic Youth

A lot of prominence for Lothian Dynamic Youth participants over the past couple of months Apart from two of Oxfangs Dynamic Youth'ers being given starring roles at the launch of the Bridging the Gap Business Plan, the girls from Blackridge had been in sparkling form giving a presentation on their video project about bullying at Youth Scotland's Congress weekend at Heriot Watt University at the end of September.

.... And different venue, different group of young people - this time from Whitburn Out of School Project and their fundraising football tournament involving other local After School Clubs. Apart from raising money for CHAS the Scottish Children's Hospice charity the tournament has proved to be a real energiser for the after school club within the community and has really raised their profile (and the number of children who are using the club!!!)

".... My parents were involved. My Dad kept the scores and my mum was a referee and helped with the transport It was good to see the parents supporting their clubs as a lot of work is involved in the running of this particular event"
(Jennifer, Whitburn Out of School Care)

"I enjoyed the challenge, a lot of people were put off by my age, but with encouragement I followed it through. My mum and dad helped, reassured and encouraged me and are very proud of what I have achieved."
(Stefan, Whitburn Out of School Care)

Lesley Sher has now left Lothian's Dynamic Youth to be Parent Action Worker with West Lothian Social Inclusion Project based with Broxburn Family Centre. We wish her all the best in the future.

Unfortunately the funding for Lesley's part-time development worker post has come to an end. LAYC was hopeful that funding for Dynamic Youth might emerge from Council after their Scottish Executive 'refund'.

Unfortunately nothing has been forthcoming yet (not even after Edinburgh's plan to fund the Hogmanay revels from this source was rejected!!!)



Action4Change is Starting Up

Edinburgh City Youth Café (6VT) has recently been awarded a three year grant from the Health Improvement Fund. The money has been awarded to create a project for assessing the feasibility of improving the health of socially excluded young people within a non-statutory environment on a voluntary basis. Two project workers have been employed to run this project.

Over the three years they will be running 6 week brief intervention courses. The courses are for 12-24 year olds and each course will contain between 6 to 10 participants. They are going to use a person-centred approach on a one-to-one and group basis to identify and work towards addressing health improvement issues. The programme will consist of set topics (food, substance abuse, physical activity and smoking) and health issues that the group of participants finds relevant.

Each week the group will meet for a 3 hour session. They will cover two topics per week, one being a set issue and the other can be used to either continue working with the weeks' topic (eg cooking a meal together during the 'food week') or could be dealing with one of the other health topics the group has chosen. Besides the 3 hour group work every week, each course participant will be offered 1 hour of one-to-one support each week. It is entirely up to the young person whether or not they want to use this service. The only criteria we have are that they have an initial, a final and a six month post programme one-to-one session with them. This is for assessment and evaluation purposes.

Their aim is to get a clearer picture of health issues among young people and create a safe and supportive environment where they can address and become aware of current or potential personal health issues.

When the 6 week programme finishes they will, if appropriate, refer young people to other and more specialised agencies, depending on the issues that each individual young person wants to address. The course participants will be able to stay in contact with Action4change staff via 6VT's Drop-In facility.

The project workers will be based at 6VT, but the programme does not have to be run at the café. If there is a need in a specific area anywhere in Edinburgh they will run the programme there.

They have been running a pilot project during November, but from January they will be open to referrals from all agencies. If you have any questions contact either Amie Tait or Mia Jacobsen, Project Development Workers, Action4change on 220 2108 or e-mail: Action4change@ecyc.freemove.co.uk

CONFIDENTIALITY IN YOUNG PEOPLE'S SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES

The issue of confidentiality in young people's sexual health services is often fraught with difficulty and ambiguity. For young people using services, fear of disclosure can be one of the factors which deters them from getting help when they need it. And from the point of view of the practitioner, the area of confidentiality is generally viewed as a grey area, lacking clarity and rigid ground rules. Confidentiality protocol can often vary according to nature of a practitioner's involvement with a young person and according to the circumstances of a young person's particular situation.

Healthy Respect's commitment to developing services for young people in Lothian includes addressing confidentiality from the point of view of both the practitioner delivering the service and the young person using it.

The project has recently completed a study on confidentiality which it intends to use as a basis for guidelines on the topic and for designing future service provision for young people.

The study, carried out by the TASC agency, explored several key areas:

- **The main issues for agencies and staff in relation to confidentiality in the provision of sexual health services to under 16s**
- **The nature of support or guidance needed by those consulted**
- **Young people's views on the confidentiality and their expectations and requirements in relation to confidentiality in sexual health services**

Over a period of months, a total of 117 individual contributed to the study, including 18 people with responsibility for management of young people's services, 56 practitioners, and 43 young people aged between 14 and 16 years old.

The findings of the study have been incorporated in a series of draft booklets which cover individual topic areas including a booklet for young people explaining how confidentiality works, a booklet focusing on Rights, Responsibilities and the Law and a series of booklets containing separate versions of How confidentiality works for health professionals, teachers and local authority community education staff, social workers and voluntary sector youth workers.

Healthy Respect Project Manager, Dona Milne comments: "With clear, consistent guidelines, practitioners can feel much more comfortable dealing with this issue. Young people will also know exactly what to expect as standard and this will hopefully make them feel much more at ease when using services."

The draft guidelines are now available to practitioners for comment and feedback. They can be obtained by email by registering for the Healthy Respect's email news service on www.healthy-respect.com or by contacting the project directly.

Healthy Respect will also be carrying out an on-line survey on services with young people at schools throughout Lothian.

**Contact Healthy Respect
0131 536 9063**

A FAIR SUCCESS

and that's official



'A great day' that was the unanimous verdict of stall holders and participants of the recently held Working with Young People Fair.

With 73 information stalls, many with double tables, the 120 meter of concourse space was a buzz of activity the whole day.

Cllr Rev Ewan Aitken, who formally opened the event, lead the praises, "the high variety of what's on offer at the Fair shows how many opportunities there are for young people ... the organisers should be congratulated for making this happen".



Cllr Aitken also highlighted the Council's increasing commitment to improving and extending services/provision for young people, "young people will be at the heart of that decision making process with the formation of a youth council for the city with powers and its own budget".

The event provided a unique opportunity for agencies to network and this they did in droves. In addition, some 250 people involved in youth work dropped in to take advantage of the information stalls and workshops.



Alan Willoughby, a member of the planning team, was delighted that many who came along were volunteers in the uniformed sector, "it was great to see such a range of people from youth workers, volunteers, and a smattering of teachers, social workers and police officers involved. A volunteer with the Scouts said it was one of the most productive few hours he had spent in ages".

The event was hosted by Edinburgh Leisure who covered the venue costs and provided many of the activity based workshops. Ian Boardman, Chair of the planning group praised the level of involvement and commitment of their staff, " staff teams both a Meadowbank and Sports Development Team could not have been more supportive. They are very committed to working in genuine partnership".

This was also reflected in the remarks made by Keith Jackson, Chief Executive of Edinburgh Leisure who opened the event with Cllr Aitken. He singled out the development of Open All Hours

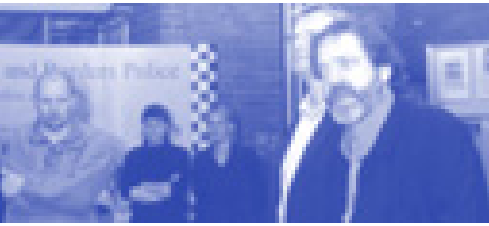
with Community Education, the creation of The House as a permanent youth area at Meadowbank and the Leisure Links package with LAYC and PACE as examples of how Edinburgh Leisure were providing extensive provision/support to young people and youth agencies.

Although the many workshops did not attract the numbers hoped (despite many being booked out in advance), the feedback from participants was very positive.

With the dust settling on the event, the planning team will be getting together to reflect on the feedback and lessons to be learnt for the future.

Many people had suggested that it be run on a more regular basis. It was also clear that stall holders wanted the general public to get access so people could see for themselves what's happening in the city for young people.

Ian Boardman, Chair of the Planning Group was clear what made the day a success, "the event was planned for over 6 months and all the partners devoted time, energy, commitment, funds and resources to make it happen. This was truly a joint event. The other key factor was local agencies willingness to take a stall and make a day of it. Without their support and encouragement it just wouldn't have happened".



If you want to give any other feedback about the day, future events or get further copies of the Fair guide, contact Ian Boardman on 0131 667 1828 or write to Dunford House, 7 Boroughloch Lane, Edinburgh EH8 9NL.



SPECIAL THANKS GO TO:

The Planning Team

Ian Boardman (LAYC), Douglas Jeffrey, Kevin Mullarkey (Comm.Educ.), Margaret McLean (p/t youth worker), Paula Aldin-Scott (EYSIP), Emma Walker (Edin.Leisure), Alan Willoughby (VOICE)

The Funders

The City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh Youth SIP and Edinburgh Leisure

The Stall Holders and Workshop Providers

the 72 agencies that had stalls and those that ran workshops

Staff on the Day

especially those of Meadowbank, the catering squads in the concourse and café

CIIR Rev Ewan Aitken and Keith Jackson

for formally launching the event

Every one of you

who came along and made the day the success it was.

THE FEEDBACK

We sought feedback from people on the day. This is what they revealed:

	V. Good/Good	OK	Poor	Very Poor
Information about the event <i>"was excellent Really like our guide entry"</i>	80%	13%	4%	3%
The Fair Itself <i>"well organised" "good networking opportunity"</i>	97%	6%	-	-
The Venue <i>"good facilities with plenty of space" "not good for passing trade"</i>	74%	12%	6%	8%

	November	Not November	Not Sure
Best time to hold event <i>"hard to find time to suit everyone"</i>	48%	19%	33%

	V. Good/Good	OK	Poor	Very Poor
Catering for the event <i>"good having free tea & coffee" "more salads would have been nice"</i>	53%	40%	3%	4%



Co-ordinator of Youth Services



OPEN ALL HOURS

After a slow start to the Open All Hours project numbers have gradually increased as word of mouth gets around and we now have a regular 50 young people coming along to both Gracemount and Ainslie Park on Friday Evening.

Emma Shaw has newly been appointed as a Community Youth Worker to be based in the 'soon to be' dedicated Youth Area within Gracemount. Emma is really looking forward to this job and will be on the look out for young people who are interested in putting their ideas and plans for a youth area in Gracemount Leisure Centre to come forward and help Emma decide what should be included in this area and what kind of activities young people would like to see happening in this space. If you would like to be involved in creating this area and help it develop to suit what you want please contact Emma Shaw on tel. 658 1940.

Activities at both sites have had brilliant support from PHAB Scotland which has been able to support young people with support needs and help them enjoy the activities on offer in an integrated environment, which is an essential part of the service. Space is limited at Ainslie Park at the moment but extensive renovations due to be completed by January will be a greatly improve Open All Hours in the New Year. This will include a newly created dance studio, café connect and energy zone (largest of any Edinburgh Leisure facility). Activities have included to date, Basketball, football, boxercise playstation/xbox/game cube, drumming, swimming and art attack.

Open all Hours will be available every Friday evening from 6.45pm to 9.15pm and will commence on Friday 10th January 2003.

Contact Ainslie Park Leisure Centre on 551 2400 or Gracemount Leisure Centre on 650 1940 for further information.

After School Hang-Out

Children will be ruling the roost in their own, purpose built pied-a-terre appropriately entitled 'The House' thanks to a new project launched by Edinburgh Leisure.

'The House' based at Meadowbank Sports Centre will offer an after school programme for 11 to 14 year olds and aims to provide a safe and fun place for children to escape to whilst parents/guardians are at work or training for work. The service will be available for use between the hours of 3.30pm - 6.00pm term time and all day during school holidays.

A range of computer equipment will be on hand allowing children the opportunity to undertake modern variations of art & design packages and surf the net. The latest games consoles, videos and music will be available, and for those budding Fat Boy Slims' children will be able to sample the latest hits on the decks available. There will also be a variety of activities including various sports and fitness classes whereby children can access the Pulse Centre or even pre-arrange a basketball or football game.

'The House' will be registered with the Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care in order to provide the highest standard of childcare possible. It is also possible to use 'The House' for youth club usage.

Drop in times (for young people aged 11 and over) are Monday - Friday 6pm-8pm and costs £1 per session.



Group hire which can include additional activities such as football, basketball and pulse centre gym are also available Monday - Friday 9am-2pm (term time only) and 8pm-10pm. Saturday/Sunday 9am - 10pm.



'The House' was launched in October and if you would like further information please contact Programme Development at Meadowbank Sports Centre on 0131 661 5351 or e-mail: thehouse.msc@edinburghleisure.co.uk



ACTIVIBE . . Your Link to Leisure

Activibe is a mobile outreach project that will bring leisure opportunities to your door. The initiative is managed by Edinburgh Leisure and funded by EYSIP and aims to:

- Interactive/fun information and activities session for young people aged 12-21
- Information on what leisure activities and sports are available across the city
- Information on employment and training opportunities in the leisure industry
- Promoting a healthy lifestyle

If you would like to find out more about Activibe or arrange a visit from the Activibe Crew to your youth group, please contact Project Coordinator Bev Anderson on 652 2178.

Childcare Partnership Training

All those groups 'Working with Children' in Edinburgh should have received a copy of the Edinburgh Childcare Partnership Winter 2002/03 Training Newsletter during October.

The pack includes information on a series of 'Rolling out the Standards' workshops - session on 'The Role of the New Care Commission' - Good practice in recruiting and selecting staff (including the issue of recruiting ex-offenders); and - ACAS Scotland Employer Workshops looking at statutory obligations regarding Terms and Conditions of Employment, affective disciplinary procedures, etc planned for November.

The short timescale meant a poor level of demand so these event will be rescheduled for early in the New Year - keep on eye open for the dates or phone Anne Gibson on 270 6062 to let her know you are interested.

Also in the mass of papers are details of a number of practical training sessions on things like Health & Safety, Emergency Aid for Child Carers, Food Preparation etc, so even if you don't want to sign up for a certificated course like on SVQ, you can still do something that is a recognised piece of training which will help with your job. If you want to receive a copy contact The Childcare Information Service on 0800 032 0323.

Pace Training Spring Dates



Who's looking forward to summer already?

That's right PACE, with a list of training events from now until the start of the summer holidays. Topics include:

- 4 Feb **Including Young People with Special Needs**
- 18 Feb **Food Hygiene Certificate**
- 4 Mar **Arts & Crafts (Spring Theme)**
- 18 Mar **Environmental Awareness with Young People**
- 1 Apr **Easter Activities**
- 15 Apr **Festivals/May Day, etc**
- 29 Apr **Child Protection**
- 13 May **Music and Percussion**
- 17 May **Risk Assessment**

YOUTH WORK PARTNERSHIP TRAINING

For part time staff and volunteers in Community Education and the Voluntary Sector

- Title** **Child Protection**
- Venue** Gracemount Leisure Centre
- Date** Saturday 25th January 2003 9.30am - 4.00pm
- Title** **Equal Opportunities/Inclusion**
- Venue** Update, Beaverhall Road (near Powderhall Stadium)
- Date** Part A - Wednesday 29th January 2003 6.00pm - 9.00pm
Part B - Wednesday 5th February 2003 6.00pm - 9.00pm
- Title** **Promoting Positive Behaviour**
- Venue** West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre, 19 West Pilton Grove, Edinburgh
- Date** Saturday 22nd March 2003 10am - 4pm

Editors Note: Given that 'Powderhall Stadium' has been flattened and there's housing on the site, this description has obviously been used for the benefit of those people who have been in Edinburgh long enough to know about Duncan's Chocolate Factory, scaffy lorries and the La Scala Cinema.

LAYC Training Days

Get your diaries out and your application forms (included in this Networks mailing) in for the following training events brought to you by LAYC in conjunction with Youth Scotland.

Saturday 18th January 2003

"Managing Challenging Behaviour"

Facilitator Liz Quinn
Venue LAYC Offices, Edinburgh

Saturday 8th March 2003

"Games to Drop into Your Programme"

Facilitator Jim Balloch
Venue To be confirmed - central Edinburgh

Saturday 17th May 2003

"Safe & Sound - Policies & Procedures for a Safer Youth & Children's Work Environment"

Facilitator Susan Smith
Venue LAYC Offices, Edinburgh

LAYC will be running a series of Introductory Training Sessions between January and June for youth and children's workers in both Edinburgh and West Lothian (see enclosed leaflet for dates and venues).

Sessions include 'Setting the Scene - the roles of the youth & children's worker'; 'Working Together - communications, information sharing and decision making in your group'; 'Perfecting the Programme and Programme Ideas'; 'Getting Money out of a Stone and Covering your Back - how legislation and regulations impact on youth and children's work'.

CRBS TRAINING PROGRAMME

CRBS - The Central Registration Body in Scotland set up by the Scottish Executive to provide voluntary sector access to Disclosure information and funded by the Scottish Parliament to help keep costs of the new system for voluntary organisations down is currently advertising training dates outside of their Stirling base.

However, it will cost you £45 per person to find out what you need to do to comply with the Disclosure/CRBS Code of Practice on secure handling use, storage and retention of disclosure information.

The workshops on the recruitment of Ex-offenders are run by APEX. Groups might find it cheaper to join together and contact APEX direct.

YEP

(Young Edinburgh Passengers) Project

Funded by the Sustainable Action Grant

Since July, Michael Cooper, the YEP project worker has been visiting youth clubs/groups to find out more about what young people think about transport and to recruit young people for the YEP forum. The main aim of the project is to set up a YEP Forum which will take up transport issues affecting young people with the transport planners and providers.



The YEP forum meets on a monthly basis, so far it has looked at ways in which young people could be consulted on route changes and have an input into driver training. Also members of the forum held a stall at the 'car free festival' and have visited Lothian Buses to meet with senior board members.

Currently the YEP forum are carrying out research on buses to compare ways young people and adults are treated. In December the forum will visit Durham, where a similar project has been successful in negotiating reduced fares for young people. During this trip the young people will look at all the research carried out to date in Edinburgh in order to draw up a work plan for January to July 2003.

Anyone interested in the project should contact Michael at EYSIP on 0131 555 5111 or e-mail m.cooper@youthinclusion.org.

Pupil Participation in Change Project

The pupil participation in change project is now up and running. The aim of the project is to establish and disseminate a range of best practice in supporting young people with Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties (SEBD) to fully participate in the life of their school. The project is based within Canonmills and Cairnpark schools who are due to merge in 2004. This period of change provides an ideal window of opportunity for the young people to be meaningfully involved in the development of their new school. Project workers Mick Greenwood and Christina McMellon are currently

reviewing existing practice within the city and undertaking an initial mapping / induction into the schools in question.

Hello. My name is Christina and I'm a Pupil Participation Officer for EYSIP's Pupil Participation in Change Project. My background is in community education and I've been working with young people in Edinburgh for about 4 years, mainly developing peer education in a variety of settings. Young people do have opinions about the decisions that effect them and I am committed to finding creative ways of enabling pupils to have their voice heard within the school.

Hi, my name is Mick and I am also working on the Pupil Participation in Change Project. I am a youth and community worker and have recently moved to Edinburgh to take up the post. I have worked with young people for about 15 years in settings ranging from Outdoor education centres, youth clubs to schools. I have a strong commitment to my work with young people and am looking forward to working both staff and students.

Christina and Mick can be contact at EYSIP on 0131 555 5111 or c.mcmellon@youthinclusion.org / 07974 148551 or m.greenwood@youthinclusion.org / 07966 478518.

Understanding Young Fire-setters

This year long project involves an action research process, working with young people to explore their involvement in fire setting, and working with the Fire Brigade, Police and affected communities, to explore appropriate responses. The rationale is that in spite of increased fire education, fire setting is still a major past-time in some areas where bins, playgrounds and wasteground are continually set on fire. In some cases, fire-fighters become the target of harassment and violence when they respond to fires.

Streetwork will be used to engage with young people over a period of time in two locations in the city where firesetting is a concern (Craigmillar and Muirhouse). This will allow us to examine common and localised trends and themes.

Outcomes

- Young people to be contacted in each area, research undertaken using appropriate street-based methods of exploring their involvement in fire-raising, their motivations and perceptions of the issue.
- Fire-fighters and police will be engaged in problem-solving approaches using research findings, to make their preventive work and responses more effective.
- Produce a research report with clear recommendations to inform future responses.

Contact Teresa Young at EYSIP on 0131 555 5111 or t.young@youthinclusion.org

Have a Blast and a Young Persons Councillors Surgery

Are you a young person 14-21? Do you have issues with Housing, Social Work, Education, the Environment or any other council service? There is now a Young Persons Councillor's Surgery every month at EYSIP's world famous 'Have a Blast' event. Come along to the event and learn new ways to express yourself whilst having fun. Or just come along for the councillors surgery and get the opportunity to have a city of Edinburgh councilor listen and act on your behalf.

Dates 21 Nov 2002, 19 Dec 2002, 23 Jan 2003
Venue City Arts Centre, Market Street (over from Mercado's)
Time 6.00pm - 8.00pm
Contact John Arthur at EYSIP on 0131 555 5111 or email j.arthur@youthinclusion.org

Bored Meetings ?

is a new training course for young people to support their participation in formal decision-making (youth forums, school councils, management committees and so on, which aim to involve young people in the management of organisations or the shaping up of youth service provision or policy).

We performed a consultation over the summer, with young people who had varying experiences of formal decision-making. Careful consideration of the findings allowed us to develop a course which closely relates to young people's perceived training needs and concerns. Bored Meetings? covers issues such as: how we make decisions; how we can help everyone to participate; the support that young people need from their organisations; and 'soft skills' (assertiveness, listening etc.).



Two pilot Bored Meetings? courses are now in full flow. The materials will be modified and pulled together to produce a resource pack for youth workers or peer trainers, and young people who complete the course (and choose to do so) will come together again in the new year to have a day at Stevenson College which will enable them to achieve an HN Unit in Meeting Skills (the course is tied to an accreditation framework).

Contact: Helen Berry at EYSIP on 0131 555 5111, or Jenny Haines at EVOC on 0131 555 9124.

❑ Loitering is Good for Teenagers

Teenagers who loiter together outside the shops may scare the customers, but they are doing wonders for their social development. The discovery that 'hanging out' is vital for teenage interaction was one of the findings being presented at the British Psychological Society's annual conference. Dr Charlotte Clark of the University of Sussex announced that adolescents were drawn towards public places by a deep seated need for social interaction.

"Meeting up with your friends in the town centre is an important stage on the path to adulthood, although too often adults see it as threatening," she said. Dr Clark interviewed more than 600 teenagers for her research, and concluded that urban areas should be designated to meet adolescents' needs to meet and 'retreat'.

Reprinted from Youth Link Scotland 'Briefing'

❑ COMPUTER TRAINING

McSence CyberCycle offers training to people from Edinburgh and Midlothian who wish to learn about computer software. They run two courses, a 20 week and a 10 week programme, which start from 'Computers for the Terrified', to the European Driving Licence (ECDL) so people can start at various stages. Courses run morning, afternoon and evening and cost £5 per session, plus a £5 admin fee. On completion people will be offered a computer free of charge. The project also has computers for sale from £60 to organisations and individuals. For more information contact Sheila Hay on 0131 654 5714.

❑ WINTER WONDERLAND 5th December 2002 - 5th January 2003

Come and enjoy a fun day out on the ice - special youth community groups/clubs rates

For the fifth year running, Winter Wonderland is back to Edinburgh this festive season, bigger, brighter and better than ever!!!

Winter Wonderland's open air ice rink and Christmas market will again be situated in the beautiful surroundings of Princes Street Gardens with the stunning backdrop of Edinburgh Castle and surrounded by twinkling fairy lights.

To make sure that Edinburgh's local youth community groups/clubs don't miss out on the fun, they are offering a not-to-be-missed opportunity to enjoy a Christmas day at Winter Wonderland at greatly reduced rate.

Normal admission price for a child is £4, but for youth community groups/clubs within Edinburgh, they are offering the special reduced rate of only £3 per child. And all supervisors and accompanying adults get to skate for free!!

They have reserved an afternoon session (4pm - 5.30pm) every Monday - Thursday from 9th - 12th December and 16th - 19th December 2002 to allow Edinburgh's youth community groups/clubs the exciting opportunity to get their skates on and take part in the magical Christmas experience of Winter Wonderland.

Places are limited and will be in high demand, so if your group is keen to take part, then kindly complete the enclosed booking form and return it to them as soon as possible.

Places will be offered on a first come, first served basis, so get in early to make the most of this fantastic offer.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Milne on 0131 226 6550 if you have any queries.

❑ B.I.G. OPPORTUNITIES

B.I.G. is a youth and children's project that provides a range of activities for 5 to 15 year olds living in Broomhouse and North Sighthill. They provide both open access and targeted work offering exciting and dynamic opportunities. Their main priority is challenging anti-social and offending behaviour with the aim of increasing community safety and awareness.

And they're looking for STAFF !

For sessional staff and volunteers to work with children and young people between the ages of 5-15. They provide a wide and exciting range of employment opportunities and are particularly looking for staff to work with 5 and 6 year olds at the moment.

If you are interested in both diverse and dynamic work contact:

Alison, Sascha or Lissa at The B.I.G. Project, The Broomhouse Centre, 79/89 Broomhouse Crescent, Edinburgh EH11 3RH Tel: 0131 622 7784.

❑ Looking for Employment

Katherine Shearer who is currently living in Edinburgh after recently graduating from Glasgow University has contacted LAYC looking for daytime employment opportunities in youth work. Here's a little extract from her C.V.

Katherine can be contacted at Flat 2/2 37 Templepark Crescent, Edinburgh

Whilst at secondary school I was a peer educator with East Lothian Council's Drugs Awareness Project.

She is currently working for 'Changes' (Community Health Project) as an administrative assistance on a voluntary basis.

I have always found I relate well to young people and they in turn to me. I am a very open minded, non-judgemental person and pride myself on my listening skills.

I have always found this work and interaction incredibly fulfilling and rewarding and I know that I have something to offer young people which can only aid them in the future.

If interested please drop Katherine a line. [Remember that all volunteers or staff need to be appropriately selected and checked. LAYC is not in a position to endorse this person.]

❑ The Girls Brigade in Lothian

Enjoy the hills and beautiful countryside.

Enjoy the company of friends But most of all enjoy **The Charlotte Campbell Memorial House, Ninemileburn.**

The house is situated approximately 12 miles from Edinburgh on the A702 Biggar/Lanark Road within easy reach of the Pentland Hills.

It offers holidays ideally suited to Girls' Brigade, Boys' Brigade, Guides, Scouts, Youth and Church Groups, etc and has ideal self-catering accommodation for groups of up to 24.

Further information from The Secretary on 0131 441 4391 (9.00am - 1.00pm Monday - Friday).

❑ Minimum Wage Increases

As from 1st October the main rate and youth rate have both increased 10p per hour to £4.20 and £2.60 respectively.

The Employment Act 2002 contains dispute resolution procedures that are likely to come into force in late 2003. Statutory dismissal and disciplinary procedures (DDPs) and grievance procedures (GPs), plus provision for these statutory procedures to become an implied term of employment contracts are expected. Employers will have to follow DDPs before making a dismissal otherwise the action will be deemed unfair. Employers will have to give details of disciplinary and grievance procedures to all employees either in the written statement of employment particulars or separately.

The Fixed-term Employees (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment Regulations 2002) came into effect on 1st October 2002. Details of the implications are online at www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/si/si2002/20022034.htm Among provisions - where a person has been employed on a fixed term contract for four years (starting 10th July 2002), the contract will convert to a permanent contract at its next renewal unless the employer can show an objective justification for continuing to give a fixed-term contract.

❑ GREATER PILTON GIRLS CONSORTIUM Development Worker

The Greater Pilton Girls Consortium is a collaborative initiative which involves ten local organisations co-ordinating provision for girls and young women from throughout the Greater Pilton area.

The steering group which co-ordinates the work of the Consortium includes representatives from each of the member groups, ie

- Pilton Youth & Children's Project
- Muirhouse Youth Development Group
- West Granton Youth & Play Association
- The Prentice Centre
- Craigoyston Community Centre
- Granton Youth Centre
- Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre
- St Paul's Youth Club
- Junction & the Klub Youth Clubs

The steering group meets regularly in order to promote the need for specific work with girls and young women, particularly events which promote good quality single gender provision and the opportunity to share good practice.

The consortium have just appointed their first Development Worker, Karen Black who can be contacted through the Prentice Centre in Pilton.

