



AUTUMN NEWSLETTER



Chief Execs Blog.

In my interview for this post as well as in my AGM presentation, I used a picture to describe my view of the role of organisations such as SCVYS. For me, we should operate much like an umbrella. SCVYS is here to create and provide the best environment we can for you as a member organisation to thrive in. We are here to make sense of the national and regional agendas, deciphering them from jargonised language into relevant bite size pieces of information that are helpful to you.

We hope to be a layer of protection from some of the harsher realities of distant policy shifts, or data junkies (whose desire for information causes the rest of us to overload on surveys and questionnaires!) and those who just want to use your hard work to justify their own existence, offering nothing in return.

The more I understand about this environment the more SCVYS appears to stand out as different. We facilitate more value, in terms of direct benefit, to front line groups through management and accommodation grants (including directed use of schools premises) than we spend on running SCVYS as a supporting organisation.

I hope that every single member group feels they get more from their membership fee than they pay! And my promise is that this will only increase, as SCVYS responds more directly to member needs than ever before. Take a look at the offer we are making to members, (it is on the back of the Annual Report) and see if anything there would assist you and your group. If not, tell us what you do need by contacting the SCVYS office on 01785 240378.

Have a great term,

Phil

How to contact SCVYS

PLEASE UPDATE your email addresses, for general enquiries please use office@staffscvys.org.uk and to contact the admin team use debbie@staffscvys.org.uk

With **IMMEDIATE** effect staffscvys@staffordshire.gov.uk and Deborah.mason@staffordshire.gov.uk email addresses are no longer active

Community Youth and Volunteer Workers

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Lisa Corbett lisa@staffscvys.org.uk
Jane Reynolds jane@staffscvys.org.uk
Nicola Leadbetter Nicola@staffscvys.org.uk

Us2 Project Workers

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SCVYS AGM

Thank you to all of you who attended the SCVYS AGM at Girlguiding Headquarters in Hixon on the 29th September.

We hope you enjoyed the interactive members survey and also the people bingo activity which was organised and expertly facilitated by Lisa, Claire, Nicola and Jane.

SCVYS also bid farewell to Maureen Recine who has supported us as a Trustee for 3 years and her contributions, diligence and hard work has been invaluable to the charity. With Maureen retiring, SCVYS welcomed Teresa Ellis who is the Girlguiding Division Commissioner for Cannock as a brand new trustee and David Leigh and John Barker were re-elected on to the board.

If you would like a copy of the annual report please email the office on office@staffscvys.org.uk

SCVYS would like to also thank Sue Smith and all of those at Girlguiding who supported the event and helped it to run smoothly.

US2 PROJECT IN ECCLESHALL

Jessica from the Us2 project has been working in the village of Eccleshall for the past 12 months and in this time she has set up the first youth club in Eccleshall for over 8 years, the Drop-In at the Library has now grown to a regular attendance of 15 young people per week and there is now the opportunity to expand this to group from its current bi-weekly opening to weekly sessions.

Following on from the success of the Drop-In Jessica launched the Summer Skills Challenge that took place in August with a group young people from Eccleshall who took up a series of challenges. The challenges were a day of drama and storytelling that included having a lesson in facepainting and fake wound application, a residential weekend at Beaudesert, day trip to Harper Adams university and a Circus Skills day at Eccleshall Library.

The aim of the scheme was to give young people in the village of Eccleshall a chance to get involved in activities which they wouldn't have been able to access ordinarily. The long term plan is for these young people to become 'village ambassadors' and act as a voice of the youth in Eccleshall.

Jessica is looking for committee members to become involved in the management of the club and with support from Lisa Corbett the group will be looking to move to independence by early next year. If you are interested email jessica@staffscvys.org.uk.





FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

SCVYS have identified these funding opportunities which we hope will be useful to you.

Children and young people

The Woodward Charitable Trust awards grants in a number of areas, including activity that benefits children and young people, minority groups, prisoners and ex-offenders, as well as arts outreach work and environmental projects. The majority of grants are for less than £5,000. The next deadline for applications is Wednesday 30 November. <http://www.woodwardcharitabletrust.org.uk/guidelines.html>

Grants to small charities

Yapp Charitable Trust make grants to small registered charities to sustain their existing work, with one of its priorities being children and young people aged 5 - 25. Grants are normally for a maximum of £3,000 per year and most of their grants are for more than one year because they give priority to ongoing needs. <http://www.yappcharitabletrust.org.uk>

Helping disadvantaged young people attend residential activities

The Field Studies Council (FSC) has grants available through the Kids Fund to help towards the cost of groups of disadvantaged young people attending residential environmental learning and environmental activity courses at an FSC centre. Young people must be aged 8 - 18, or up to age 25 if the young people have special needs. You can apply for up to 80% of the cost of your group's course to an FSC Field Centre to a maximum of £3000. This includes all accommodation, food, equipment, tuition and waterproof hire costs. One member of staff/adult is free with every 10 students with additional adults paying 20%. http://www.field-studies-council.org/supporters/kidsfund_application.aspx

Disadvantaged children and young people

The BBC Children in Need General Grants support projects that focus on the differences made to the lives of disadvantaged children and young people. It provides small grants of £10,000 or less per year for up to three years and main grants over £10,000 per year for up to three years.

There are four general grant deadlines each year: 15 January, 15 April, 15 July and 15 October.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/general_grants.shtml

Community based initiatives for young people

The Hilden Charitable Trust seeks to support projects which align with its key priorities: asylum seekers and refugees; community based initiatives for young people; homelessness; penal affairs; and overseas development. It typically awards grants of up to £5,000. There are no application deadlines.

<http://www.hildencharitablefund.org.uk/about.htm>

Grants for young people

The Live UnLtd programmed has grants of up to £5,000 (the average grant is £1,500) to help young people aged 11 - 21 turn an idea to make the world a better place into a reality. Non-financial support is also available and can include budgeting advice, networking opportunities, governance issues and working with volunteers. <http://www.liveunltd.com/>

Small grants

The Edgar E Lawley Foundation current annual grants programme amounts to approximately £250,000 per annum with a typical grant being in the region of £1,200 to £2,000. The Foundation supports six broad areas including children and young people. The next deadline for applications is 31 October.

<http://www.edgarelawleyfoundation.org.uk/main.htm>



MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT!

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Staffordshire overseas links committee Ghanaians visit 19th July to 10th August 2011



SCVYS have been proud to support the Duke of Edinburgh Overseas Links Committee with their projects over the last few years and this year is no exception!

Here Shirley Drinkwater explains the latest exchange where a group of young people from Ghana came spent time here in Staffordshire and also in London.

This wonderful exchange with a history of thirty five years was in grave danger of coming to an end. However the committee and I never lost heart and the four of us decided to fight on. To support this exchange we drew in

teachers from Chase Terrace Technology College, King Edward VI Stafford and Walton Hall Eccleshall they then drew in help from all the people they knew and between us we hosted the Ghanaians for 22 days.

We built a programme following the Commonwealth Youth Exchange Council [CYEC] themes, the themes were GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP, GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE, AND COMMUNITY COHESION.

The first week was spent at Beaudesert Guide and Scout camp site, the welcome was warm but the weather was cold! We managed a trip to Blithfield reservoir and went to Walton Hall special school where cultural diversity was brilliantly obvious and enjoyed by all. Two evenings were spent with Beacon Church, where they welcomed our group warmly, and community cohesion was central to the evening.

We then visited Burntwood wakes where the Ghanaians got to see a real picture of English country fair, they were invited to take part in the program by giving a performance of their singing and drumming and excelling at both! It seemed that everywhere we went people wanted the Ghanaians to perform and they did with a smile.

The last trips in Staffordshire were to St Johns Church Chase Terrace and a in CTTC studying Global Citizenship with college students.

Then followed three days and two nights in London, we travelled down by bus then walked to our accommodation. It was then time to have a picnic lunch in St James's park followed by an open top bus tour and Thames river boat tour. Whilst in London we visited the Ghanaian High Commission as well as The Duke of Edinburgh International Award office. Trips included a visit to Covent Garden, a concert in Trafalgar Square, China town, McDonalds, KFC and then we shopped till we dropped, well the Ghanaians did and we followed!

The group moved to Walton hall for the rest of the time, while there we went walking along a canal to Stone to see small ancient villages and modern wind turbines. We also went canoeing and rock climbing and visited Trentham Gardens, Hanley museum, Apedale museum and heritage centre and we also were invited to lunch with Newcastle's Mayor and Mayoress.

We were hosted by Eccleshall Rotary, and Stone Rotary clubs and the group also spent a lovely weekend in Seighford village and Church where we got to spend time with the local people and had a walk round a farm. Finally we Visited Stafford castle which was hosting a vintage car rally.

An action packed 22 days where young people from Staffordshire and Ghana got to meet, share ideas and enjoy new and exciting experiences and explore the themes of Global Citizenship, Global Climate Change and Community Cohesion. An experience that all involved will not forget for a long time to come!



NATWEST COMMUNITY FORCE

Groups across Staffordshire are vying for funding and support from the Natwest Community Force. You register to vote online here <https://communityforce.natwest.com/user/register/> and once registered you get 3 votes and there is a wide range of projects and organisations who would like a vote.

One of SCVYS members C.H.O.I.C.E.S are looking for votes to support their service. They offer one to one individual counselling to children, young people & adults. Addressing issues such as anger management, low self esteem, low moods, bereavement/loss, relationships, communication etc. They also offer equine assisted psychotherapy & learning for individuals, groups & families. Sometimes room based counselling is not for everyone, allowing them the opportunity in an experiential way to learn about themselves through the horse can assist communication skills & problem solve. If you would like to use one of your votes to support C.H.O.I.C.E.S you can do so here <http://communityforce.natwest.com/project/4866>

NORTH STAFFS BOYS BRIDGE



Teenager Oliver Sheldon has been awarded the second highest honour which can be bestowed by the Boys' Brigade. Oliver is a 15 year old pupil of Wolstanton High School and it has taken him four years to complete all the skills needed for his President's Badge. Now Oliver has started work on his Queen's Badge; the highest honour which can be awarded by the Boys' Brigade.

He has also been nominated for another prestigious award in the Sentinels Our Heroes awards as a Bright Young Thing. Oliver, who was aged six when he first joined the 7th North Staffordshire Boys Brigade said: "I'm being trained to be an officer with the Boys Brigade". Oliver is the ninth boy in this company to receive this award. He is only the second boy to attempt the Queens Award and the 7th North Staffs Brigade are very proud of what he has achieved.

Oliver also went to Battalion Camp this year at Dyffryn North Wales and received the Peter Butler award for the best tent, and the Links activity shield.

BURTON YMCA SLEEP OUT

On Friday 11th November 2011 alongside the usual sleep out in the stands at Burton Rugby Club we will also be taking volunteers to secret locations in the town to experience what rough sleeping is really like! The event does not re-create homelessness, it's not even a tough physical challenge and we are not expecting you to take risks with your personal safety. We are not even attempting to match the sense of danger, hopelessness and hunger which afflicts many homeless people. We are simply asking you to put yourself through some discomfort and raise vital funds for Burton YMCA ... and imagine how comfy your bed will feel afterwards! To enter as an individual sleeper please raise or donate a minimum of £100 for a team of four or more sleepers please raise or donate a minimum of £75 per sleeper

A £10 registration fee will secure your place and we will provide a safe and secure venue with free parking, a cardboard box, mug of hot soup around 10pm and a breakfast bap. There is a best fundraiser prize and celebrity guest!

You can also "earn" extra cardboard or maybe even some bubble wrap! Most importantly you can make a difference to homeless people in your area.

Its quick and easy to register: contact me via email at gillian.cox@burtonymca.org or call me on 07969 990204

Register before 5th November to receive a free goody bag!

BORN SURVIVOR



To celebrate the appointment of Bear Grylls as the United Kingdom's Chief Scout, the scouts of Staffordshire held a Born Survivor Camp at Kibblestone Scout camp over the weekend of the 9th/10th July 2011.

Over 1000 boys and girls gathered together to camp and take part activities throughout the weekend including canoeing, backwoods cooking, climbing and abseiling and many more outdoor events.

The camp started on Friday evening with a traditional Camp fire and the activities continued right through the weekend until Sunday afternoon. During Saturday afternoon the scouts hosted many civic and local guests including their County President Sir James Hawley the Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire.



There was an evening outdoor pop concert on the Saturday at which the Scouts really enjoyed themselves. During the weekend the organizers transported all 1000 Scouts across to the lake at Trentham Gardens in order for them to have a chance at boating and canoeing.

By Sunday afternoon all 1000 Scouts went home tired and full of happy memories at a weekend that all of them will never forget.



VOLUNTEERING

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR YOUTH CLUB IN PENNYMOOR

Do you have a spare couple of hours per week? Do you find yourself wanting to do more to help your local community? Then why not join the friendly and professional team and work with children with us at Pennymoor Youth Club. Trips, events, fun days and parties are just some of the added perks that come with working for us! For more information contact Lee Green on l.s.green@live.co.uk

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR YOUTH CLUB IN SWYNNERTON NEAR STONE

Volunteers required to help out at a youth club on Wednesday evenings between 6.30pm and 9.15pm. The Youth Club caters for young people between 9-16. Volunteers would be asked to with various activities such as arts & crafts, sports, playing games, music, organising discos and come up with new ideas for activities. Also a willingness to talk to young people and help to maintain a safe environment.

If you are interested and require further information, please contact Rod Whiteman on 01782 796811 or email rod.whiteman@nationaltrust.org.uk

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY REQUIRED NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME (18+)

To meet with minimum standards, the Young Ones Drama Group now require a female volunteer to help out at their dance group on Wednesday evenings 6:15pm - 9:15 pm. The ideal person would have skills to help deliver dance sessions such as Street Dance. Also someone with enthusiasm and ideas for fund-raising and a willingness to be involved in all aspects of running the club.

If you are interested please contact John Bowler for further information on 01782 611406 or 07885414420