



WHITEHAVEN HARBOUR YOUTH PROJECT

'Tis the season to be Merry.....

Yes but before we get into all of that, a couple of other celebrations:-

Wedding Bells - Congratulations to our Youth Worker, Wendy Thomas, on her recent marriage to Matt Jackson. Our very best wishes for your future together.

'Christmas do' - not the usual Office Party! Our Trustees, staff and volunteers have a 'Christmas do' with a difference - not the usual boozy do! A short country walk and a bar lunch. The unusual bit is that we usually finish off the day back in the office! Too late for this year but come and join us next year! This year saw a very wet and windy start in Eskdale, but it immediately dried up for a walk up to Stanley Force before a lunch at the Ratty Arms in Ravenglass.

Cause for celebration! - We are delighted that our recent application to Copeland Community Fund has been successful and that we will receive £30,000 of core funding a year over the next three years to support and develop the provision here at the Harbour.

Coming Up Soon!

Presentation evening - We are delighted to welcome the High Sheriff of Cumbria, Iona Frost- Pennington to present Awards earned by a range of our young people. Arts Awards, Duke of Edinburgh Award, National Indoor Climbing Awards, to name but a few. All welcome Thursday 19th January 2012 at the Harbour. 6p.m.

Culture Shock



Above: Lady Mayoress & henna tattoos

A partnership project with University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN) delivered a 'Culture Shock' day in October when Community Volunteering students came up from Lancashire to West Cumbria and delivered a wide range of cultural experiences. Henna tattoos, fashion show and food (of course!) were on the agenda. It was a fascinating day with great atmosphere, enjoyed by all who took part or dropped in.



As for the **'shock'** part - well as you might expect, the young people took it all in their stride! The students from urban Lancashire, on the other hand, stayed overnight at Ennerdale Scout Camp and found challenges where they didn't expect and friendship and smooth running where they expected challenges.

We'll have some more of that please!

Urban Walls—The abridged Story!!



October half term saw Adventure Group climbers, who are regulars on our climbing wall here, spread their wings - well in reality, stretch their limbs and also their minds on a two day trip to Edinburgh. Steve and Stuart organised this Adventure Group trip with a difference. Instead of going to wild places the team went urban! Two very impressive walls - Edinburgh International Climbing Arena at Ratho and Alien Rock in Leith. To stay with the outdoor theme, however, the group camped overnight at Bonally Scout camp. A big up to Beth, Sam, Will, Sophie, James, Aaron, Brad and Josh.

See full report on our website at whyp.org.uk.

WHYP Staff:

Project Manager Mike Mills

Youth Space-Nik Smith and Wendy Thomas

Outdoor - Debs Carter, Stuart Dunnet and Steve Walter.

Digital Natives! Arts Award update....



Above: 'pimp my' Climbing Wall

Ciara, Yasmin, Josh, Lee, Katie, Bethany, Rachael and Sophie had a great time searching out all the Lumiere exhibits in and around Durham in November. The group then worked very hard on their own projections,

Below: Derelict house by day and screen by night



and joined with other groups from around Cumbria at WHYP on Friday 2nd December to showcase their work indoors.... and outdoors . . .

Ciara, Yasmin and Josh were chosen from our group to continue onto the Silver Award and were invited to attend another fantastic projection based residential in Keswick 9th/10th December.

Young Peoples Achievements

Fundraising:

Christmas Market:



Young people Staff and Volunteers joined forces again with Stall Holders to raise £165 towards equipment required.

Above: Shelly, Jeanette, Trevor, Debs (stall holders) with Harry and Megan

Sponsored Team Swim and Bag Packing:

Busy, busy fundraisers—with a sponsored swim and two supermarket bag packs before Christmas, young people have raised nearly £2000 towards new equipment. We have a target of £8500 to raise to meet the costs of the new tents and expedition gear, new canoe trailer, seating and activities.

Thanks to everyone who has supported us.

Table Tennis

Table Tennis County School Competition

WHYP, whose young people attended and represented St. Benedict's school, took 2 teams (under 13's boys and u-16's boys) to the County Team Championships. The event was based at Barrow Table Tennis Centre, with the winners going through to the national finals in Newcastle.

Although we didnt win the events, we were very proud of the young peoples performance during the day as was great to say our standard of play has improved from last year. Also good to see us enter more teams this year too... progression all round.

Upcoming Events:

- Friendly - Botcherby vs. Longtown vs. WHYP (December)
- Junior individual county trials (February)
- Whitehaven Junior Table Tennis League (February/March)

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal!

With support from parents and our regular Monday Youth Club we were able to fill 19 wrapped Christmas shoe boxes for the Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box Appeal!



And finally...

Don't forget we are still saving stamps for the Albatross campaign. Anyone with any used stamps, please could they kindly drop them into our office.

Collaborative Projects

Learning to swim

Collaboration between the Harbour Project and North Country Leisure has seen a group of young people learning to swim on Friday evenings at Copeland Pool. As Steve Walter explained, " we get a surprising number of young people who come canoeing with us who can't swim or can only just." Obviously we support young people at whatever level of adventure and challenge is appropriate but when some have said how much they enjoyed the paddling and that they would like to learn to swim it seemed a good opportunity to support.

The success is evident in that a forthcoming sponsored swim sees some of our new swimmers taking part and swimming half a mile! Well done all!

... and on your bike!

On a similar theme, we have linked up with Young Cumbria and house their mountain bikes with a view to working together on cycling opportunities in the future. Meanwhile we have followed the learn to swim theme and found that we have a number of young people who are getting a sense of achievement from learning to ride as a teenager. The Sports Hall set out with cones makes an ideal location for winter evening sessions for learners. Hey , you're never too old to learn new tricks! (as your Granny used to say)

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