

Youth News

Love Football, Hate Racism 2009

This year saw the return of the 7th annual Love Football, Hate Racism event in South Staffordshire. Youth Clubs from across the area including 2 teams from Wheaton Aston Youth Club firstly joined together with the ZIP Theatre Company to explore the issues and their concerns around racism and express their thoughts and feelings in the form of lyrics to produce a soundtrack. This was a challenging workshop for the young people from Wheaton Aston who had to perform in front of other young people that they didn't know. They did however overcome their initial discomforts and produced a fantastic piece of music with a powerful anti-racist message.

The finale of the anti-racist work as always was the Love Football, Hate Racism 5 a side tournament held at Aldersley Stadium in Wolverhampton followed by a trip to the Molineux to watch the Wolves v Charlton Athletic match. Working with the Wolves in the community team and linking to the National charities Show Racism the Red Card and Kick Racism out of Football the young people battled it out for the Love Football Hate Racism trophy. Congratulations to all the young people from Wheaton Aston who took part in both events.

Wheaton Aston Carnival

Fancy trying something new? Wheaton Aston Senior Youth Club with a lot of help and expertise from the Cultural Sisters are working on a Samba project in preparation for the Wheaton Aston Carnival. The young people will be busy over the next few weeks making carnival costumes to wear on the day and will develop samba drumming skills and a dance routine. Our hope is to bring together all generations from the community in producing and performing the finished routine/procession. If anyone out there is interested then please phone the Youth Centre office on 01785 841699 and speak to Julie Jones or Chris Frid.

Summer Activities

Staffordshire Youth Service will be putting on a programme of Summer Activities from 3rd – 21st August 5 days a week. The programme will include a range of indoor and outdoor activities ranging from climbing walls, archery, football tournaments, dance workshops, graffiti art, Dj'ing workshops and trips out (Waterworld, Drayton Manor) to name a few. The activities will take place at the youth club and in Penkridge where transport will be provided for young people that wish to attend. The final programme will be available soon. Please speak to Julie if you are interested in taking part.

Wheaton Aston Senior Youth Club

If you are not already a member of the youth club, please accept this as an invitation to join us. The youth club has recently been refurbished and young people alongside the youth work staff have successfully applied for funding to update and buy new equipment and resources. We have an Xbox, a flashy new pool table, bar football, sports equipment, arts & craft and we have just had 4 computers delivered and are waiting for them to be connected to complete our internet café. As you can see from the above we also try to involve young people in all different kinds of positive activities. Membership is £1 for a year and 30p a week subs. **Thursday evenings 6.30pm – 9.00pm Ages 12 – 18 years**

Wheaton Aston Youth Forum

Young people from Wheaton Aston Youth Forum have been busy recruiting new members to ensure the good work that they have started continues. They will be attending a training and planning residential in the Peak District in June where they will introduce the new members to their roles as part of a youth forum and plan some activities. The young people will have the opportunity to take part in kayaking, high ropes, night hiking and weaselling in what is set to be a packed weekend of activity. Watch this space!!

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Various young people from the youth club have been awarded sectional Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award certificates for their involvement in the youth club programme and activities. In September we will be offering the full award to young people that are interested. Please speak to Julie or one of the other youth workers if you want to take part.

BMX Bike Track

Young people in Wheaton Aston have been busy campaigning for some time now for a BMX Bike track in the village. Various young people have been involved in consulting other young people around what facilities they would like in the village, a BMX Bike Track being one of the top things identified. Young people alongside youth workers did some door to door consultation to assess the need and support for the Bike Track and young people have presented their findings to the Play Strategy Working Group.

On Saturday 9th May a group of young people packed up their BMX's and safety helmets and went with the youth club to visit three very different kinds of BMX dirt tracks in Telford. They spent the day trying the tracks out for size, fun and layout, taking photographs, speaking to young people that use them and people who helped to get them up and running. It was a fun and informative day for the young people involved and they plan to feedback their findings and ideas to the Play Strategy Working Group at the next meeting.

Thanks BMX Boyz!

Some of our local young people have delivered this newsletter free of charge. Thank you to all of them who have given up their time to serve our community.

Summer Play Scheme Registration Night

Monday 13th July 7.30pm at St. Mary's First School Sports Hall. Look out for information and registration forms that will be issued at local schools in June.

Logo Challenge

The Parish Council are considering adopting an official logo and are looking for ideas for it. In the past the fritillary has been used and the council are keen to include this in the logo. If you would like to submit a design to be used as the inspiration for a new logo then please send your design to the Parish Council by 30th June 2009. The winning designer will receive a framed copy of their design and the final logo.