

New Members



We are pleased to welcome a new organisation into the membership of Youth Focus.

Observer Membership

The i-van Project

The i-van Project is a youth multi media project specialising in delivering workshops and session in video, animation, music productions and other computer related arts to increase skills, experience and confidence.

Contact: Frances Northrop

Tel: 01296 421036

Email: frances@i-van.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

THE VETTING AND BARRING SCHEME (VBS)

Sometimes it feels as if the voluntary sector is being overloaded with new requirements and hoops that have to be jumped through, but the safeguarding of children and young people is one topic that cannot be ignored or avoided. We are all familiar with the requirement that those who work or volunteer in youth settings need to be CRB checked. However, many of you are now also aware of the new Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) and the legal requirement that will mean all new entrants to the children's workforce will have to be registered with the ISA from October 12th 2009.

Youth Focus is working with the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board through a Working Group set up to implement the VBS in the county. We plan to provide a checklist for voluntary organisations confirming what they need to have in place in order to comply with the scheme. This is a matter of some urgency and new guidance from the ISA is due out at the end of April.

If you want to learn more about Safeguarding and how it is being implemented in Buckinghamshire then come along to the:



BUILDING THE TRUST CONFERENCE 2009 SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE



**WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2009
GREEN PARK CENTRE, ASTON CLINTON**

The day will feature keynote addresses from Donald McPhail, Independent Chair of the BSCB, Sue Imbriano, Director of Children's Services and Kevin Garrod from the new Third Sector Safeguarding Unit. There will also be a training session on Safe Employment, led by Steps Drama and workshops on CAF, the Common Referral Form & Safeguarding Children, the Vetting & Barring Scheme, Managing Allegations and Commissioning & Contracts.

The day promises to be informative, thought provoking and interactive so be prepared for a rewarding experience that will give you essential information and an advantage in managing the ways in which you ensure that the children and young people you work with are kept safe.

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service



In 2002, in celebration of Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee, the Queen's Golden Jubilee Award for Voluntary Service by Groups in the Community was established. Its purpose is to recognise groups of individuals who are giving their time freely for the benefit of others. It is the highest honour that can be bestowed upon groups of this kind and is equivalent in status to the MBE. As such, the Queen's Award not only serves to provide recognition of volunteer groups, but also demonstrates the high respect in which volunteering is held.

In common with the UK National Honours, there are no deadlines for the receipt of nomination forms. Award nominations will be considered at any point within 3 years of the nomination. Therefore, nominations should not be made for a particular year's Award. If you know of a volunteer group that devotes its time to helping others in your local community, and deserves recognition, nominate them for an award.

For more information and a nomination form please visit the website www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk

Rivertime Boat Trust

The Charity

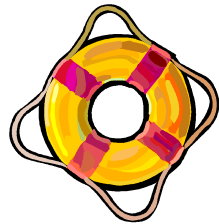
The Rivertime Boat Trust provides that special time on the river for those who are disabled and disadvantaged and for families with children with special needs.

The Boat

The boat is an AlphaCraft cruiser which is 43 ft in length with a 12 ft beam.

Facilities

- Fully accessible for wheelchair users
- A ramp from the towpath to the boat
- A hydraulic lift for wheelchairs
- Large toilet for the disabled
- Spacious saloon with moveable seating
- Sliding sun roof over saloon
- Galley with microwave and beverage facilities
- Central heating throughout
- Public address system and CD player



Location

'Rivertime' and her skipper operate from the River & Rowing Museum at Mill Meadows in Henley. There is a dedicated mooring for the boat which provides easy access. Free parking is available at the Museum and a visit to the museum and the Wind in the Willows exhibition completes the day out.

The River

You can cruise with a party up river through Marsh Lock on to Shiplake and Sonning or down stream along the Henley Royal Regatta course through Hambleden Lock and on towards Marlow. This creates a great Opportunity to see the wild life and the beautiful scenery on the River Thames. It is also great fun to moor up for a picnic.



To book telephone **07599 295544** or email skipper@rivertimeboattrust.org.uk.
Website www.rivertimeboattrust.org.uk

GreenPrints (England)

A partnership of five of the country's leading not-for-profit organisations have come together to provide support and funding to help young people improve green spaces in our communities. SITA Trust, 'v' the youth volunteering charity, BTCV, The Wildlife Trusts and the BBC's Breathing Places campaign, have joined forces to develop a two-year programme called GreenPrints which will offer funding of up to £10,000, as well as support and practical expertise from the partners, to enable 16-25 year olds to make a real difference to the communities in which they live. The funding is open to not for profit organisations for projects designed and delivered by groups of volunteers aged 16 to 25. SITA Trust and v have each pledged £1 million to fund the programme, making it one of the largest single investments made by either organisation to any funding programme. The overall programme will be managed using the expertise and experience of SITA Trust and BTCV. One of the most unusual elements of this programme is the individual, dedicated mentor-support that will be provided by the BTCV and The Wildlife Trusts to assist with the practical delivery of every single project that is supported. If you are aged between 16 and 25 and want to put something back into your community visit the GreenPrints pages at <http://www.sitatrust.org.uk/greenprints>

BUILDING THE TRUST 2009

The main theme of this years event will be

Safeguarding Children and Young People

To be held at

The Coach House, Green Park Centre,
Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire, HP22 5NE

on

Wednesday 13th May 2009

From 9.15 am
(registration) until
3.45pm



Youth Focus Training Day

Youth Focus Training Day

Saturday 6th June 2009

We will be running the following Full Day Courses at a cost of £15.00 per head including lunch:-

Emergency Aid (certificated)

This is a certificated course with an assessment covering breathing and circulation, personal safety (assessing the incident), priorities (ABC check and sending for help), unconscious casualty, rescue breathing, CPR, choking, blood loss and shock, control of bleeding and burns.

Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (certificated)

This is a certificated course with a multiple choice examination covering legislation, food safety hazards, temperature control, refrigeration, chilling and cold holding, cooking, hot handling and reheating, food handling, principles of safe food storage, cleaning and food premises and equipment.

We will also be running one half day morning course at a cost of £5.00 per head including coffee. This course is:

Child Protection for those working with Children and Young People

The session will cover:

- Definitions of child abuse
- Potential indicators
- Actual disclosures
- How to handle these, obviously, sensitive issues

For copies of the flyer and booking form please contact the Youth Focus office on 01296 631911 or email office@youthfocus.co.uk. Copies of the flyer and booking form are also available on the Youth Focus website www.youthfocus.org.uk



The Percy, Anne & David Wood Charitable Trust

The Percy, Ann & David Wood Charitable Trust was established in 1996 in memory of Percy, Ann and David Wood, to specifically assist young people with disabilities, actively engaged in sport or the arts and who **reside in the town of Aylesbury**. Youth Focus manages this fund on behalf of the Trust and we will be presenting the sum of £500 at our AGM on Tuesday 16th June 2009 to one or more recipients.

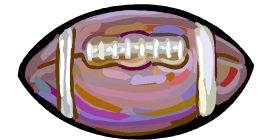


Last year we were pleased to award this sum of money to Colton Hewitt-Shaw of Aylesbury College for his achievements in the performing arts. We are very keen that other young people have the opportunity to be nominated for this award and we are sure that you must know of some budding young artists, actors or sports persons who would benefit from this recognition.



The deadline date for applications this year will be **1st June 2009**.

For further information please contact the Youth Focus office or log on to our website www.youthfocus.org.uk



Important Dates For Your Diary

Council Meetings

Wednesday 25th March 2009
Monday 12th October 2009

AGM

Tuesday 16th June 2009

Conference

Wednesday 13th May 2009

Training Days

Saturday 6th June 2009
Saturday 14th November 2009





For young people who **inspire** the lives of others

There's never been a better time to nominate an inspiring young person for a Diana Award - make 2009 the year you say 'thank you' for their work

It is hard to believe that it is ten years since the Government's Memorial Committee set up the Diana Award as a lasting celebration of the late Princess's work. Since then over 24,000 young people have been recognised for the inspiring work that they do and to celebrate the Diana Award has been re-launched with a proud new vision. You can now nominate for three separate awards:

The Diana Award. This flagship Award is now solely for individuals aged 12-18 who make a sustained, selfless contribution to their community, and who demonstrate exceptional personal qualities. The Award has been made more prestigious by introducing a rigorous assessment process that involves a quality panel.

The Diana Anti-Bullying Award. An Award for those aged 5-18 who have tackled bullying in their schools and communities remains open to both individuals and groups of young people.

The Diana Certificate of Excellence. A new award for groups of young people aged 12 - 18 who have worked together to make their communities a better place to be.

So, whether you know inspiring individuals, or groups of young people, there is now an Award or a certificate tailored exactly to their achievements.

The deadline for all three Awards is **22nd May 2009**. so don't delay - get in touch and help those exceptional young people on their journeys to become active and committed citizens.

For more information visit www.diana-award.org.uk or call 020 7785 3837 or email awards-info@diana-award.org.uk.

YOUTH FOCUS COUNCIL

At the **Youth Focus Council Meeting** held on **Tuesday 27th January 2009**, **Liz Smith, Family Information Services Project Manager**, explained the duty all local authorities have to provide information, advice and assistance to parents of children and young people up to the age of 20.

Liz described the plans for the web-based **Family Services Directory** and the importance of all partners being involved in the development of the directory. As organisations in the voluntary sector run a vast range of different services for children, young people and families, Youth Focus members need to be aware of this requirement.

The **Youth Focus Council Meeting** on **Wednesday 25th March 2009** will provide members with an opportunity to discuss the services offered by Youth Focus and to identify what they would like to see developed in the future. It is only by receiving feedback from members that Youth Focus can be sure to provide the necessary support and information so please come along and let us hear your views.

Activenture

Activenture Volunteering Opportunities

Activenture would be very pleased to hear from any individuals or groups of volunteers who would be interested in considering joining them for a residential activity week as companion helpers to disabled/special needs young people during school holidays. They are also looking for volunteer waking night staff on a nightly basis.

Volunteers are offered free training and a choice of twelve weeks during the year (generally during school/college holidays). This is proven to be a very useful means to gain experience in support of seeking further education and of course employment. Many volunteers utilise their stay with Activenture to complete their v involved and Duke of Edinburgh's Award Service Section, however most of the regular volunteers simply return because they enjoy this unique experience.

For further information telephone 01342 828218 or 07917 506871 or email les@hindleap.com. You can also visit the website at www.activenture.org