



*The youth work newsletter for the Diocese of London*

## Youth Strategy goes live!

Looking ahead to the coming months we are in exciting times with a lot of change. This month the project will be re-locating from its office in Shoreditch to Diocesan House at Causton Street. We will be located on the first floor with Diocesan Board of Education. We will continue to be managed by The Children's Society but as a joint project with the Diocese this will be a step in the right direction in every respect.

We are delighted that after two years of consultation and planning the printed version of the Youth Strategy is now available and is being dispatched to all parishes. Look out for your copy. I would encourage you to discuss it with your youth group and PCC and then contact Kate or myself about the most appropriate way for your parish to respond to the main aim of putting young people at the centre.

Please note our new contact details from 18<sup>th</sup> March - see page two.

*Clair Cooke, Programme Manager*

### *About the Youth Strategy*

*"This strategy is a direct reflection of the experiences of many of our parish churches through the [Youth Development Project] and a distillation of the things the churches of the Diocese have asked for through a series of consultations"*

Venerable Stephan Welch, Archdeacon of Middlesex

## News round up

### Inter Faith Youth Trust

The Inter Faith Youth Trust is part of the Alma Royalton-Kisch Trust and is the only UK charitable trust solely to fund inter faith projects for young people. The trustees prioritise support for work which is inter faith, has informal education or learning content, involves young people actively and improves collaboration and understanding. They fund work in the UK with particular interest in the Greater London boroughs.

Some examples of recent grants include an international conference, an inter faith drama week, 'Strangers to Neighbours' bringing young people together in communities, inter faith training and producing information packs educating learners about different faiths likely to be met in school and adult life. Grants awarded are usually around £1000. Proposals are preferred which involve young people actively in planning, running, and evaluation, and which promote equal opportunities.

For further information visit: [www.ifyouthtrust.org.uk](http://www.ifyouthtrust.org.uk)

### Church and Community Fund

[The Church and Community Fund](#) offers grants up to £15,000 to community projects run by parish churches, deaneries and others working in partnership with the Church of England to take the church out into the community. The criteria are broad and, for example, could include funding a youth worker or an elderly lunch club. The next application deadline is 22 April. To apply, complete the [application form](#) or for more information use this [online contact form](#).

### Part-time youth worker post - Harrow

St Alban's church in North Harrow is looking to appoint a youth worker for 10 hours a week. They are a friendly, traditional/catholic Anglican church with a long established youth group and are looking for an experienced, trained youth worker to support and lead volunteers to encourage their 11-18 year olds to enjoy Christian fellowship and fun.

Salary will be £12 - £13 per hour, depending on experience.  
Closing date: 2 April 2009. Interview: 20 April 2009.

For an application form, please contact the parish administrator on [parishoffice@stalbans-nh.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@stalbans-nh.org.uk) Website: [www.stalbans-nh.org.uk](http://www.stalbans-nh.org.uk)

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*Young Times* is produced by the Youth Development Project of the Diocese of London. It is a quarterly newsletter for churches in the Diocese to update and inform about good youth work practice, both locally and nationally.

*The project is a partnership between The Children's Society and the Diocese of London.*

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#### New contact details:

From **18<sup>th</sup> March 2009** our new details will be:

Youth Development Project,  
London Diocesan House,  
36 Causton Street,  
London, SW1P 4AU

Tel: 020 7932 1100

Project manager:  
Clair Cooke  
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Administration manager:  
Louise Drennan:  
[lud@childsoc.org.uk](mailto:lud@childsoc.org.uk)

Churches support worker:  
Teanne Brown  
[tsb@childsoc.org.uk](mailto:tsb@childsoc.org.uk)

## Youth work training 2009

We have just finalised our youth work training programme for the year and have a number of new courses:

### How to recruit and employ a youth worker

Wednesday 8 April, 10.00am - 3.00pm

London Diocesan House, Pimlico. Cost: £20

From deciding whether to employ a part-time or full-time youth worker through to planning their induction, this course is aimed at anyone responsible for or involved in the recruitment of a church youth worker including clergy or PCC members.

### How to run a residential (part two)

Wednesday 13 May, 7.00pm – 9.00pm

London Diocesan House, Pimlico. Cost: FREE

This evening workshop will look at how to run a residential for young people. We'll look at what to expect, how to structure a residential and common issues that may arise. The workshop is aimed at anyone responsible for or involved in running a residential including youth workers, clergy and volunteers.

### Young people at risk of sexual exploitation

Saturday 30 May, 10.00am – 3.00pm (times to be confirmed)

St Mary's Centre, Primrose Hill. Cost: £20

This course is aimed at anyone who may come into contact with vulnerable young people who may be at risk of sexual exploitation or are interested to learn more about the issue.

### How to set up a youth activity

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July, 6.00pm – 9.00pm

London Diocesan House, Pimlico. Cost: £10

This evening workshop will take you through all the steps involved in setting up a new youth group. The workshop is aimed at anyone responsible for or involved in setting up a youth activity including clergy and youth work volunteers.

Booking a place on any of the above courses is essential. For a booking form or for more information please email Kate at [kate.waddecar@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:kate.waddecar@childrenssociety.org.uk) or phone 020 7932 1100.

## News flash – Accredited youth work course coming soon!

We're in the process of having our 'Introduction to youth work in a church setting' course accredited by the Open College Network and hope to be able to run the first course in September. More details will follow in the June edition of *Young Times* so keep a look out as we anticipate the demand for places will be high.

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### Youth Advisory Group

*The second meeting of the youth advisory group took place during February half term.*

*Six young people from churches in Hackney and Islington make up the group and have elected roles, including chair, treasurer and snack person.*

*The group are tasked with ensuring that the project delivers on the three year youth strategy for the Diocese and they advise the steering group on how young people can be at the centre of this.*

*The group discussed the forthcoming strategy launch and how they can play active roles in the new training programme, including delivering one of the units for the accredited course. They will train to be trainers at workshops over the summer.*

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**The Youth Development Project of the Diocese of London is funded by:**

*John Lyons Charity, CUF, The Maurice and Hilda Laing Charitable Trust, Jerusalem Trust, Bishop of London's Mission Fund, The Children's Society*

*We would like to thank all our funders for their contributions.*

[www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)

## Estate youth work in Barnet

In this edition of *Young Times* we travel north to the Stonegrove estate in Barnet to catch up with the youth work at St Peter's.

Emma Brown is the community youth worker on the Stonegrove, Spur Road and Penniwell estates and has been in post since September 2008. She is employed by St Peter's church and works in partnership with Barnet Youth Service.

She says, "The youth club initially started a couple of years ago, because when the community group started a Saturday bingo activity, they found they had more young people attending than adults!" Unfortunately, the youth club had to be shut down in the summer of 2008 due to a lack of volunteers, yet there was still a real need for local activities for young people.

Emma explains, "Working on an estate is a unique culture where many young people do not like to or simply cannot travel to activities due to access issues, low income or even postcode wars. We re-opened two youth clubs in November last year, splitting the ages to host one for secondary and one for primary ages".

Likewise, the detached youth work started a couple of years ago by Barnet Youth Service, as a pre-empt to Emma's post being filled. It was identified that young people on the estate needed support for a number of issues and in particular, the work in 2008 focused on substance misuse issues.

By starting youth activities in the church hall, young people can take part in positive activities instead of engaging in antisocial behaviour, which many say they do because they're bored. The benefit in the longer term is that through the initial activities they take part in, such as the youth club, they can use their voice and opinions to develop other youth work on the estate, access support and advice as well as taking on responsibility as youth reps for the youth club or youth forum.

Emma reflects, "Recruiting volunteers was a challenge, although now through Barnet Council for Voluntary Youth Services (BCVYS) I am inundated with volunteer requests! I think space and facilities is our biggest issue and is always a challenge when you use a multi function facility, but particularly for our future as there is no youth provision in the regeneration plans for the estate".

Finally, Emma says "Engaging with young people in discussions about the issues they face on the estate is a really positive thing for me, as is the ability to partner with Barnet Youth Service and deliver projects together. We're planning an intergeneration garden project in the Easter holidays which should be really exciting!"

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### *Equipping Churches for Youth Work*

*The Equipping Churches initiative has been running for over a year and to celebrate the achievements of the churches involved, we are hosting an evening event on Monday 9 March at St John's, Hackney.*

*The meeting will be a chance for all the youth work volunteers and clergy to come together to share their success stories and reflect on some of the challenges that they have faced over the past 12 months.*

*Teanne, our Churches Support Worker, will also be suggesting the idea of a joint fun day in the summer that all the churches can be involved in and will start planning with the volunteers.*

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### **Website**

*The Children's Society is a leading children's charity committed to making childhood better for all children in the UK.*

Visit our website at [www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)

