

Youth

NEWS

Issue 21 : November 2009

Welcome to the November issue of Torbay Youth News. Funding to enable us to produce and circulate Torbay Youth News has come from the Change Up programme. Many thanks to Voluntary Youth Service Devon for gathering together information for the newsletter.

Please take the time to talk to your young people about this subject. It is a common form of bullying and we are sure that they will be interested in coming and taking part in what is a national initiative around the subject.

If you wish to attend with a group or have young people who would like to attend, please contact Karen Rundle on 206481 or email karen.rundle@torbay.gov.uk with the name of the group that you would like to bring, together with numbers.

Anti-Bullying Week

The Youth Service, as part of Anti-Bullying Week has a booked production called Cyber Scream which will take place on Saturday, 21st November at South Devon College, from 6pm to 8pm.

The theatre group has bookings around England and we are fortunate in managing to get them to perform here in Torbay.

The production is for 11-19 year olds and focuses on cyber bullying and disability and will be an interactive event.

We have 200 places to fill which will be shared between the Secondary Schools, South Devon College and the Youth Service and any other organisations that would like to take part.

Contact details

**Please submit any articles, reports, etc to:-
TORBAY YOUTH SERVICE
Oldway Mansion, Torquay Road,
Paignton, TQ3 2TE**

Telephone: 01803 206481

Fax: 01803 208225

Email: karen.rundle@torbay.gov.uk

**Torbay
Youth Service**



Cyber Scream

Anti-Bullying Roadshow

**Saturday
21 November, 6pm-8pm
South Devon College**

Touring schools
and colleges
throughout the
UK and abroad

- Cyber-bullying
and disability
- Shows and
creative workshops

www.actionwork.com



Torbay
Youth Service



TOFFY Update



TOFFY are pleased to announce that there is up to **£1,000** now available to help voluntary groups with their running costs. This will be ongoing until the end of March 2010, or until the funding has been allocated.

How Can We Apply For It ?

A young person from your group, with adult support, can fill out a Toffy group application form – it's that simple!

Youth Capital Fund

Unfortunately all the capital money has now been allocated to groups, so no more applications can be considered for things like mini-buses and equipment. More funding will be available from April next year, but half of the money will be awarded through a **Dragon's Den** style event..

Basically, groups will be invited to come along and pitch for money from the Dragon's (Toffy Panel). This will be aimed at supporting activities / projects that are in the identified disadvantaged areas and local authority capital priorities.

To get an application form, you can telephone **Karen Rundle on 206481 or email karen.rundle@torbay.gov.uk** or they can be downloaded from **www.my-bay.org.uk**.

On the buses for a £1.00 !!

In response to the views of young people and the Torbay Youth Parliament, Stagecoach is to introduce discounted bus travel for young people to get around the Bay for less.

Young people **aged 16-19** will be able to buy a bus ticket for a flat rate of **£1.00** which entitles them to unlimited travel throughout Torbay from **6pm until 10.30pm daily**.

The scheme will be piloted in December and if it's a success, it's hoped that the offer will continue into the future. Stagecoach is investing in the scheme to encourage more young people to travel by bus in the evenings than would otherwise have done so, therefore generating extra customers.

The Youth Service will be co-ordinating and publicising activities throughout the month to generate higher numbers of young people travelling to more events.

For more information please contact: **Jo Penhaligon on 208221 or email joanne.penhaligon@torbay.gov.uk**

Your ideas/articles

This is your newsletter. If you have any good news stories, training events, etc from young people etc please send them in for publication. We particularly welcome articles from Youth Forum members and young people.



Torquay D of E Launch!

26th November 2009

6pm – 8pm

**WHAT IS THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD?**



The **AWARD** is a challenging programme of activities for 14 to 24 year olds which helps you to learn new skills, help others and experience adventure.

It's **FUN**, challenging, different and a nationally recognised qualification not to mention a fantastic achievement!

**SO GO ON, TAKE THE CHALLENGE
AND TRY SOMETHING NEW**

Thursday evenings during school term time at The
Acorn Centre, Lummaton Cross, Barton TQ2 6TE
Starting on 26th Nov 2009.

For more information, or an informal chat about the
award contact Corrie or Lee on 07768642162/
07770736617.



**Torbay
Youth Service**

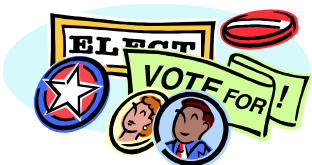




UKYP Elections

You may or may not be aware that it's the time of the year when we start the election process to elect the next member of Youth Parliament for Torbay. Last year's election was an amazing

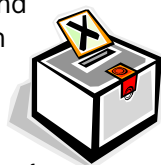
success. Already we have received many nominations from young people who are really keen to stand to become the next MYP (Member of Youth Parliament) but we are really keen for as many young people as possible to have the opportunity to stand for this role (or at least know about this opportunity).



"Being elected as MYP has probably been the most colourful and enriching experience of my life. From the weekly meetings, to the regional residential, to the House of Lords; the opportunities being given to me directly through Youth Parliament have been amazing to say the least!"

Ahmed El'houdiri Current Deputy Member of Youth Parliament 2009

The aim of the UKYP is to give young people across the UK the opportunity to air their views to local and national government and organisations that have an impact on young people's services.



The UKYP is all about addressing the big issues which affect young people's lives such as things to do and places to go, affordable public transport, bullying and sex and relationships education.

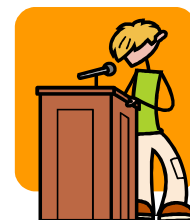
UKYP is run by young people for young people and provides opportunities for 11-18 year-olds from all over the UK to use their voice in creative ways to bring about social change.

They have over 500 elected members and thousands of supporters so if you would like the chance to run please fill out a form and send back to the address on the form THANK YOU and good luck!

"The role of Member of Youth Parliament can be life changing for so many positive reasons as you never know what will happen next. One day I will be meeting Councillors to discuss issues of concern for young people locally, the next day I am part of a conversation in which we are discussing a decision for a £5million youth centre in Torbay, not to mention the trips to the House of Lords etc".

William Bowles Member of Youth Parliament. 2008

What We've Done So Far



The members of Youth Parliament have been focusing on Transport / EMA / Sexual Health / Bullying. The young people recently facilitated a big question time debate at South Devon College in which they had over 100 young people attend. Panel members for this debate included representatives from Stagecoach as well as the local Member of Parliament, the Mayor, significant Councillors and the People's Commissioner for Torbay etc.

The issues debated focused on Transport, Bullying SRE and Alcohol and Drugs. There have been

many successful outcomes from this event, but the most high profile outcome has come from a recent announcement from Stagecoach who has announced a £1 bus travel initiative for teenagers across Torbay.



They have also had the chance to appear on the BBC Politics Show debating

Torbay Youth Service's budget and how it is utilised. Then on Friday, 30th October, over 300 young people from around the country took over the House of Commons Chamber.

It was the first time anyone other than MPs have debated in the Commons and sat on the green benches. The historic move saw elected 11-18 year-old Members of Youth Parliament debate issues of concern to young people across the UK.

The five issues debated were:

- Lowering the voting age to 16
- Youth crime and how to tackle it
- Public transport for young people
- Jobs for young people and the economy
- University fees

This was what Ahmed said in the House of Commons.

I think all people need, in order to be able to vote, is to be educated and know what they are voting for, and if a 16-year-old is educated enough in that way, they should be able to vote.

This was a great opportunity for Ahmed and I'm sure it was an experience he will never forget.

Also coming up for the UKPY members there will hopefully be another opportunity to go to the House of Commons again, this month to meet up with an official decision maker to discuss EMA. Hopefully this will be another great experience.

Positive Press

Positive Press, a group of young people who meet every Thursday at Paignton Library, have been working on an exciting new project lately ... the take over of My-Bay! (www.my-bay.org.uk).



They are working together to improve it and make it a great site for all young people aged 11-19 in Torbay to use and add new sections that you all seem to want!

So ... look out for changes soon.

Before this project, they produced a fantastic video for a competition, showing how 'youths' are seen in the media. 'Raw Deal or Truth Told', their video, is edgy and shows exactly how many young people feel the media is unfair.



If you haven't seen it yet, check it out in the interactive section of the My-bay website.

If you want to come along, have fun and make a difference, simply turn up at 7pm at Paignton Library!

The e-mail address is newsflash@hotmail.co.uk if you have any comments or questions.



Youth Parliament MAKING OUR MARK

Self-Nomination Form Torbay Member of UK Youth Parliament

Do you want to become more involved in your local democratic processes and would you like to be elected as a member of the UK Youth Parliament for Torbay?? (For more info on UKYP PTO)

If so, please complete and submit the form below:

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Post code: _____

School: _____

Home Tel No: _____ Mobile No: _____

E-mail: (please write clearly)

I give permission for you to contact me regarding any up and coming events with the UKYP or Torbay youth service and I agree for any photos taken of me to be used for promotion via the media and social network sites

Signed

The deadline for applications is strictly the 4th December 2009, as soon as we have all applications in we will contact you with more information! If you have any questions in the mean time please contact

Tori Jeffcoat on tori.jeffcoat@torbay.gov.uk or [07795971770](tel:07795971770)

Or

Paul Savill on paul.savill@torbay.gov.uk or [07825735007](tel:07825735007)

Please send application forms to
Torbay Youth Service
Parkfield House
Esplanade Road
TQ3 2NH

Arena

Ever tried Street Dancing?
Break Dancing? Dj'ing?



The re-opening of the Arena at Paignton Theatre every Friday at from 5.30pm to 9pm kicks off with a professional street/break dancer Simon, teaching you how to master some awesome moves and show you his skills.

Then at 7.30pm, the Arena gives you a chance to learn, practice and show off how you DJ on the decks, with skilled DJ's there to help you improve your talent and show off what they can do!

Of course it's also a great place for you to just chill out, have a laugh, and meet new friends.

For more information about either of these groups please contact [Polly Jeffcoat on 07917 597008](mailto:polly.jeffcoat@torbay.gov.uk) or email polly.jeffcoat@torbay.gov.uk

International Summer Camp – Germany

In the summer, a group of young people went on a media themed holiday to Hamelin in Germany. For some weeks before they went, the group met up to get to know one another, plan some of the trip and 'attempt' to learn some German! This is what one of the happy campers has to say...!



"For the first two weeks, we stayed on a lovely camp with other young people from around the world - Russia, Ukraine, Poland and Germany; it

was awesome meeting different people and making new friends! The whole time was crammed with exciting, once in a lifetime experiences, like visiting film studios and actually using the professional equipment to make our own programmes, using the editing suites and seeing the pro's at work!

We also we able to see all the different studios and meet some of the famous people on the television in Germany! We went to a huge newspaper factory and learned all about the process and saw the papers been printed, it was really interesting and we all had so much fun! (Especially as they gave us a newspaper that had just been printed for the next day!)



On the camp we had a 'Mac Shack', full of Apple Macs that we all used to make videos and news articles of what we had been up to so we could show the other campers, most of these were full of hilarious photos of the crazy times we were all having! The Mac's were brilliant and it was a great way to speak to people at home.

There were so many fun games and activities going on every day, as well as visiting the open air swimming pool, shopping in the city of Hanover, horse riding, canoeing, acting, seeing the pied piper, going to a theme park, fund-raising in town, singing, discos, dancing and so SO much more!

There was NEVER a quiet moment!

After the two weeks, the whole camp travelled to Berlin for 3 days, all I need to tell you is WOW! We stayed at a hostel in the city and visited all of the main sights which were amazing. I had the best time, especially seeing the massive filming studios which they call, 'the Hollywood of Germany'. After that we of course went shopping!

So many friends were made and laughs shared, I'm sure we all had the greatest time, learning about other cultures and traditions learned a lot about different types of media, experienced so

many once in a lifetime things and would jump to go again next year!

Every Wednesday we still meet up and are putting together presentations for different meetings and events to share our experience, and show off how much fun we had! Especially as there are thousands of photos...it would be rude not to share!

The International Camp will hopefully happen again next summer in the Ukraine and I would encourage any young person to go, it's a chance of a lifetime!

V-Talent

Spaces on next years V-Talent project have almost all been allocated. The project offers young adults (16-25) the opportunity to volunteer full time – 30 hours per week in services for children and young people. There is financial support offered with this project in which each volunteer could claim up to £100 per week dependant on personal circumstances.

Some of the most successful placements this year have come from young adults who have been a service user, have then started volunteering, and now have the opportunity to pursue this as a career.

We currently only have 5 volunteer spaces left to allocate, although the project will not start until March 2010 and although we have not advertised this project, we have already allocated 15 spaces (subject to interviews) due to a high volume of interest.

“I was already a volunteer at a Youth Club on Wednesdays and wanted to see if I could take it further so I asked a Youth Worker for more information to see if I could do more.”

Young Volunteer

For more information please contact: Paul Savill on 07825 735007 or 01803 402752 or email paul.savill@torbay.gov.uk



supported by Torbay Council's Youth Service

Your Bay, Your Say

Young people from all over the Bay were invited to come along to share their views at Your Bay, Your Say at South Devon

College on Friday, 16th October, as part of Torbay Council's events for Local Democracy Week 2009.

Your Bay, Your Say was organised by representatives from Torbay's Youth Parliament and Youth Cabinet and was aimed at young people aged 11 – 19.

Young people had the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities and share their views on current issues affecting their age group in the Bay.

Many of Torbay's local secondary schools supported the project by enabling their pupils to attend. The event included various stalls, a House of Commons style debate, details of Torbay's Youth Cabinet and the official launch of the Torbay Youth Parliament Elections.

Torbay Council's Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Councillor Anna Tolchard, said: "We are always very interested in what young people have to say, it helps the Council prioritise the services we can offer to help them achieve their full potential and enjoy a happy and healthy upbringing in the Bay."

Your Bay, Your Say event was extremely successful and we had a really good turn out, and the debate was a success. We got some really good

responses; we had the launch of the Youth Cabinet sub-groups, and the launch of the UKYP elections.

Here are some additional comments from members of the Youth Cabinet and members of UKYP:-

Alex Wright said "It was a very good event, I felt I could get my point across, I just hope some points I gave will get made a reality"

Alistair Harrison said "It was a great experience, had good fun doing my best David Dimbleby impression"

Michelle Adams said "I thought that it was fun, a good opportunity to get our voices heard and a good opportunity to gain presentation skills".

Tom Wilkinson said "It was amazing; a fun filled event and I think everybody's thoughts got heard really well".

Evening Events For Young People



The Youth Service and Groundwork South West have teamed up to provide a timetable of activities for young people aged 11-19 year old in Torbay.

The free activities will take place at various times from 6pm at outdoor play areas at Barton, Roselands, Goodrington, Watcombe, The Willows, Ellacombe, Furzeham and Victoria Park.

Mobile artificial lighting will be used to enable young people to take advantage of the multi-use games areas on winter nights. Qualified coaches and equipment is provided to enable young people to decide what activities they want to do. Activities are open to everyone, regardless of ability; and for

those who wish to improve their skills, there will be opportunities to take accreditation for certain sports.

53 sessions will take place at the various parks from November until 20th April. Sessions run for two hours and a full timetable is available on the MyBay website at www.my-bay.org.uk

Some events may be postponed due to severe weather and young people are asked to check on the day if the event will take place by calling: **07919 127625**.

I was at the Your Bay, Your Say and we held a debate over 4 topics:-

- Transport
- Sex and Relationships
- Bullying
- Drugs and Alcohol.

These were the main one's we talked about and we heard so many points and opinions. I was asked by Tori Jeffcoat to write a paragraph about bullying to open the debate and I wrote it down and when it came to the day of the event I was really nervous and scared.

So when it was my turn I went up and said what I needed to say and when I had finished I was proud of myself for going up there and doing it and I feel that I got my opinion and a point across to every one about bullying. This is what I said:-

What is bullying:

There are different types of bullying for example; Emotional, Physical, Cyber and there is also Psychological bullying.

Bullying affects so many people in schools and in work places more than you realise. In worse case scenarios some people don't realise their friend is being bullied until it's too late. We want to put a stop to bullying in the Bay once and for all. To do this we need your help.

By Michelle Bullock



Polly's a Winner!

Torbay Council's involvement in the recent National Customer Service Week, which aims to acknowledge all the excellent work staff does on a daily basis, has been hailed a huge success.

The week culminated in a prize giving ceremony at Torquay Connections to recognise those who have achieved outstanding customer service and won their category. The awards were presented by Mayor Nick Bye.

Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, Councillor Louisa Aiton, said: "I am very proud to work with so many good people who day after day demonstrate their commitment to the Council and the essential services we provide. Congratulations to all those who have won the awards – they deserve our thanks and recognition!"

Working with Young People category for someone 'who has helped to change a young persons' future or to set up a successful youth facility the young people love to use' was awarded to **Polly Jeffcoat, Youth Arts Development Worker.**

Polly was described as someone who has set up a Friday night youth provision after talking to some young people who felt that there was nothing for them to do that night.

The young people who attend have expressed how valued they feel and how much they enjoy being in a position of responsibility with teaching, through peer education, other young people skills such as dancing and DJ skills.

Well done Polly !

Torbay Youth Cabinet is going really well and we have just gone in to sub-groups!!!

But before we did that we had about 6 training sessions with cool people to tell us different things that we needed to know ...

The sub-groups are:

1. **Be Healthy and Stay Safe**
2. **Make a Positive Contribution**
3. **Achieve Economic Well Being**

On Monday, 28th September it was the first sub-group "Be Healthy and Stay Safe" and on Monday, 5th October "Achieve Economic Well Being" and then it's "Make a Positive Contribution".

Each week one sub-group is meeting and then after that the Youth Cabinet will meet to talk about what we did in the sub-groups and what we came up with and what affects us the most in the Bay!!!

We have got new people who are going to help us with the sub-groups and they are:

1. Jamie , Mandy and Steve
2. Paul, Tori, Emma, Will and Susanne
3. Debbie

I think that this will be good for the Youth Cabinet because we meet new people and we are doing something else.

By Shez Bullock

Music Projects @ Chill'd Out



Chill'd Out is a Youth Project for all young people aged 11-19
(and up to 25 years for those volunteering etc).

Are you aged 16-19 and free on Thursdays 11-2pm for 4 weeks?

Are you interested in gaining an AQA accreditation in Music
areas/Music technology?

Our informal and fun Course starts end of November/early
December



Want to Know more?

You can talk to a personal advisor at Connexions,
or please call (01803) 294826 for a chat (leave a
message if we are not in and we will call you back)
or pop in when our drop ins are open:

Tuesdays and Wednesdays 6.30-9pm

or Fridays 5-7.30pm

This is a chance to learn new skills, or develop any
you already have in music tech, singing, Dj'ing etc.
Plus it's free!



Chill'd Out is a Charitable Youth Project which works
closely with Torbay Youth Service

We are in front of the ERIC and by the tennis courts in
Abbey Park (off the seafront), Balgrave Road,

Torquay, TQ2 5HP

Tel (01803) 294826

Chill'd Out is wheelchair accessible

Email: chilled.out@ukonline.co.uk

Torbay Youth Service

The Box / The Boxer / Games Bus Oct - Jan 2009

Nintendo Wii

Refreshments

**Projects
Projects**

PS2 - Board Games

Volunteering

Recorded / Accredited Awards

MY-BAY

Information - Drugs & Alcohol / Sexual Health

Mondays - Games Bus Watcombe Torquay 6.00pm - 9.00pm
The Box - Chelston Torquay 6.00 - 9.00pm

Tuesdays - The Box Combe Pafford Luchtimes
The Box Seafront Paignton 6.00 - 9.00pm

Wednesdays - The Box Brixham Community College Lunchtimes
Brixham Furzeham Park 6.00-9.00pm

Thursday - The Box Paignton Community College Lunchtimes
Games Bus Plainmoor Swimming Pool Car Park Torquay 6.00 - 9.00pm

Fridays - The Boxer Foxhole Paignton 7.00 - 10.00pm

Saturdays - The Boxer Foxhole/QED Paignton 7.00 - 10.00pm

Any Enquiries Contact Lee Clewlow
On 07824821032

The mobile provision in schools has had an impact on the evening sessions with an increase in numbers and awareness. Also good relationships have been built across schools in Torbay such as Paignton Community & Sports College, Torquay Community College and Brixham College.

Combe Pafford has been targeted for November with the intention of working closely with the school to target young people who will benefit from project based work.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SHOP

Health Wize Torbay

Health Wize is a young people's health information and advice centre based in Torquay town centre providing free and confidential health advice, signposting and support to young people aged 13 - 24 years.



You can access information on a range of health issues such as:



- Healthy eating,
- Drugs and alcohol
- Emotional wellbeing
- Sexual health (Including advice, information, emergency contraception, pregnancy testing, Chlamydia screening and C-card is available)

You can also benefit from free internet access and a chill out area.

Friendly and skilled staff are available on a sessional basis throughout the week including school nurses, youth workers, the boys and young men's development worker and sexual health outreach worker.

Opening Times	
Mon	1.00 - 5.00pm
Tue	1.00 - 5.00pm
Wed	1.00 - 5.00pm
Thurs	1.00 - 5.00pm
Fri	1.00 - 5.00pm
Sat	11.30 - 3.00pm

To see what Health Wize is all about drop in at any time or if you would rather make an appointment a member of staff call Health Wize on **01803 208414**.

You can also find Health Wize on Twitter and facebook. Visit <http://twitter.com/Healthwize> or www.facebook.com for more information.

Young Verifiers – You’re Welcome

What is a Young Verifier?

If you choose to become a young verifier you will be part of the Government’s initiative called ‘You’re Welcome’ which aims to make health services young people (11-19) friendly. Health services include health centres, clinics, doctor’s surgeries, and other services like Health Wize and TIC TAC.

What will I be asked to do?

All health services will have to ‘You’re Welcome’ by 2020. This means that they have completed the toolkit which services have to complete to show how they are young person friendly, had a verification visit or inspection and been awarded the ‘You’re Welcome’ status and given a plaque to display.

As a young verifier you will be part of much of this process as you can including choosing which services should be selected to become ‘You’re Welcome’, assessing toolkits which have been completed by services to judge their evidence and probably the most exciting part of the process, the verification visit, where you can see for yourself whether or not a service has met the requirements to be ‘You’re Welcome’.

How much time will it take?

Well, this depends on how much time you can give. If you are studying at school or college then this must be priority for you. We will give times and dates of when we will be meeting and carrying out visits which we will try to fit around you but there will be times when you can’t make a meeting and this is fine. We would like young people to be part of the process as much as possible so we will try to make meetings at suitable times for you.

What’s in it for me?

This is a great opportunity and will give you the chance to shape services for you and all young people in Torbay.

Have the opportunity to go to regional meetings with high profile professionals in the NHS.

A great addition to your C.V or record of achievement.

Improve your confidence and self-esteem.

Have your say in young people services, talk to professionals on getting it right for young people.

Great experience for careers in youth work and the NHS.

Accreditation.

To be at the forefront of this new national initiative check it out for yourself at

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/PublicationsAndStatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4121562

If you are interested in becoming a young verifier please email Emily Wilebore on emily.wilebore@torbay.gov.uk or call 01803 557870 for more details.

Are you aged 11-17?
Then come to **"The Place"!!**



Internet, Games, Laptops etc
it's **"The Place"!!**

For more info please contact another@my-bay.org.uk
on **01803 853794** or visit: www.brixhamurc.org

Or Visit: www.my-bay.org.uk



Youth Work in Brixham

An initiative by Brixham IMC, Fox St Methodist and St Mary's English Church

The **Methodist** Church



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



GAMES CLUB

AT BRIKAMURG OPPOSITE THE THEATRE

EVERY MONDAY
DURING TERM TIME
4 TILL 6PM

BRING YOUR
STUFF FOR
ALL TO PLAY
JUST 50p

Sponsored by

ALL AT 41 MIDDLE STREET, BRIKHAM

BRIXHAM MODEL CENTRE

MODEL MAKERS SUPPLIES

TOOL: RODS BEYBLASTIC PLASTIC GLUE RIF

YOUTH WORKS IN BRIKHAM

Working to support young people in Brixham!



VYS NEWS

John Paul Getty Charitable Trust - The trustees have now decided to wind down the Trust over a period of between 5 to 10 years which means that they will

be increasing the level of annual spend and will be looking for opportunities to award a number of more substantial grants that will have an enduring impact. The Trust can award grants towards both revenue and capital costs. However, the trustees will not normally approve grants to cover more than 20% of a charity's entire annual running costs. Main grants can be between £10,000 and £250,000 over a period of 1 to 3 years. Small grants of up to £5,000 are also available for smaller charities. Grants may be awarded in as little as 2 to 3 months. For details ring 020 7486 1859 or see www.jpgettytrust.org.uk/index.html

National Young Filmmakers Award 2010 is now open to any young filmmakers up to the age of 19. The awards are showcasing the best new filmmaking talent in the UK and they're looking for the best short films from the movie makers of the future. Films can be of any type and genre. Films must be under 10 minutes and must have been made in the last year. All short listed films will be screened at a special event in the 2010 Leeds Young People's Film Festival in front of a panel of industry specialists including filmmakers, producers, journalists and funders. The winning films in each age group will receive a £250 cash prize towards their next project. The deadline for entries is the 18th December. <http://www.swscreen.co.uk/news/young-filmmakers-award-2010.html>

National Youth Theatre - applications are now being accepted for auditions/interviews for 2010 and the nearest are being held in Plymouth. It is open to young people aged 13-21 who want to get involved in theatre, films, live performances, recordings, radio, TV, writing, journalism etc. Auditions are for those who want to act and there are also interviews for those who want to be involved in one of the technical departments such as stage management, lighting, costume etc. For more details go to www.nyt.org.uk and the deadline is 8th January.

DISCLAIMER - VYS (Devon) accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure details are correct, VYS (Devon) cannot endorse events or items mentioned in this newsletter.

This document can be made available in other languages, on tape, in Braille, large print and in other formats. For further information please contact 01803 206481.