

COOKHAM YOUTH PROJECT ACTIVITIES January - July 2008

In addition to the Monday Night Youth Club we continued with Football Training on the Alfred Major Recreation ground on Saturday mornings for Year 6-7 age group. This has now stopped for the summer months. We also introduced some of the young people to Basket Ball as someone has set up a team in Cookham and is encouraging young people to join in.

One of our major achievements this year was in May when we held the Cookham Youth Forum. This was attended by anyone having an interest in young people, such as schools, scouts, guides, the police and the churches, also those supplying facilities for young people including halls and sports facilities. It was also attended by some of the young people of Cookham, which really helped focus people onto the needs of that age group in the community. Theresa May MP kindly agreed to chair the meeting and it was a great success. It is planned that the findings should be used as part of the Cookham Plan being organised by the Parish Council. The forum was broken into to main blocks:

"I'm Bored" - Facilities for Young People

- a. What we have now
- b. Current Projects Under Consideration
- c. What we would like to have in addition_

The Anti Social Behaviour Perception.

- a. The Facts
- b. What We Could Do

More information can be seen on www.cookham.com News Archives 2008.

There were 44 actions that are planned to be taken to improve Youth and the Community in Cookham that came out of the Forum.

The Monday night Youth Club continues and we are also continuing to go swimming at Coral Reef in Bracknell, which has proved immensely popular. We had the Police along to tell the young people about their jobs. This proved a great success and they all wanted to try the handcuffs.



We are also hoping to continue with Martial Arts and some of the older teenagers are interested in Parkour. Unfortunately there is not much interest in Maidenhead although a lot of London Clubs and also Guildford are starting to take an interest.

In the Summer term we went kayaking at Hurley for the first time. This proved an overwhelming success and they all wanted to do it again. They all came back rather wet though.

For the Winter term we shall be continuing with the normal activities but are planning to take them ice skating at Windsor at Christmas time.

Due to the success of the camping weekend last year this is planned again for this year. Unfortunately the campsites seem to be more booked up this year and they did not seem too keen on having a group of young there in August, so we are booked in for the second weekend in September at Henley. When around fifteen will be going to stay in tents.

The Leisure Unit is planned for the third week in August and with the police we got a hand out of summer holiday activities for young people. This included a three day Cricket Summer Camp.

The young people are also keen to join in the Cookham Regatta next year, plus the Gravity Grand Prix where you make your own vehicle and also to put a team in for the Colonel Garrett Cup run by the Cricket Club in July. Although the thought may be easier than the actual implementation.

Another bit of excitement was that the Cookham Youth Project Chairman, Liz Kwantes, was given the MBE in the New Year Honours list for services to the Cookham Community and received it from Prince Charles at Buckingham Palace in May 2008.