

Brockham Youth Council - 2012 Review

Brockham Youth Council

Brockham Youth Council is a community group run by youth & adult volunteers and mentored by Brockham Parish Council.

Our purpose is very simple - we identify what recreational, social and sports activities young people in Brockham aged 11-18yrs want to do, source any funding needed and then organise the activities so that as many young people as possible in the village can take part.

We have been running since July 2010 and 2012 has been a very busy year!



Youth Council's Jubilee float showing our skate and bushcraft projects

Bushcraft Courses

January to March this year we ran a series of bushcraft courses. We are lucky enough to have a bushcraft tutor in the village, Chris Knight, who took groups of 12 young people out for a day in the wild learning the basics of survival, building a shelter, using & making tools, cooking and learning about countryside resources, trees & plants in the wild. Everybody loved these courses and wanted to sleep out in their shelters – we hope to find more funding to do this in the future!

Our thanks to Chris & his volunteers for running these and also to the Latimer-Smith family for allowing us to use their woodland for the day.



Round the campfire for bushcraft

Jubilee Celebrations

The Youth Council was very excited to be invited to have a float in the Jubilee parade, and not just any float, the biggest in the parade. Young people & parents had great fun decorating it as a skatepark with a bushcraft camp at one end.

There was stiff competition to be on the float and we also had a large group of skaters & BMXs following the float behind. The Jubilee weekend was a great village event and we were so pleased to be part of it all.

Our thanks to Wickes in Dorking who donated free building & decorating materials for the float.

Help us fundraise

Bring us your old t-shirts!

We are going to upcycle them into shopping bags to sell

Bring to the Youth Café on Wednesdays or to
74 Nutwood Avenue, Brockham

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Youth Cafe

The village hall club has proved to be the perfect choice for young people to meet up with their friends and socialise, offering a central & perfectly equipped facility with a bar area, pool, darts, TV, music, pinball & jukebox. Our funding last year allowed us to also buy a range of table top and board games.

The Youth Cafe takes place every Wednesday, throughout the year, 5.00 – 7.00pm in the Village Hall Club bar.

This project costs £1200pa to run and we have just received further funding to keep us open in 2013 from the High Sheriff Youth Awards programme. The High Sheriff herself came down to present us with a certificate and a cheque. The cheque was accepted by Glenn Knight, our Chair, at the Halloween party.

On Halloween the young people hosted a party for the younger children of the village who could drop in Trick or Treats and take part in some Halloween activities. Adults were also allowed in as long as they were accompanied by a responsible child.

Local band, Vinyl Staircase, came and played at the party. This band is made up of young people, including one of the Youth Council's committee members. They did a brilliant acoustic set and then stayed to play for the adult club members in the evening.

The Youth Council is working with the Village Hall Committee to offer snooker coaching. The club has a full size competition table and we hope to develop a youth team for the future.

We are also working with Brockham Angling Club who plan to come to the Youth Café to teach fishing skills such as rod set up, knot tying & line casting (to be done on the village green!) and encourage young people to have a go at fishing.

The Youth café is run entirely by parent volunteers. If you would be able to help out please get in contact – the more people on the rota, the less each person has to do!



Lifesaving Course

In partnership with Dorking Sports Centre, the Youth Council were able to offer lifesaving training to 18 young people aged 14-16yrs.

They spent 6 weeks learning lifesaving skills both in & out of the swimming pool and all earned a Community Lifesaving Certificate.

Thirteen of the young people will be using this skill as part of their Duke of Edinburgh qualification as well.

This course was arranged in preparation for a joint swimming project we have planned with North Downs School in the future.

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Latest Projects

Table Tennis Club

Table tennis club started in the Spring in the school hall on Monday evenings and has proved very popular. Thanks to grants from new community sports programme called **sported** & Surrey Police we have been able to buy two new tables and have had two further tables donated.

Demand has been high and we now run two sessions on a Monday which means 24 young people can learn and play table tennis. We run regular open competitions and these are highly contested!

This is another project run by volunteers and our thanks go to Jenny Brown and Neil Cummins who have been the core of the rota for table tennis

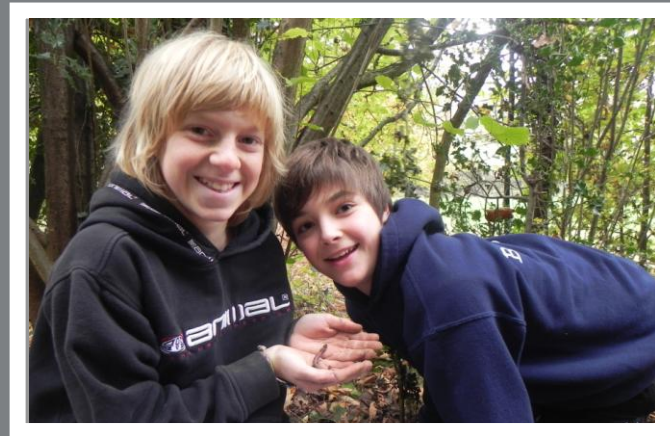
Art Club

Our Art Club started in November this year with weekly term-time sessions at North Downs School every Monday.

Young people are trying out their choice of art techniques & projects and we hope to have an exhibition next summer.

Funding for this has come from Brockham Parish Council, the Poland Trust, Betchworth United Charities and Surrey County Council.

Our especial thanks to Lorna Wootton who stepped in to run this at very short notice.



Future Projects

Outdoor Activities

Members of the Youth Council have identified lots of outdoor activities they would like to try. Archery and fishing have been suggested and we are looking at working with Brockham Angling Club and the Scouting Organisation to set up some sessions in 2013. We are also looking at setting up a regular conservation group to help with path clearing, planting and conservation work around the village and put those bushcraft skills to good use.

Band Night

Young people have asked for a practice and rehearsal space to play music. They are a good number of young people playing instruments or in bands but finding somewhere to practice can be difficult. We are fundraising so we can hire a weekly venue for young people to get together and play music. There may also be a concert!

Skatepark

Having completed our Skate Brockham project, we are now looking at long-term possible solutions to provide a permanent skate facility in the village. We are working with the Parish, District and County Councils to look at site options and funding possibilities.

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Committee News

Our committee meets quarterly. It is made up of young people aged 11-18yrs supported by two parent volunteers and two mentors from the Parish Council. The meetings are open to anyone who wants to come along. At the meetings we discuss the different projects we have going on and what ideas the young people have for future projects and how we can raise money for the projects. The young people also take the lead in promoting the group and have designed a logo and banners for the group, set up a website and a Facebook page.

Glenn Knight , 14yrs, has been our Chair for the last year and we are just about to elect a new Chair. We all want to thank Glenn for his hard work and commitment to the group. He has come along to meetings and events over the year, helped with fundraising and PR.

The Youth Council would also like to thank all the parents, volunteers and supporters who have helped us over the year, without whom we could not have done all the brilliant things we have done this year.

Thanks to our Supporters

Brockham Parish Council
Brockham Bonfire Committee
Surrey Police
Surrey County Council
Dorking Sports Centre

Poland Trust
High Sheriff Youth Awards
sported
Betchworth United Charities
Wickes, Dorking



Youth Matters