



Northumberland Youth Service (Rural Area West)
Prudhoe East Centre Report
September 2017

This report contains information, illustrating continued Youth Work in Prudhoe, achieved with the support of Prudhoe Town Council and Prudhoe Community Workshop Trust.

Figures of Attendance

Prudhoe East Centre June -August 2017							
Month	Daytime Drop In	Seniors	Motor Project	Junior Club	Detached	Boxing	Other Projects
June	34	89	36	67	93	56	Pinpoint Employment 22
July	8	99	40	93	36	65	
August	384	38	21	38	38	Hols	Prudhoe Poppets 210
Total	426	226	97	155	167	121	232
Grand Total							1424

Issues/Activities Covered

- **Daytime Drop In:** During the Daytime Drop at the East Centre staff have supported our Senior Young People (aged 13 - 19) with a variety of needs. These have included mental wellbeing, support with CV writing, assistance with job applications, job interviews for apprenticeships and assistance with references. Young People have also been supported with benefits application, accompanied to the Citizen Advice Bureau if required and supported with relationship and pregnancy issues, C Card referral, Chlamydia Screening and other sexual health support. (We are the only outlet in Prudhoe offering this confidential Sexual Health Service.) Mental wellbeing support works with Young People on a one to one basis often

using art and craft activities for “therapy”. Some young people have also been volunteering during the day helping to raise funds for the centre and generally helping out.

- **Senior Club:** These sessions again include assistance as described at the Daytime Drop In. We cover a huge variety of issues in our support of Young People. Specific project work has included Awareness weeks, including “Safe Week” in partnership with Streetwise Newcastle in which safe Internet usage was encouraged by young people. This included mobile phone awareness, use of social media, internet scams and the issue of online grooming and Child Sexual Exploitation. This work resulted in a visit to Open Clasp Theatre Group at The Queen’s Hall Theatre, Hexham. Young People were involved in the performance and the audience worked in groups to further explore this important issue. Other activities include current affairs awareness, arts & crafts, healthy eating, safe relationships and adult colouring in sheets are very popular! One healthy eating night was visited by Karbon Homes John Temple to see how we were cooking a rather delicious Chili Con Carne. Dave Turnbull from Public Health visited a Senior Session to discuss healthy and sporting activities for Young People in Prudhoe.

Other awareness weeks have included Summer Safety, Self Neglect and Domestic Violence. Support with life after School has been prevalent of late as well as discussions surrounding drugs & alcohol awareness and gender identity. We continue to support Young People in making informed choices in their lives.

- **Prudhoe Community Workshop & Motor Project:** We have encouraged Young Volunteers to help out at Prudhoe Youth Charity Shop. Two young people have been doing this and working their way towards their V-Inspired volunteering awards in the process. It is hoped that the “Upcycling” of furniture for resale from Prudhoe Youth Charity Shop will begin soon.
- The **Motor Project** have almost finished building their Kit Car with Senior and Junior members working together. Members continue to offer safe driving advice and support. The young people are continuing to build their rally-cross cars, making good use of the available equipment and expertise of our volunteers.
- **Junior Club:** More Young Volunteers are helping out at Junior Club accruing hours for their V-Inspired awards. Activities have included “Safe Week” including cyber and mobile safety, and Summer Safety. Other activities have included Science Fun, healthy eating and healthy cooking, friendship issues, the importance of bees, arts, crafts and games.
- **Detached:** The Detached team visits areas where Young People are known to congregate socially, encouraging responsible behavior and informed choices, as well as signposting them to the East Centre. We go to areas such as Castlefields, Prudhoe Castle, Waterworld, Spetchells Lane, Co-op, Highfield and Eastwood Parks, Oaklands Surgery, West Wylam,

Riverside and other areas as and when required and in liaison with local Police, Prudhoe Town Council and local residents.

- **Boxing:** The club continues to be well attended using sporting activities and healthy living support. Young People are arranging a meeting with our Coach Tony Scott in early September to discuss moving the boxing club further.

New Projects: August has seen the establishment of two new groups at The East Centre.

- **Prudhoe Poppets:** Following requests from old users of the Centre and local Mums, this Family Group began its first session with 44 families! The group has been successful in applying for funding from Northumberland Youth Service Rural Fund and has also been promised funding through Councillor Gordon Stewart. Supported by generous donations of equipment from the local community and photocopying from the East Centre, we hope the group will move from strength to strength.



- **Happy Faces:** With the support of youth workers from Prudhoe East Centre and two Prudhoe Mothers a new group has been launched for Young People with additional needs.

Both parents have children with learning difficulties and said they had struggled to find clubs and activities for them.
Parents said “We want somewhere the children can feel more relaxed and integrate socially. We want to create a space that’s safe, relaxing and fun. Prudhoe Youth Charity Shop has pledged a financial contribution to get the youth group up and running.



- **Highfield Fest:** East Centre Youth Workers once again supported Highfield Fest with the help of the organisation Override for a Scooter Competition. There was also a Skate Competition sponsored by ex PTCYPF member Simon Downie of Reiver Sports.



Brandon...a worthy winner!



Fun for all ages



Scooter gets air!

Many Thanks to Mora Wooldridge, Community Photographer for these photos

- **Funding:** We have successfully gained external funding from Karbon Homes (formerly ISOS) for the amount of £5000. Additionally Prudhoe Castle Freemasons Lodge awarded us £5000 and Pinpoint Employment £500. This funding is being used to pay for a “Wiseup 2 Wellbeing @ The East an holistic project covering Wellbeing amongst our Young People.
- We continue to have generous donations of “end of day” food from our local Greggs bakery, with volunteers helping staff to collect. After a successful site visit at The East we have also been allowed to collect sandwiches, fruit, pasta and salads. This is enjoyed and appreciated by our Young People on Monday and Thursday evenings.

- Our local Prudhoe food and petrol store also donates food for healthy eating and cooking projects on a regular basis
- **NCS:** 19 Young People from Prudhoe have been involved with National Citizens Service (NCS) this Summer. These four week programmes run by Northumberland Youth Service involves groups of Young People from all over Northumberland. One group, based in Prudhoe volunteered at Eastwoods Park Fun Day which inspired them to hold a Family Fun Day at The East Centre as part of their NCS Social Action Project. The idea is to raise awareness and funding for BEAT (eating disorders charity) and the Teenage Cancer Trust. (See attached article). Wheelbirks ice cream and Cafe Ginerva donated food products for the day and a number of local businesses such as Spend and Save made donations for raffle prizes.



Prudhoe Social Media Update 2017

The Communications Team at Northumberland County Council and Northumberland Youth Service have been working together to improve the exposure of the youth centres. An events page was created at the start of the summer break.

The page is here:

<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Campaigns/YS-Summer-17-activities.aspx>

We have done a paid promotion of this page directly at the start of the summer holidays and are doing a promoting it every Monday on our 'What to do this week' post on our events page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/northumberlancevents/>

The page has 31,000 followers and the weekly post reaches around 10,000 people.

The Youth Service has also passed on information about events that we have been promoting. Here is one of them:



AUG
10

Family Fun Day at Prudhoe East
Public - Hosted by What to do in Northumberland

This reached 7,000 people in a 2 mile radius of Prudhoe

Moving forward, we are testing several approaches for the youth service, youth cabinet and Northumberland National Citizen Service on facebook including the use of facebook messenger, pages and

groups. Sessions with end-users have been completed to capture what forms of social media platforms they prefer to receive information on.

HEXHAM COURANT

Friday 18th August 2017

Making a splash at centre fun day

16 August 2017

FAMILIES flocked to Prudhoe East Centre last Thursday for the centre's first family fun day aimed at raising awareness of worthy charities.



Enjoy the fun day at Prudhoe East Centre

The fun day was organised by young people from Northumberland Youth Service's National Citizen Programme, as part of a project involving working within the community.

The activities on the day aimed to raise awareness of the Teenage Cancer Trust, eating disorder charity, Beat, and Helping Hands - a charity for young people in need or facing hardship.

It also helped promote the work of Prudhoe East Centre and the team who run it.

The young people worked closely with local businesses and the community to make the event a success, with Prudhoe Youth Charity Shop providing support and Wheelbirks Farm and Cafe Ginevra donating ice cream for the day.

The fun day featured a range of stalls including tombolas, face painting and raffles, and refreshments included everything from hot dogs to sandwiches and homemade cakes to drinks.



Joe Armstrong gets a soaking!

Youth support worker at Prudhoe East Centre, Carol Quinn, said: "The event proved to be a great success and was attended by all age groups from the local community, along with local police officers.

“As well as raising awareness of the local charities and the work of the Prudhoe East Centre team, £483 was raised to be shared between the chosen charities.”

Coun. Wayne Daley, cabinet member for children’s services at Northumberland County Council said: “The continued hard work undertaken by Northumberland Youth Service on the National Citizen Programme is fantastic and has resulted in a great event for the Prudhoe community.”

