

ANNUAL REVIEW 2012-2013

YOUTH WORK CUTS

no money?

Youth Work Ireland
Be Part of it

BUNREACT NA hÉIREANN
CONSTITUTION OF IRELAND



Youth Work Ireland
'be part of it'



31,113

Participants on
Special Projects
for Youth

€9.4m

the Voluntary Impact
of our Youth
Clubs

98,512

Website Visitors

100,572

Youth Information
Contacts

597

Clubs and Projects

1,009

Employees

21,335

Young People
in our Clubs



Youth Work Ireland



find us on

Facebook



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@ywirl

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Foreword

– *John Gilmore, President*



With a promised end to the recession which has enveloped the country for the past years, the youth work sector has been counselled to position itself for the coming boost; a difficult task given the decimating and disproportionate cuts enforced on youth organisations by government. Despite the difficulties the sector has faced what continues to separate us from the rest, is our constant positivity and infectious optimism for the future, not surprising given the brilliant young people we come into contact with and work with everyday. At Youth Work Ireland we are privileged to work with young people who we see not just as Ireland's future but Ireland's 'now'; young people who are making a real impact on their local communities all over Ireland.

There is no doubt that funding reductions have hugely impacted Youth Work Ireland's Member Youth Services and challenged their ability to provide the quality interventions and innovation they are known for, especially in a time where local youth services are more and more having to pick up the slack and fill in for statutory services which continue to let young people down. All the time there are increasing demands on youth services to comply with audits and quality assessments, which because of lacking resources, end up reducing rather than enhancing their work.

Regardless of these difficulties Youth Work Ireland continues to be a leader in the sector. Our refocused work in the Irish Youth Work Centre has challenged the misconception that 'best practice' is something that must be imported from foreign lands. Through symposia on social inclusion and reflective practice and the redevelopment of our peer practice review mechanisms

the IYWC is capturing and documenting the excellent and innovative praxis in operation right across Youth Work Ireland services.

The organisation has continued to be a strong voice in advocating for youth issues nationally. Our contribution during the Irish Presidency of the European Union and the ongoing plans for the youth guarantee have complimented our constant work in campaigning for further support for local youth services. In tandem our work with the Voices of Youth on the Young Person's Constitutional Convention pushed forward our assertion that young people should be at the heart of the refiguring of Ireland's future.

My own time as President of Youth Work Ireland has come to an end, and while this brings many emotions, the strongest is certainly pride. To have come to this position as a young person, and to have been part of a massive family of young people, volunteers, staff, youth worker's and supporters; to have seen this organisation celebrate 50 years of being at the heart of local communities right across Ireland working, with local young people to make this country great and finally to see this organisation grow and plan for a bright future is nothing if not pride inspiring.

So thanks to everyone; our funders and supporters, the young people, the volunteers, the staff, the boards and all within the Youth Work Ireland family. Keep up the good work.

Yours in Youth
John

Introduction

– **Patrick Burke, CEO**



Young people and youth organisations all over the country are only too well aware that the current recession is negatively impacting more on young people than on every other sector. Youth unemployment stands at a staggering 28.6% which is more than double the equivalent figure for 2008 (13.3%). Youth emigration has also grown hugely with over 200,000 young people having left these shores in search of a better life since 2008. There simply aren't sufficient jobs, training and educational opportunities available for young people in Ireland. Through the imposition of successive severe cuts to annual budgets this current government is compromising the ability of the Youth Work Sector to respond to the needs of young people and to work with them to find creative ways forward and new solutions for exiting this crisis. As a Nation we are letting our young people down and preventing them from playing an active part in forging a better and more just future for our country. In their pre-budget submissions many of the national youth organisations including Youth Work Ireland have reminded the Government to this reality once again.

We call on the government to develop and implement a comprehensive Youth Unemployment strategy which is adequately resourced, to prioritise the Youth Guarantee Scheme and to impose no further cuts to the Youth Work sector. Currently all over the country there are innovative and creative programmes implemented by the Youth Work Sector which are bringing young people closer to the labour market and help young people to move from labour to work. These initiatives must be further supported and resourced, replicated where appropriate and expanded to meet local need. The Government must see that the Youth Work Sector is and can increasingly be a significant part of the solution to our current crisis. They must believe in Young People and believe in the Sector.



Youth Work Ireland 2012-2013

Youth Work Ireland Week

2013 saw the second successive *Youth Work Ireland Week*. This year saw even more events locally and nationally. We also hosted our annual Dáil briefing and the *Irish Youth Music Awards*. *Youth Work Ireland Week* is now well established as a regular event nationally and around the country to showcase the best of our work. The *Children's and Young Peoples Constitutional Convention* a unique contribution to the Governments Constitutional Convention was also hosted by Youth Work Ireland during the week.



Youth Work Ireland Cork

Family Fun Day 2013 was a great success; hundreds of local people came to the Gerry O' Sullivan Park to enjoy music, face-painting, sports, dog show, circus performers and much more.... Thank you to all those who gave up their time to volunteer at the event especially all the hard-working young people!!!

Minister Kathleen Lynch launched a DVD made by young people from the North Monastery school who took part in the '*Mind Your Head*' programme. The '*Mind Your Head*' programme was devised in partnership with YWI Cork and the HSE/ Health Action Zone South and runs in secondary schools on the north side of Cork city.



GLOW

Youth Work Ireland has accelerated its fundraising in recent years and 2013 saw the inauguration of *GLOW* the national lanterns event for youth. All around Ireland during *Youth Work Ireland Week* local youth groups released Sky Lanterns and lit Earth Lanterns to highlight the mission of youth work as lighting the future for Ireland's youth in difficult times. The event served as a valuable fundraiser for local youth services and for the national organisation.



Carlow Regional Youth Service

Carlow Regional Youth Service organised the *Give it a Try 2013* event with the FAI, Carlow Sports Partnership and Carlow Country Development Board. The family event was free for children, parents and grandparents and encouraged them all to "Give it a Try". The options included Zumba, Soccer, Rugby, Bikes, Kickboxing and traditional sports.

Carlow Regional Youth Service and the Pure Thinking Group launched *Bridging* a series of workshops for young adults which culminated with a piece of art in the local park. Local sponsors included Arboretum Carlow, Merck Sharpe and Dohme, Unum, Castelrath Construction, Gordon Engineering and Carlow County Council. The project was nominated for the prestigious Allianz Business to Arts Award.



Consensus Conference

In September 2012 Youth work Ireland organised a *Consensus Conference* for youth workers, volunteers and young people. This unique tripartite event took place in the fantastic setting of Farnleigh House, normally reserved for visiting Heads of State and dignitaries. The Conference was the culmination of an extensive consultation process throughout Youth Work Ireland and has served to inform our Strategic Plan particularly in the area of youth work practice. Also in attendance were personalities from the world of sports and entertainment.



Youth Work Ireland Laois

In November 2013, Youth Work Ireland Laois were proud to officially open the *Portlaoise Youth Café*, funded by Pobal and purposely designed by young people. The *Portlaoise Youth Café* has over 200 members, with over 80 plus young people attending the Café on a weekly basis, and numbers are growing.

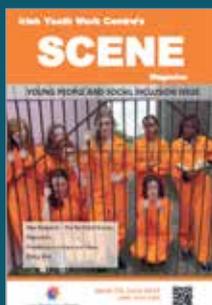
The *Portlaoise Youth Café* (PYC) is a safe, accessible, and friendly space where young people can “hang out”, engage in meaningful activities, programmes and or avail of the in house ‘one on one’ career guidance and counselling. It is a safe space where Young people of both sexes and from all social and cultural backgrounds engage in social interaction with their peers in a drug and alcohol free environment.

The PYC is an important and unique resource for young people (10–25 years), community youth groups and organisations across County Laois. It is utilised innovatively and to its full capacity for such purposes as, live music performance, open mic nights, art, dance, media, drama, yoga, exhibitions, training, information, Club, groups, volunteer, parent and public meeting, or simply for ‘chillaxing’.



Children's and Young Peoples Constitutional Convention

The Government established a Constitutional Convention in November 2012. Youth Work Ireland and its *Voices of Youth* advocacy group believed the establishment of the Convention was a missed opportunity by the Government to involve young people and particularly those under the age of 18 in decisions affecting their future. This was a clear obligation arising from the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child and Goal One of the National Children's Strategy 2000–2010. In order to address this and with great co-operation from Tom Arnold (Convention Chair) and Art O'Leary (Convention Secretary) we organised the *Children's and Young Peoples Constitutional Convention* on April 10th in the Mansion House Dublin.



Irish Youth Work Centre

In the last year the Irish Youth Work Centre has focussed on organising a number of thematic symposia for youth work practitioners focussed on current issues in order to create a shared understanding amongst youth workers on topics such as social inclusion, outcomes and reflective practice. The Centre has also developed a business plan which will see its services and reach enhanced. *Scene Magazine* and the *Journal, Youth Studies Ireland*, continue to be valuable publications for the youth work sector and others in Ireland and beyond. Youth Studies Ireland is now available online at www.youthstudiesireland.ie.

Ossory Youth

The Crimea-based International Children's Center 'Artek' opened its doors to the participants and guests of the 12th International Children Festival '*Let's Change the World for the Better*'. Three young people from Kilkenny supported by Ossory Youth and two young people from Limerick supported by Limerick Youth Services represented Ireland for the first-time at this Summit. Young people from 62 countries also took part in the *OSCE Youth Summit*, organised by the Ukrainian OSCE Chairmanship. Maria Mulrooney, Sarah Lawlor and Emily Treacy who are members of the Kilkenny Comhairle na nog spent two weeks in Ukraine with other 700 talented boys and girls from all over the world, meeting with experts, involved in discussions/ actions, taking part in games/theatre and sharing/ expressing their cultures.

The St. Johns group are a group of primary school, 5th and 6th class boys who meet once a week in Desart Hall. Throughout the year the boys have taken on various physical challenges, the latest of which was the 5 peak challenge. Some of the peaks were challenging, such as Slieve na mBan which meant a hard slog to get the reward of reaching the top; while others were easier such as Mt Brandon where the boys got to reach



the peak on a fantastic summers day with spectacular scenery and a giant compass!! However no matter how long it took the lads loved the hiking and were always eager for the next challenge. The ice-cream at the end of the hike was always well earned!

The final hike brought the group to Enniskerry on a two night residential where they completed a moonlight hike in the Wicklow Mountains. The hike was 17kms and the boys took on the challenge with eagerness and enthusiasm! To do the hike at night time was scarier and a much different experience to the other hikes but just as satisfying once completed!



Canal Communities Regional Youth Service

The *Yeah* project is an education intervention programme that facilitates young people aged 16-21 years who are at risk of using cocaine and opiates to gain Junior and / or leaving certificate qualifications in an out of school setting that is flexible, voluntary and meets their needs. It is a collaborative project between the Canal communities; Inchicore, Rialto and Bluebell. The project is administered through CDYSB and funded by the Canal Communities Local Drugs Task Force. The project runs from September to June.



Youth Games

This programme offers young people a wide range of activities in which to take part. It is a one day, annual event which sees young people travelling from all corners of Ireland to play football, basketball, chess, table tennis, and draughts/quiz. The *Youth Games Finals 2013* were held on the 29th June in Astro Active in Enniscorthy in Co Wexford and were hosted by FDYS. Over 400 young people took part.



Kildare Youth Services

Naas Youth Project played a central role in piloting and launching *GLOW*, Youth Work Ireland's national fundraiser. The aim of the event was to brighten the future of young people in Ireland by lighting lanterns (both sky and earth) on Thursday April 25th at 9.00pm. As a national fundraiser local youth projects, clubs, schools and businesses purchased the lanterns for their local events or simply to support important youth projects in local communities around Ireland. An important element of the project was involving young people in the design of lanterns with important messages. This was a key youth work component to ensure young people's involvement in the programme.





Youth Factor

This national variety programme creates real opportunities for young people, whatever their ability, to gain confidence through performance and creativity. Congratulations to everybody that took part in the *Youth Factor Finals 2013*. This year the finals were held in St Michaels Theatre in New Ross in Co Wexford and were hosted by FDYS. Over 100 young people took to the stage on the day, representing twenty six individual clubs & projects.

FDYS

John Lonergan was on hand to launch *Youth Work Ireland Week* in Gorey County Wexford. He emphasised the importance of building relationships with young people in their formative years to sustain them later in life particularly for parents.

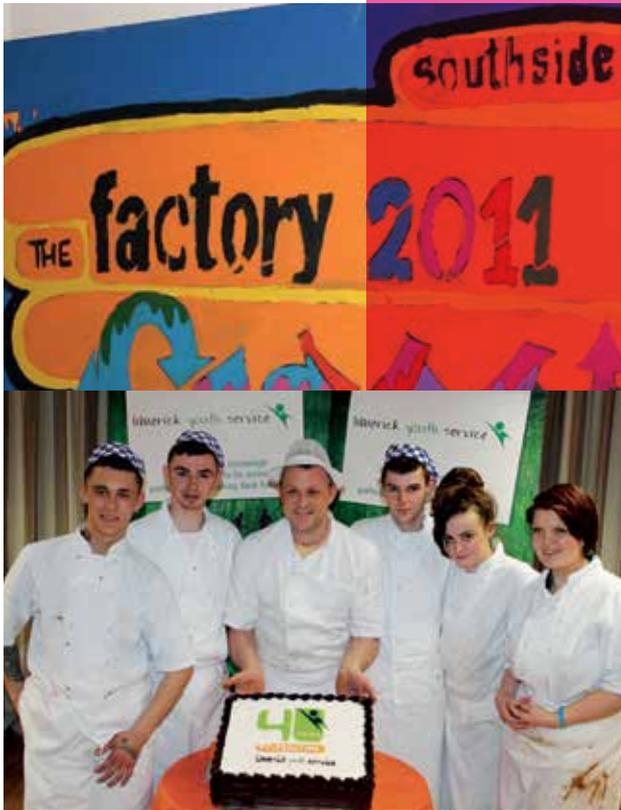
What a transformation! FDYS youth café in Mary's Street, New Ross opened its doors in August to the young people of the town. Housed in the historically significant building from which it takes its name – *The Shambles* – this is the place for young people to meet up socially and participate in a variety of activities and programmes. The aim of this project is to include as many young people as possible who may or may not be in full time education or employment. The project is funded and supported by Wexford County Council's Artist in the Community Scheme – a core programme strand of the Arts Department.



European Confederation of Youth Clubs

Youth Work Ireland continues to be an active member of ECYC (*The European Confederation of Youth Clubs*). During the Irish EU Presidency we organised a seminar on social inclusion involving sister youth organisations from all over Europe and Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald. It was announced here that John Gilmore (President of Youth Work Ireland) was to be the ECYC nominee to the Board of the European Youth Forum.





Limerick Youth Service

Celebrating its 40th anniversary, Limerick Youth Service was the beneficiary of the *Ger McDonnell Charity Cycle*. Eighty people cycled from county Limerick to Doolin in memory of Ger McDonnell, who died on K2, the second highest mountain in the world, during an avalanche in 2008 as he tried to help others make the descent. The cycle was launched by Lord Mayor Cllr Gerry McLoughlin.

Limerick Youth Service's third, youngest and some say trendiest youth cafe, *Laff Caff*, celebrated its second birthday on June 21st. Located at The Factory, Southside Youth Space, *Laff Caff* has grown in popularity and become a firm fixture in the lives of so many young people on the city's southside.



Nollaig

The Youth Work Ireland official Christmas card is designed by one of our very talented budding artists in our Member Youth Services. We have a number of age categories and each year we choose one to send out to all our supporters and friends. The competition is open to all young people affiliated to a Youth Work Ireland Local Youth Service. There are three age categories 7-11, 12-15 and 16-18. A winner will be chosen from each category. An overall winner will also be chosen and this card will be used as the Christmas e-card for Youth Work Ireland for 2013.





Joint Teens and Money Survey with the Irish League of Credit Unions

Youth Work Ireland teamed up with the Irish League of Credit Unions (ILCU) to conduct a joint survey around young people and money in February 2013. We surveyed over 500 young people and found out that the recession was hitting young people hard. Nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ had been involved in a family discussion about finances, 80% of those surveyed were worried about the costs associated with 3rd level and a majority of teenagers get pocket money.

KDYS

Youth Day has now become a major event in the County of Kerry. The objective of KDYS *Youth Day* is to create an opportunity for young people to meet and experience recreational and social activities and in doing so enjoy the fun of meeting with their peers from all over the Diocese of Kerry. Involving young people in recreation is critical to their well-being, *Youth Day* demonstrates what is possible when young people come together with the support of youth leaders. *Youth Day* has developed significantly as a key element of the KDYS recreational programme and our desire is not only to sustain this but to add even more options for the young people of the Kerry.



The development of youth cafes has become an important facet of the youth work offer today. But what can be done for young people in isolated and rural areas where it can be harder to maintain youth cafes? KDYS has addressed this issue by pioneering the concept of the '*mobile youth café*'. This innovative approach was witnessed first-hand at the Youth work Ireland Consensus Conference by Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Frances Fitzgerald.



Children's Referendum

For a number of years the lack of express recognition of children in our Constitution has been a major concern for children's and youth groups. Numerous reports pointed to the consistent inability of our legal and administrative system to properly protect and vindicate children's rights while other express rights in the Constitution could trump those of children every time. November 2012 saw the long awaited Children's Referendum which for the first time ever inserted express rights for children in to the Irish Constitution. Youth Work Ireland played an active part in campaigning online and supporting the broadly based *Yes for Children* campaign.



CDYS Youth Work Ireland

The CDYS *East Cork Music Project* held a very special open day on March 20th at their headquarters in Ballinacurra Business Park. A series of demonstrations of the work that the participants do in music, arts and crafts was laid on for the large crowd who gathered. The project which began in July 2011 is certified by FETAC, London Rock School and ABRSM. It is aimed at young people aged 16 to 25 who are faced with challenging circumstances with the focus of the program to provide an opportunity for participants to progress to full time training or employment. Students of the project study modules in music performance, vocal performance, music theory, art, maths and core personal development.



The CDYS *Teenage Dreamers* have been extremely busy for the last couple of weeks taking part in painting projects and art competitions. CDYS *Teenage Dreamers* girls group were delighted to take part in the '*Life Path*' Labyrinth which is located in the Gilbert Centre in Mallow. The girls painted a concrete slab with things that are important to them on their own personal life journey. This project gave the girls a great opportunity to reflect on their own life journeys so far.



Irish Youth Music Awards

The *IYMA*s bring bands and musicians together from all over Ireland to perform their own music creations. The overall aim of this programme is to give young musicians access to industry experts to benefit from their advice and knowledge. The judging is based on the entire project which incorporates band, crew, promotion and approach. The *Irish Youth Work Awards 2013* took place on 27th April in the Liberty Hall Theatre, Dublin, congratulations to the brilliant Niamh Crowther from Meath Youth Federation who took away the award and Bronagh Broderick from Fermanagh who won the Paul Clancy Songwriter award.



Waterford & South Tipperary Youth and Community Service

Waterford and South Tipperary Community and Youth Service have launched a new ID Card. An official launch took place in February in Farranshoneen Youth & Community Centre where the first 50 ID cards were given out. The cards contain information that confirms that you are a Volunteer, your number, the group that you are involved in and the date that the card was issued. The cards will be used at regional events. As an addition to the cards, negotiations are underway to obtain discounts in certain shops if people produce their ID cards.

The *Youthful Eyes Photographic Exhibition* project was set up in order to afford the young people attached to the Waterford & South Tipperary Community Youth Service an opportunity to learn photography. Course Leader and facilitator for the project was Joe Dalton.

Clare Youth Service

Shannon Youth Expo is a celebration of youth and community services which took place in the Town Square at SkyCourt on September 8th from 1-5 pm. All were welcome including the young and the young at heart. The event aims to showcase the services and activities offered by Clare Youth Service in and around Shannon.

Activities showcased throughout the day included live bands, D.J.'s & Beatboxers, Limerockers Cru (hip hop), arts & crafts, graffiti, badge-making, special effects make up, cupcake decorating. There was also a barbecue, a demonstration by Shannon Kickboxing Club, trampoline demonstration by Shannon Meteors, giant chess etc. The event was part funded by the European Social Fund and supported by the management of SkyCourt Shannon.



Voices of Youth

Voices of Youth is a youth led advocacy group operating under the auspices of Youth Work Ireland which provides an unmediated voice for young people on relevant issues. The young people in the group led the entire process of the *Children's and Young Peoples Constitutional Convention* chairing the plenary sessions and facilitating the workshops on all the questions being considered by the Government's Convention. The group are also working on the current youth policy framework and young people's rights in education.



Youth Work Ireland Longford

Youth Work Ireland Longford held a very successful *Disability Awareness Workshop* for young people in Edgeworthstown. A very successful photography event entitled "*Our Community*" was held in Longford Town and the local youth service continues to hold DJing workshops in the town for up and coming performers.



Advocacy and Media

Youth Work Ireland continues to take a prominent stance in public and in the media on issues relating to young people. In the previous year we have continually called for enhanced action on youth unemployment particularly supporting the concept of a youth guarantee. We have also featured in the national media on issues such as the voting age, alcohol abuse, reform of the state exams and many more. We have completely overhauled our website and social media output in this period communicating our message and the positive impact of our work to a greater number than ever before.



TRYS

The *Work Winner Project* is a unique programme run and designed by Tipperary Regional Youth Service in partnership with Department of Social Protection, Tipperary Education and Training Board and local development companies. The programme takes a 'person centred planning' approach where the young person is the nucleus and driving force behind the design and implementation of this employment programme. To date we have worked with 145 young people with 100 of these young people remaining in the employment/ training sector after the programme.

The *Work Winner* programme aims to provide a young person centred approach to supporting young people to enter and remain in employment on a long term basis, having a positive impact on their lives into the future. TRYS are delighted to announce that we have received funding to run *Work Winner* for another year in South Tipperary with support from the Tony Ryan Fund. In North Tipperary we have received support from the DSP to run a pilot innovate CE scheme for young people under 25 based on the *Work Winner* model.





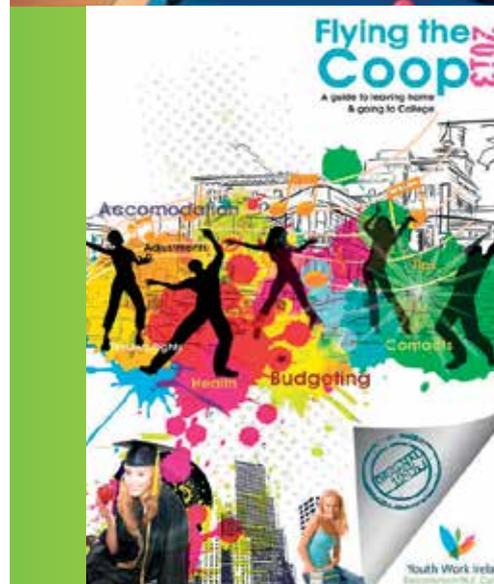
Policy and Submissions

We continue to make submissions to relevant bodies to promote the rights and interests of young people in Ireland and to seek to shape policy and practice for those we work with. Youth unemployment has been a major issue of concern in the last year, we made submissions on the establishment of SOLAS and the future of the European Social Fund. We have also made our regular budget submission to the Department of Finance and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. We have instituted a new Policy Brief to keep all our stakeholders up to speed on national policy developments impacting on young people.

Youth Work Ireland Roscommon N/E Galway

Every August, thousands of students and anxious parents are on the search for student accommodation, and the task can be quite daunting, when you consider the shortage of affordable housing. *'Flying the Coop'* gives you an idea of how much it can cost, where to start, who can help you, what types of accommodation there are and what you should remember when viewing. *'Flying the Coop'* doesn't stop there however. Finding accommodation is just the start of the transition process. What are your Tenants Rights later on in the year if you have difficulties? How much does going to college cost, and how should you budget

"Flying the Coop" is distributed nationally and can be obtained from your nearest Youth Information Centre for a nominal cost of 50 cent. For a list of Information Centres, see Golden pages or check the list at www.youthinformation.ie. (map) Or contact Roscommon Youth Information Centre, Castle St, Roscommon, 090 6625395. If you can't call in, a copy can be sent to you for €1.50 in total (Booklet and p&p).



Midlands Regional Youth Service

The annual pool competition between Mullingar Gardaí and the EYE project took an interesting twist last year. Having previously comprehensively beaten the Garda team to secure the challenge trophy the team were again challenged over the summer by JLO Jim Rock. The Gardaí went out of their way providing food and all sorts of refreshments but despite this they crashed to another defeat. *Better luck next year lads!*

MRYS also celebrated 10 years of *You're a Champ*. Ten teams took part in *You're A Champ 2013* in Gentex Football Club in Athlone, including Acorn Project, Edenderry; ALF Project, Athlone; Athlone Youth and Community Project; Mullingar Youth Project; St Mary's Youth Centre, Tullamore; and Tullamore Youth Project. As this was the 10th anniversary of the Midlands Regional Youth Service annual competition, it was celebrated in style.

Each team was assigned a country which they represented on the day, and worked together to design jerseys and a banner to represent their country. The best banner and best jerseys were judged by Jackie Flannery, chairperson, Midlands Regional Youth Service, with the Acorn Project in Edenderry winning the best jersey competition, and Athlone Youth and Community Project the banner competition.



Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Implementation of the Good Friday Committee

Youth Work Ireland and Youth Action Northern Ireland continue to deliver on their partnership agreement. One of the highlights of the last year was a joint delegation to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Good Friday Agreement. The meeting covered issues such as mobility in training and education, sexual health, youth unemployment, support for youth work north and south and political reform.



Meath Youth Federation

After much campaigning and fundraising the *Ashbourne Youth Café* is on the verge of becoming a reality. The café will provide a fun venue for the youth of Ashbourne, Co.Meath and provide services and activities designed by the youth members themselves. It will be a venue to learn new skills or simply to chill out and meet friends. On twitter @ashyouthcafe

Meath Youth Federation have linked up with Insurance experts Red Corner Money. Red Corner Money is delighted to provide Insurance/Investment Services to members, families, friends and volunteers of Meath Youth Federation and their affiliated Clubs. Every time you are purchasing a premium or other financial service, Red Corner Money is supporting Meath Youth Federation by donating up to 33% of its received commissions. Red Corner Money will endeavour to find the very best price on the market for a wide range of general insurance and life assurance products.

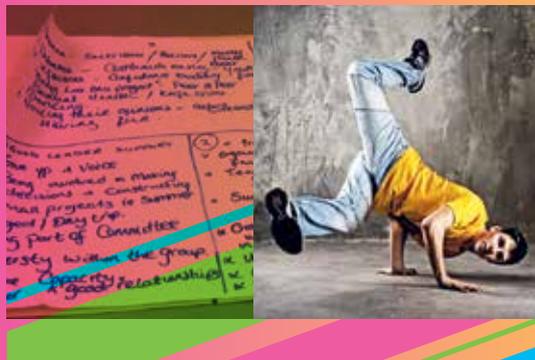


50th Anniversary

2012 saw the 50th anniversary of the founding of Youth Work Ireland. Formally and fittingly this was marked at the AGM in Limerick marking the significance of the city in the history of the national organisation. Other events were held around the country to mark this significant occasion. Nationally a rebranded logo was used for all activities.

Youth Work Ireland Louth

Youth Work Ireland Louth's *Craóbh Rua Community Youth Project* created a short film in conjunction with Sharp Focus and Calipo Theatre Company called '*Crossing the Divide*'. The project brought together four groups of young people aged 14-18 years from areas affected by the conflict, North & South of the Border, with professional film makers on the production of four short films. Each film is inspired by a particular event that took place during the conflict and each film explores the impact this event had on participants' communities. The project will involve comprehensive research that will integrate and include the stories of victims and survivors.



Youth Work Ireland Monaghan

A great day was had on Saturday 7th September at the re launch of the *Youth Cafe Castleblayney*, which was part of *Social Inclusion Week*! It was a very busy and enjoyable day! Thanks to everyone who came in and donated their time and support to the re launch! The Youth Café will continue to be a central part of young people's lives in the town.

Youth Work Ireland Monaghan recently got the chance to try out the RSA Roll-Over Car as an important tool to teach road safety. The RSA Roll-Over Car highlights the importance of wearing a seatbelt as people experience the car turning 360 degrees.



Volunteer Achievement Awards

Our annual award ceremony celebrates volunteering within our Federation. We are very lucky to have over 7,000 dedicated volunteers who help out in our youth clubs and services every week. The contribution made by them is immense and makes a positive impact on youth work and young people. The 2012 recipients were;

Leading the Way Award Recipient:

Alison Mullan, Kilmallock Youth Club, Limerick Youth Service

Stepping up Award Recipient:

Tamara Bradley, Planet Youth, Donegal Youth Service

Making a Difference Award Recipient:

Pat O'Connor, Killarney KDYS Drop-in & Youth Group, Kerry Diocesan Youth Service

Behind the Scenes Award Recipient:

Elva Dempsey, Volunteer Community Mentor Project, Kerry Diocesan Youth Service

The Extra Mile Award Recipient:

Rose McGlinchey, Cockhill Youth Club, Donegal Youth Service



Youth Work Ireland Galway

Youth Work Ireland Galway gives practical support to the annual free Junior Cert Results Party. Over 700 students attended last year. All the City Schools, Calasantus, Spiddal and Oughterard are visited to invite students and hand out forms for this major alcohol free event. Only students with signed forms stamped by schools are admitted on the night. This annual event is organised by lots of agencies and volunteers working with young people.

Participants at the *CAPE Project Oranmore Summer Camp* learnt circus skills and European Youth Week was a big success in the west! *Keep the Beat Klub Castlegar* hosted *The Original Band Camp* in August for young people between 8 and 13 years who wanted to play guitar, keyboard, percussion or learn some dance moves.



Donegal Youth Service

The Donegal Youth Service *Party in the Car Park* on Oliver Plunkett Road was a 100% success according to those surveyed during the event. There were 20 live acts and loads of fun activities including Inflatable fun, Art tent, Magic Show, BBQ and the Road Safety Authority Rollover interactive exhibit. The day was characterised by a fun family atmosphere with the great buzz being helped enormously by the good weather and the Donegal Youth Councillors entertaining the crowd with street games, some traditional ones and some not so traditional!

The bands were from all over Donegal, – *The Nameless* from Dungloe, *Blunt Vegas* from Letterkenny and *Eve Murtagh* from Magheroarty. We also had *Lost Avenue* from Derry.

Letterkenny Youth Information Centres Media group ran the 'Childhood' series in September 2013 As part of the exhibition young people prepared the personal descriptions that accompanied each photograph.





Finance and Fundraising

The economic recession continues to hit youth services and Youth Work Ireland hard. Disadvantaged Youth Projects are being cut by 6 times the rate of Government expenditure. Despite this Youth Work Ireland and its members are striving to do all that they can to maintain as many services as possible. We have also further developed our fundraising capacity locally and nationally. This has been through events, corporate partnerships, 'Friendship' schemes and many other areas. We believe that our work in building a better Ireland and better communities today and tomorrow is a project well worth supporting – fundraising@youthworkireland.ie

North Connaught Youth and Community Service

It was a busy year for *Leitrim Youth Project* summer camps. First up was *Bornacoola* who held their first ever camp during the last week of June. Although the sunshine had not yet arrived, the children of *Bornacoola Youth Cafe The Hive* enjoyed four action packed days which was organised by *The Hive Junior Leaders No Limits Club*. They took their members for six days to the *West of Ireland Residential Camp*. There were games, fun, and lots of outdoor activities for the six days. *Lahard Children's Project* held their camp in mid-July and the glorious sunny days helped all enjoy the week especially a trip to the Zoo.

During *National Recreational Week 2013* events held were a family orienteering event based on *Health Lifestyle* in Forest Park, on the second day the young people took part in a hike and a trip to Surf n Turf, Bundoran. Next up was *Lis Cara Residents Association* first every summer camp. The children in this multi-cultural camp enjoyed art, games, soccer, music, drumming and a trip to the Zoo accompanied by their parents. *Leitrim Development Company* funded this camp through *Peace 3 Funding*.



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Tomorrows Ireland... Today!

It isn't always easy being young in Ireland today. The economic downturn and the decline in traditional institutions means everybody is worried about the future. It is often said young people are the Ireland of tomorrow, we disagree, **young people are the Ireland of today!**

All around this country by engaging and investing with young people in our communities Youth Work Ireland workers and volunteers make Ireland a better place for young people to develop as active citizens.

Our work ensures young people choose healthy lifestyles, engage with their communities and develop as well rounded citizens today and for the future. By entrusting young people with leadership roles today we know our country is in safe hands tomorrow.

Ireland needs strong and vibrant local youth services in all our communities. Youth Work Ireland makes a real difference to young people's lives today and for the future. Can you help us make a difference to the lives of young people?

STANDING ORDER REQUEST FORM

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I/we hereby authorise and request you to debit my/our: _____

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Please complete this form in full and return it to:

Youth Work Ireland, 20 Dominick Street Lower, Dublin 1.



Keep In Touch

Would you like to receive email updates from us? If yes, please enter your email address.

Email:

If you would prefer to be contacted by phone, please enter your phone number.

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www.youthworkireland.ie



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OUR VISION

A more equal and sustainable world where
all young people are valued and involved.

OUR MISSION

To contribute to changing society
for the benefit of young people.

National Youth Federation Ltd.
T/A Youth Work Ireland
Reg No. 193547
Charity No. CHY 18032



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