

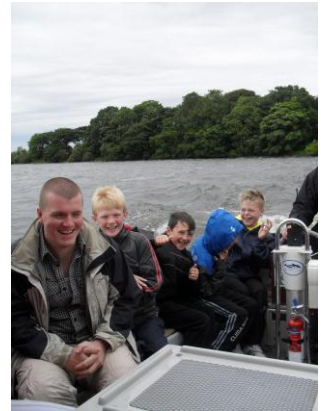
EDGE Youth Project Annual Report 2010 -2011

Background

This year has been an awesome year in terms of the amount of work we have been able to do. There have been some amazing projects, an example of which will be in the workers reports. We have worked with a huge number of young people in one year.

However, this year has been challenging for a number of reasons. Funding, limited resources, moving premises and other factors have made this year very difficult for us, not to mention the loss of our full time member of staff and having no administration support in the later part of this year.

Despite this, the work we are doing in schools continues to develop. We are continuing with our lunchtime and afterschool activities our alternative curriculum programmes are continuing to be beneficial to young people who have taken part. We have also begun developing new programmes for this work.



Appreciation

We would like to thank Suzanne - a great colleague and one who has put a tremendous amount of work into our intergenerational work and coffee mornings

A huge vote of thanks goes to our IT Guru, Pat Clarke, without whom we would not have been able to have the integrated IT system we do. He has sorted everything from phones to servers and from emails to faltering computers. He works incredibly hard to make sure we are always "online". We cannot thank you enough!

We would also like to thank each member of the Management Committee for their support.

We would like to thank all our partners for all their help, assistance and support and in particular, St. Serfs Parish Church for everything they do for us.

Our Streetwork Team - Simone Ledraw, Paul Anderson, Kev Scott of The Zone and our own Bruce Lepley. - Without the effort of these people we could not do the streetwork the way we do (or half as often!).

We would like to thank all our sessional staff (paid and unpaid) - We simply could not do the work without this small band of folk.

Lastly, to all our young people who have been involved in any aspect of the project - It is you who really make this project what it is!

Projects over the last 12 months

School based Projects

- Alternative Learning Package at Benarty Primary School
- Alternative Learning Package at Lochgelly South Primary School
- Alternative Learning Package at Lochgelly High School
- John Muir Award at Lochgelly West Primary School
- Playground Lochgelly South Primary School
- John Muir Award at St Kenneth's Primary School
- Weekly Detached at Lochgelly High School
- Lochgelly North Befriending Project
- Lochgelly North Arts Project - Tuesdays
- Lochgelly North Arts Project - Wednesdays
- High School Personal Development
- Working alongside Lochgelly High School SU Group
- St. Patricks Golden time activities
- St. Patricks Pilgrimage workshops
- Garden Project
- St. Patricks One to One interventions
- Lumphinnans Primary School Lunchtime Drop-in



Community Drop-in Groups

- L8RS Wednesday Evening Drop-in Group, Lochgelly
 - “Baby Ballroom” events
- Saturday Drop-in Group, Lochgelly

Personal Development

- One to one coaching, mentoring and befriending has been provided for an increasing number of individuals with new referrals coming in regularly
- Citizenship project
- Summer 2010
 - Jammed 5 - Young people (8-12) activities week (10 places this year)
 - Partnership Residential week for young people (12-16) (10 places)
- Easter 2010
 - Partnership work with The Zone

One off and Partnership Working Activities

- Community Safety Day
- Community Sexual Health Drop-in at L8RS
- Sexual Health and Substance misuse drop-in at Saturday drop-in
- Summer, October and Easter activity day events in partnership with The Zone
- Taste of Europe project in partnership with The Fisheries Museum

Street Work

- ➔ Street work has continued in partnership with The Zone on foot and using the mobile unit. (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings)
- ➔ Walking the streets at the weekend
- ➔ Sexual Health Work such as condom distribution carried out on the street through The Zone

Other Work

- ➔ Youth Strategy Group
- ➔ Sustained interventions (Drop-ins) towards sexual Health needs of young people in Lochgelly and Benarty
- ➔ Project continues to workplace provider and has facilitated a number of work placements
- ➔ Intergenerational events carried out throughout the year. We held a toy reminiscence/sharing experiences day at Kirkcaldy Museum, a trip to the Fisheries Museum, Creative Crafts workshop at BRAG. These events allow both young people and elderly to interact, share experiences and gain a better understanding of each other.

Future Activities

- ➔ Alternative Learning Package running smoothly and developing in Lochgelly and Benarty
- ➔ New John Muir Award packages. (One now started at Lochgelly West Primary School)
- ➔ Continuation of L8RS, Saturday Night Drop-in and YAG
- ➔ Lumphinnans drop-in continues
- ➔ Continuation of one-to-one coaching, mentoring and befriending with targeted individuals
- ➔ Street work to continue
 - Increase in number of staff undertaking this work
- ➔ TIBAL website development
- ➔ Continuation of High School Detached
- ➔ Holiday activities programme
 - Summer 2011 holiday programme
 - October 2011 holiday programme
 - Easter 2012 programme
- ➔ One off activities and cementing links with current and potential partners
- ➔ Build on Intergenerational work in partnership with Elderly Befriending Project
- ➔ Continuation of afterschool and lunchtime opportunities facilitated by EDGE Project staff
- ➔ Youth drop-in for primary school ages young people

Areas of Good Practice

- ➔ Amalgamation of staff development evenings with the Initiative Project
- ➔ Joint training with The Zone

- ➡ Partnership working with The Zone, The Initiative Youth Project, Fife Council, Community Wardens, Fife Police, Lochgelly High School, Local Primary Schools, NHS Fife, Local Young People's Workers
- ➡ Bi-weekly Sexual Health Drop-in during the L8RS drop-in group
- ➡ Dynamic Youth and Youth Achievement Awards offered to individuals and groups

Challenges

- ➡ Sustainability of the project
- ➡ Maintaining the high benchmark set by previous years.
- ➡ This year rather than develop, we have consolidated which has been a challenge as we always want to develop the work we are doing.
- ➡ Maintaining volume of work after Marks departure
- ➡ Devoting time to street work has been a challenge. We would like to develop a new team to try to combat this issue but funding is the challenge with this.

Conclusion

At this point there are many projects which should be delivered by sessional staff however due to funding we cannot recruit new staff and we are having to try and cover this work ourselves which means less time to develop new things and find it quite stressful. The few sessional staff and volunteers we do still have - Eck, Bruce, Agnes, Violet and Laura are doing a fantastic job!

We continue to have work on the street, in schools, after schools, drop-in groups, holiday provision, special events, one to one support and befriending. There are so many facets to our work that once again we are working in excess of our full capacity.

Caroline Gallacher and Dave Smith
EDGE Youth Work Team



EDGE Youth Project
Face-To-Face Workers Report 2010 -2011

Since our last AGM an awful lot has changed for the staff at TIBAL, as I'm sure you will know! New job for Mark, baby for Pamela and retirement for Liz and Bette. These changes have left us a little down on numbers for our Christmas party! Money troubles too have been looming large over us for quite some time now, and while this is unsettling, when I look at the work we are still doing I feel quite proud of our team. Support from our chairperson, our committee, fund raising by our friends at St. Serfs and all of Pat Clarke's hard work has kept us going through a difficult period, so thank you to everyone who has "been there for us" as the American's would say.

The past year has seen me continue to work in all the local primaries, with the work changing to pick up from the work Mark was doing based around an Alternative Curriculum. I still get to use my creative skills every week at Lochgelly North where I take two classes for an arts and crafts session, a session that I know is welcomed by the school, particularly in light of the fact that they have no visiting specialist art teacher. I have also devised craft projects for use in our Intergenerational work and for our recent fund raising coffee morning, where I helped a number of mums and tots to make little Easter baskets. So I haven't hung up my beret and smock yet! It has been a while since I was involved with my Open University course, so, being ready for another challenge I was happy to say yes, when David asked if I would like the chance to work on a Personal Development Award in Youth Work at the Adam Smith College. We have both been accepted onto the course and it will be great to have someone to gab to about the work! I must tell you about a project that we are about to undertake at the Fisheries Museum in Anstruther! We are taking a small group from Lochgelly South there to work with an artist called Alan Grieve. The work will be based on the subject of food, fish in particular! And Alan hopes that the children will come up with their own ideas, which they will work on back at school. This work will then be exhibited in the Fisheries Museum and also at an event in Cupar later this year! The project is also being run in nine other European Museums, making it an even more amazing opportunity for our children. We were invited to take part in this project by Andrea Sayers from the museum. After providing her with feedback on a trip we had enjoyed during the summer we had begun to discuss some ideas together, as we seemed to be thinking along similar lines for ideas for projects. So when another group had pulled out at the last minute she thought of me and emailed me.

Which brings me to my next little tale! Those of you who know me, will know that I'm not really "into" gadgets or even computers! So I was a little unsure about whether I would get used to or even need the Blackberry phone that Mark had used, but I now love it, because if I hadn't had it I wouldn't have seen the email from Andrea until it was too late! As it was, having found myself in Dunfermline with time to kill on my day off (waiting for an emergency dental appointment...that's another story!) I checked the Blackberry and was very excited about the chance and scared that I would lose it. However I needn't have worried, as, using the Blackberry, I was able to contact Dave, speak to the Head Teacher at the South and get back to Andrea in time to secure our place...hooray!

Now, let me give you a few examples of the things our young folk have been doing. Pupils from St. Kenneth's involved in a Medieval Pilgrims project worked on related craft items before embarking on a pilgrimage with a "real" medieval pilgrim to St. Margaret's Shrine in

Dunfermline. This project was in conjunction with a living history group called Forth Pilgrims who in turn work with Historic Scotland.

At Lochgelly North we worked on finding out about the Jewish celebration of Sukkot, and the pupils had the chance to “wave the lulav” thanks to a charming man, Norman Crane, who came from Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community to see our Sukkot and tell us a little more about it all.

Sandy Howe at Vane Farm has been great to work with and we have now taken quite a few different groups there. During our, now famous! Jammed week we had a group complaining all morning that they didn’t want to go to Vane Farm! Once they were there pond dipping with Sandy they didn’t want to leave!

Two groups, from Benarty Primary and Lochgelly South have taken part in a Kirkcaldy Map Trail during their Alternative Curriculum projects. This is a “home grown” activity, which involves a series of challenges to find out where they are on a map, then, for example, find out where the train station is, and obtain information about timetables etc. Both groups enjoyed the challenge, had a lot of fun learning useful day to day skills, and, importantly for our funds, is a really inexpensive activity!

Last year I reported that I was enjoying getting to know a great many young people in the community, this has continued and I have even, in a number of cases, met the younger brothers and sisters of young people I have previously worked with, which is, I hope you will agree, a thing of value. Its value lies in the quality and continuity of relationship, and, if my studies and experience thus far have taught me anything, it is that good youth work is built on quality relationships.

I look forward to maintaining these relationships while working on many more exciting projects in the coming year!



Medieval Pilgrims



Kirkcaldy Map Trail

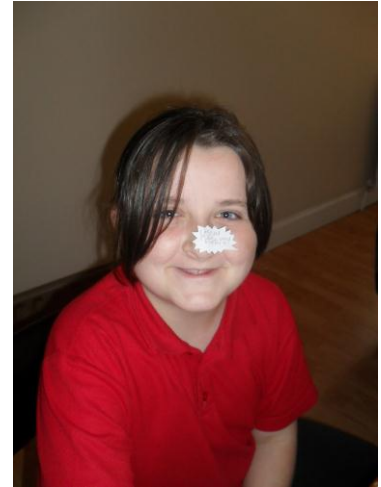


Garden Project

Finally I would like to thank “my” ladies, Agnes Seath and Violet Fotheringham for all their help, it’s great when The Tibal’s get together for a dance...thank you girls!

EDGE Youth Project Project Managers Report 2010 -2011

This has been a very difficult year for me this year. In July I had to say goodbye to Liz, who was a real support for me and for the EGDE Project and at the end of the year I had to goodbye to Mark who had really helped in progressing the project. Within the last month we have also lost the assistance of Pamela. These factors have contributed to what has been a very difficult year. However, Suzanne joined us in July and she has really taken up where Liz left off and has become an integral part of the TIBAL team.



Funding has been a large part of my time - locating possible sources, making applications and reporting to funders. I have worked on this along with Pamela with input from Lis. It is not my favourite part of the job but one which is extremely important for the future of the project. It has, however, been very difficult this year with funders being few and far between in comparison to a couple of years ago.

We completed our move to the Town House at the start of this year and although many items are still in boxes or without a home, we are settling in. It is a relief to say that I have not had to think about offices and accommodation since the move which has been a relief as for the previous two years it has been a major element of my work.

My role has completely changed this year with respect to face to face work. I thought this year I would be even more office based. However, with Mark moving on I have had to take on the work which he was developing. I have really enjoyed this but has meant my time has been short in other areas. In addition I have continued to be involved with street work, holiday activities, weekly detached at the high school and one to one work as I was before. One of the projects that I have really enjoyed working with is the John Muir project. Although very challenging it is great to get young people outside and interested in the environment. Hopefully this will lead to a better place for us all to live in in years to come.



The project continues to be effective and continues to make a difference in the lives of the local children and young people. This is down to an effective staff team from volunteers and sessional workers through to staff employed in the office. I would like to thank Caroline for all her efforts in the schools and helping to offer the range and volume of activities that we

currently do. I would also like to thank Bruce for stepping into the breach with streetwork and other activities to take some of the work load.

Finally, I would like to thank all our young people for being involved in the project. Without the young people and their involvement there would be no EDGE Project. The young people we work with continue to be enthusiastic and have a desire to be involved in everything that we do as a project. Being involved in the primary schools this year has reminded me what a rich resource we have and will continue to have in the future as these young people develop. I am proud to be associated with them.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'D'.

EDGE Project Manager