

Film award success



Leesland Park G-Team

A DVD for the Leesland Park project, *The G-Team*, about making the Gosport park a better and safer place has won an award at the Southampton Film Week Youth Film Festival. The DVD won its award for Best Youth Film in the 16-19 year age group. It was a joint project between Motiv8 and the Youth Service and included interaction with local groups and residents associations. The project brought together groups of young people who might not have worked together very positively in the past. The film shows how a group of young people, working together, make a run-down park into a safer and more enjoyable place. The next steps include the Hampshire Wildlife Trust to re-vamp the natural wildlife areas around the park. We are now on the look-out for a budding David Attenborough!

Young people worked with older people to make a garden bench for a local theatre garden. The bench was installed around a tree at Groundlings Theatre, Portsea on 3 March 2011. The tree was donated last year by Portsea resident, Val



Sitting comfortably

Clement, and building the bench was the idea of Richard Stride, Groundlings' Artistic Director. He said, "Val Clement was born on the site and all her life wanted to see the building turned into a centre for the arts – and here we are. The seat will be used by theatre goers, and the students and school pupils who use the drama school. It's a beautiful addition and will enable many more people to enjoy the large outside space we have here."



the finished article - at the Groundlings Theatre

Young people learned new skills in carpentry and experienced working with older people during the project. They constructed the bench at the Wheatsheaf Trust workshop in Southampton. One young volunteer on the project said, "I've really enjoyed working on this project. It's great to have been able to put something back into the community."

Winning ways

Mayor of Fareham, Cllr Brian Bayford presented an award to Motiv8 Appropriate Adult Volunteers on 9 March 2011. Dawn Willams received the award on behalf of the volunteers. The citation praised their commitment and dedication,

commending the volunteers for doing an outstanding job, providing much needed support to the young people of Fareham.



If you are interested in volunteering for Motiv8, please call 023 9283 4027 or email info@motiv8south.org.uk

Havant football team winners



"Motiv8 has changed my life. This is the best day of my life!"
One young person on winning the league

The football team at Motiv8 Havant celebrate winning the Motiv8 5s league after coming bottom last year. A just reward for a year of hard work and dedication from all the players. A special thanks goes to Havant Borough Council for sponsoring the football kit, and to the Police, Fire Brigade and Park Community School, all of whom continue to support our work at Motiv8 Havant.

Portsmouth Central

how a trip to Dartmoor turned Will's life around

Will's first engagement with Motiv8 Portsmouth Central was in 2008, when he was 14 years old. Although he attended Motiv8 drop-in and football on a voluntary basis he became increasingly involved in anti-social behaviour, and at risk of being permanently excluded from school. His attendance was low, and his behaviour was starting to spiral out of control.

After much persuasion by Motiv8 staff, Will agreed to join a week's residential in Dartmoor along with eleven other young people. They took part in activities such as walking, climbing, ferreting and caving, as well as general camp jobs such as cooking and cleaning. Initially, Will was very hostile towards the other young people and staff, and unappreciative of the opportunity he had been given.

As the week went on however the improvement in Will's behaviour and attitude was obvious: he made friends amongst the other young people and relationships with staff also became much more positive. Will remarked that this had been the best week since working with Motiv8, and that he would like to continue to do outdoor activities when he returned home.

Back in Portsmouth, Will engaged in the Motiv8 Challenge & Adventure programme that ran every week after school for two hours; participating in navigation, climbing, canoeing and kayaking. He also continued to take part in various other outdoor activities over the summer of 2009. In the autumn of that year, Will disengaged with Motiv8, to concentrate on his GCSEs.

In February 2011, Will got in contact with Motiv8 Central and asked if he could meet with his old support worker to gain a character reference for a job he wanted to apply for.

Will is now age 17 years and working full-time in a warehouse in West Sussex as a forklift driver; having gained his forklift licence and his driving licence. He finished school with 5 GCSEs graded A*-C. In conversation, his support worker asked about memories of working with Motiv8, and straight away Will recalled the trip to Dartmoor, "That was in a way my turning point. You guys told me how it was and sorted my head out. Thank you."

news in brief

Havant



Our Havant office has moved to a new venue at The Hub, Greywell Precinct, Leigh Park. The new venue includes a large activity room with space for young people to relax and a kitchen area for them to try out their culinary skills. The Hub grand opening event is on 14 April 2011.

Portsmouth North



Motiv8 Portsmouth North young people working on the intergenerational garden at Paulsgrove Community Centre, created in memory of Madge Sothcott, a local resident.



Minibus miles not just for trips to Dartmoor. the minibuses play a vital role in the community



The Motiv8 minibuses come in a variety of sizes and are in constant use across the community. Typical uses include a visit to Queen Elizabeth Country Park by Havant and Gosport young people, using both Gosport and Portsmouth North

minibuses, while the Portsmouth South minibus went on a pre-residential visit to a farm near Arundel. There are also regular trips, taking young people from Quayside school to activities on the high ropes at Wood Mill and on another day taking them to their sports day at John Pounds Centre. Young people travel from the EV Unit to Portsmouth Watersports Centre and sometimes go fishing at New Milton. Minibuses are also used for the spring and summer residentials to the Wye Valley, and trips to Calshott, the main outdoor centre in Hampshire.



National Citizen Service



Launch event on 6 April 2011 at the Victory Lounge, Portsmouth Football Club, the National Citizen Service is for school leavers age 16. Contact Phil Franklin on 023 9266 2505 for more information.



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