



Dear Supporter,

Hello and welcome to our autumn addition of our Prospex newsletter, we hope you enjoy reading it and would appreciate any comments or [feedback](#).

Prospex Youth Hubs

The Underground - Ringcross Estate N7

Our work at the Underground Youth Hub is going well headed up by Alan and each Wednesday evening sees two sessions the first for 8-13s and the second for 14-19s. The younger is the most popular and the older age is building slowly but steadily. Since starting in May we have had 86 young people pass through with an average weekly attendance of 28 young people for the younger age.

Hyde have requested us to do Friday nights as well and this will start at the beginning of October. We have also installed a garden in the court yard area which was requested by young people and already have flowers and herbs and a pear tree growing. Hyde gave us permission to use a shed that needed a bit of attention. The young people weed and water each week and it is proving really popular. The garden will expand in the coming weeks.



Volunteers from within London Youth gave an afternoon to help set up the first planters, move the shed and rescue some forgotten plants in pots.

Goodinge - [North Road N7](#)

We moved out on 6th June as this was the date given but frustratingly the work has not yet started and it looks like this will now not take place until the New Year. However we have secured a space in the housing office on North Road which we can use for group work. This work will start to take shape this term. James secured a garage free of charge on Hyde Village to store our equipment for the duration of the works.

Williamson Street - [Holloway N7](#)

We are at long last back in and getting straight. Our youth hub will start the first Monday of October and the young people are keen to be back.

Summer Programme

Over the summer we offered additional activities along side our regular Hub programme. These included:

Four days at a VW festival in Kent for the Haynes Mechanix where we showed off Percy the Polo and enjoyed the event. The show gave us a space free of charge and did not charge for places and in return we helped put up some enormous gazebos on the Friday afternoon. It was a great way to end the pilot programme.

Two 5 day barge trips on the Grand Union Canal starting from Milton Keynes. This was following on from the success of last year's barge trip. The first trip was led by Alan and Luke with a group of lads from the Underground Youth Hub and they had a wonderful week. The groups travel each day on the barge helping with the locks and steering etc and then stopped and did various activities which included swimming, cinema, ice-skating for example.

The second group was led by Ngudi and Lucy (young person 18) who stepped in at short notice due to a staffing issue. They took a group of young people from Crumbles Castle away, it was a good week and great to see Lucy step into a leadership role.



Each trip cost £200 plus diesel for the bus and this included all food and activity costs.

Three days were spent at Islington Boat Club each session with ten young people from our hubs each time. This was with funding gained from Help a Capital Child. The days ran from 10.30 to 16.00 and young people gained new skills, some overcame their fear of water, developed team work and made new friends and were a real success.

Two days were spent at Gillwell Park again with ten young people each time doing outdoor pursuits which included archery, climbing, raft building, crate stacking and much more. Gillwell Park is an activity centre run by the Scouting organisation which Alan discovered through his voluntary work with the Scouts. The young people had a fantastic time and it was great to mix young people from all our Hubs.

The funding came from Kings Corner Project as part of their closing the charity.
(Ngudi's former project)



Duke of Edinburgh Award

This is progressing well and ten young people took part in their practise weekend hiking around the Essex Country side on the 6th and 7th September.

Alan and Beef hiked with a group each on the Saturday to make sure they could all read a map etc and then met them at check points on the Sunday. Both groups did really well but one group needs a bit of extra work before their assessed expedition in early October around map reading and working as a team. Two could not make the weekend for various reasons so may need to wait till next year to complete their expedition.

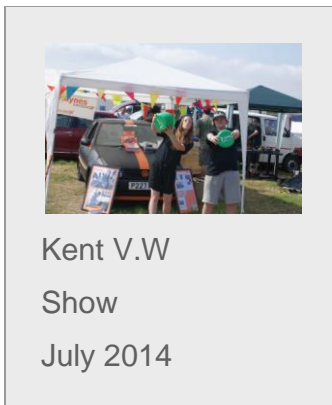
We have built up our kit which now includes 7 tents, 7 Trangia stoves, Rucksacks, sleeping bags, roll mats, map cases and fuel bottles.

Haynes Mechanix

This ended with a celebration evening held at Sparkplug where the young people received not only their certificates but also goody bags from Haynes Manuals and Draper Tools. The evening was a real success and Haynes brought a film crew to make a video which at first preview is looking great.

The pilot was our most successful project to date and we hope to be starting our next one in November with funding from Hyde, Haynes and Draper will be involved.

We have two possible cars a 1969 MG Midget acquired by Beef or a VW Beetle (old style) acquired by Danni the Mechanic.



Staffing, Volunteers and Training

Mel who has been the support for the DofE has suddenly been promoted at work and had to move out of London for a year with only 2 weeks notice. She will be greatly missed by the team and the young people.

Francesco who came from City and Islington and worked at Goodinge and the Haynes Mechanix project has moved back to Italy.

We have spoken to George Williams College about taking on more placements and they have welcomed this in principal. The new term starts on the 22nd September so hopefully this will boost or volunteers.

Francis who worked with us in the past is back with us and currently working at the Underground Hub.

We are pleased that both Maxine and Beef have passed their Level 6 Supervision Course at George Williams College with flying colours. The course has really grounded our supervision practise at Prospex.

Gus and Luke attended an evenings training in Kentish Town by Street Games on innovative ways to use the multi-sports courts with young people. These skills are being used at the Court by the Underground Youth Hub.

Ngudi spent 3 days in Leeds on a Rank Training Conference in June

Funding

Our thanks go to the 6 riders who rode the London to Brighton for us in September the company used proved to be difficult with setting up the funding etc. Amount raised will be announced soon.

RBS

RBS have held their 24 hour challenges and we are now seeing the funds they raised make its way into our account. The teams did an amazing job in so many inspiring ways. Lucy joined Beef and walked RBS team on their last leg of their journey from Holloway to

250 Bishopgate on one of their fundraisers.

Amol was on the judging panel and Beef spoke at the RBS/Pilotlight final which was a great piece of representation for Prospex and a way to say thank you for their support and stress what it does for us as a charity. Our challenge now is to build and keep the links with RBS and look at how they can support us beyond 2015.

Media

The coverage regarding Haynes Mechanix has been massive especially the coverage by CAT magazine who ran a second piece in the magazine after the celebration which they attended as well as the online articles each week.

Coverage was also given to Haynes Mechanix in the Express, the Observer and local papers around the country as well as many online articles. Google Haynes Mechanix to see them all.

Mark a long term member of Williamson Street Youth Hub is now volunteering at the underground with an emphasis on developing sports activities with the younger group. He is doing this with the support of Gus.

Other News

Beef spoke along with Andy Dunlop (one of our [Pilotlight Mentors](#)) at the first Pilotlight conference on 17th June. It was received well and a great networking opportunity.

Beef was asked by [Rank](#) to be one of five speakers for their new Yarn Talks. This was filmed in a trendy bar/club in Dalston and will be broadcast online with a link to each speaker and their projects via a newly created web site. The premier of the films is in October at the Rank conference in Blackpool. Beef spoke around the theme of "The Art of Being Non Judgemental" a fundamental principal in how we work at Prospex. The films can be watched on youtube just type in [yarn talks](#).

Annual General Meeting

We held our first public AGM on 29th September, when a wide range of those interested in or involved in Prospex activities assembled together to celebrate the achievements of the young people we support.

Presentations were made by our young people and featured work going on with the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, the barge trips, a film made by our young people on the dangers and consequences of knife crime as well as a beautiful rendition on guitar and vocals of 'Skinny Love'.

Additional presentations were made by RBS and Rank, as well as some of our youth workers and volunteers who talked about the work that they do and challenges they face.

A young person compered the evening, and our guests enjoyed a delicious buffet prepared and served by the young people. Attendees represented a wide range of our stakeholders, volunteers, sessional workers, employees, trustees, personal givers, corporate and charitable funders and of course the young people themselves.

The event provided a unique opportunity for all our constituents to meet and share their passion for Prospex.



Our first open A.G.M celebration



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