

Pilmeny Youth Centre - News

Keeping the community in the loop.

Our website, FB page and Twitter outlets are important online tools for informing and relaying up to date news. We're now extending the information channels with a monthly newsletter. Feedback is important to us. Let us know what you think.

As we progress, future issues will be produced by our FAZZ and FeZ club, with news gathered by the young people. We'll merge youth centre and community news in order to promote the positive outcomes within our community, and celebrate the PYC's twenty five years of service to the children and young people in the Leith Walk Ward.



As Our commemorative project draws to an end our thoughts drift towards the fateful events that transpired on 22 May 1915. The Gretna Train tragedy, largely forgotten for a century, needed to be brought back into focus. At the outset, the template for our project was to let the world know what happened and with the dedicated work of our project team we're pleased to report that the local and national coverage given to the project, fulfilled that objective. As the project closes on 30 November, and evaluations are published, we may come together to assess whether we investigate a second project. Why? Well our research teams collated a massive amount of data associated with the tragedy, and the feeling is that before the WW1 commemorations end in 2018, the data should be published. The data forms the basis, of what we believe will be an important social history project, and invaluable for future reference. The youth centres links with Leith Academy, and the students of the XL Princes Trust group, would also be reinforced.



We hope that the lasting legacy of Remembering the Leith Battalion will be that future community generations will commemorate the 216 men and boys known as "Leith's Own"

Project News

Both of our out of school sports & healthy lifestyle projects aimed at U12s continue to go from strength to strength. Since 2008, when Sports Relief bought into our vision for children's community sports, we've been in the privileged position of being able to ensure local primary school children have been given an opportunity to participate in energetic activities. It's worked fantastically well. The vast majority of our P7/S1 fit-4-fun children have all "graduated" through the years as attendees, from age 6, to the present. An early "critic" mentioned that "not all children like sport". Point taken. However,



every child loves to play, chase around, run etc. It's how we promote it as play, rather than sport that's the key. When asked to do our 5-in-5 routines at the beginning of each session, the children are actually unaware that it's deemed as exercise. They accept it as PLAY. Our previous funders:- Sports



Relief -Health Lottery - Comic Relief (twice) - Moffat Trust - Bank of Scotland - Big Lottery - Garfield Weston - Awards for All (twice) and Leith Neighbourhood Partnership, have all endorsed the value of our sports sessions. Our current projects incorporate our partnership work with multi cultural family base (MCFB) Scoring a goal for Inclusion project, promoting sports between both agencies. LOWs (Leith One World Sports) Both projects are currently at maximum attendance capacity. The confined games hall space at PYC restricts numbers to around 14 children. We're currently investigating funding that would allow us to facilitate additional sessions, either different afternoons, or weekend sessions, in order to roll the projects out to all local children and young people.

FAZ (FRIDAY AFTERNOON ZONE) TRANSITION GROUP.



Young people spoke - We listened?

In late 2014, some of our young people were expressing concerns about the move from primary to high school. The usual issues associated with a smooth transition to the "big" school were being discussed. It was clear to us that these concerns were needing addressed. FAZ was established to offer ongoing support. A number of young people have now made the transition, however personal concerns are still being highlighted by some of the group. During the relaxed social setting, FAZ staff are on hand to provide support.

As we go through life, the years and the seasons may change, but the challenges faced by young people, never do. Growing up is a challenge in itself. Hopefully, FAZ can help.....



November Programme.....what's on at PYC

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
2 FREE FOR HIRE 9AM - 9PM	3 9.30am - 11am PYC Playgroup FREE FOR HIRE 1pm - 4pm JUNIOR CLUB 6:30pm - 8pm	4 FREE FOR HIRE 9AM - 5PM Lau Gar Martial Arts - 7pm - 9pm	5 9.30am - 11am PYC Playgroup 3:30pm - 5pm PYC/LOWS 7pm to 9pm Combat Arts	6 Fit-4Fun Club 1pm - 2:30pm FAZZ 3pm - 4:30pm 5pm - 6pm Redpath/PYC BC FEZ 6:30pm - 8pm	7 2pm - 4pm TODDLER PARTY	8 2pm - 4pm TODDLER PARTY
9 FREE FOR HIRE 9AM - 9PM	10 9.30am - 11am PYC Playgroup FREE FOR HIRE 1pm - 4pm JUNIOR CLUB 6:30pm - 8pm	11 FREE FOR HIRE 9AM - 5PM Lau Gar Martial Arts - 7pm - 9pm	12 9.30am - 11am PYC Playgroup 3:30pm - 5pm PYC/LOWS 7pm - 9pm Combat Arts	13 Fit-4Fun Club 1pm - 2:30pm FAZZ 3pm - 4:30pm 5pm - 6pm Redpath/PYC BC FEZ 6:30pm - 8pm	14 9am - 6:30pm ACTIVE INQUIRY THEATRE	15 9am - 4:30pm ACTIVE INQUIRY THEATRE
16 FREE FOR HIRE 9AM - 9PM	17 9.30am - 11am PYC Playgroup FREE FOR HIRE 1pm - 4pm JUNIOR CLUB 6:30pm - 8pm	18 FREE FOR HIRE 9AM - 5PM Lau Gar Martial Arts - 7pm - 9pm	19 9.30am - 11am PYC Playgroup 3:30pm - 5pm PYC/LOWS 7pm - 9pm Combat Arts	20 Fit-4Fun Club 1pm - 2:30pm FAZZ 3pm - 4:30pm 5pm - 6pm Redpath/PYC BC FEZ 6:30pm - 8pm	21 2pm - 4pm TODDLER PARTY	22 BABY LUVS BEATS 10:30AM - 12:30 2pm - 4pm TODDLER PARTY
23 6pm - 8pm Strange Town Youth Theatre	24 9.30am - 11am PYC Playgroup FREE FOR HIRE 1pm - 4pm JUNIOR CLUB 6:30pm - 8pm	25 FREE FOR HIRE 9AM - 5PM Lau Gar Martial Arts - 7pm - 9pm	26 9.30am - 11am PYC Playgroup 3:30pm - 5pm PYC/LOWS 7pm to 9pm Combat Arts	27 Fit-4Fun Club 1pm - 2:30pm FAZZ 3pm - 4:30pm 5pm - 6pm Redpath/PYC BC FEZ 6:30pm - 8pm	28 2pm - 4pm TODDLER PARTY	29 2pm - 4pm DISCO PARTY
30 6pm - 8pm Strange Town Youth Theatre	NOVEMBER					



Promoting alternative career pathways. The youth centre is pioneering a new approach for school leavers at Leith Academy. **The Beyond the ball project** offers SFA coaching diploma courses to students wishing to investigate possible careers in the sport and leisure industries. In partnership with Leith Academy and the Scottish football association development officers, 15 senior pupils attended, and indeed, gained diplomas in the SFA (D) Development 1:1 Level. The course, spread over two afternoons, totalling 6 hours in October, was deemed a great success. Funded by the Port of Leith Housing Association, phase two of level 1:1 will culminate in each course attendee committing ten hours of their personal leisure time, assisting at a sports

session in the local community. These placements are now confirmed. Once each ten hour block is complete the group will move on to level 1:2 Development diplomas. The target is to progress to level 1:3, the minimum level required by sports and industry employers. The diplomas will help to reinforce personal CVs. It's early days, but with funding in place, the key

Beyond the Ball



Project
Beyond the Ball
*
A significant
enhancement to
any CV

Managed by
Pilmény Youth Centre
In collaboration
With the Scottish Football
Association, East Region
Development Team
Facilitating SFA Coaching
Diplomas
To Senior Pupils at
Leith Academy

Funded by
Port of Leith Housing Association & Managed by Pilmény Youth Centre

target is that Pilmény Youth Centre and our project partners will be in a position to provide course provision on an annual basis



FEZ (FRIDAY EVENING ZONE) YOUNG PERSONS DROP IN

We're great listeners here at PYC. Circa 2011 the local authority built a MUGA (multi-use games area) in the local play park. It's a hugely popular resource with local children, young people and young adults enjoying casual football and basketball games. During the spring and summer months. A number of young people commented that it was a shame that the MUGA couldn't be used during the winter

evenings due to the lack of lighting. We investigated. The local authority were unable to help. Costs and logistics being a big factor. Also, concerns from residents, that if the MUGA was illuminated with permanent lighting, it may encourage anti social behaviour. We accepted these concerns, but decided to investigate possible solutions. We found one. Via generous grants from the St James place, the John Watson and Gordon Fraser Trusts, we purchased four portable, battery operated floodlighting rigs at a cost of £2,500. These can be set up at the MUGA in the evening, dismantled and stored at the centre, after each session. The drop - in session also promotes social interaction as young people and session staff interact over a free

Toastie and hot drink during each FEZ session. We've had a number of Friday night "trial" runs. Friday evening Sessions will start officially in January 2016

Outdoor Floodlight
Football
Basketball &
Badminton
Netball and socialise
@ PYC
Clean & Clear with
friends and staff
Free Toasties, hot &
cold drinks

Starts
Friday 11 September

FEZ (Friday Evening Zone)

Start the
weekend at PYC
Open to 12 & 13
Free Entry

Funded by

St James Place
John Watson Trust
Gordon Fraser Trust
Souter

PYC Youth Social Club
Friday nights 6:30pm to 8pm.

What's new for 2016

We always look to the future. Our "heads" tend to be focused on the "next year" and we're constantly homing in on what we term as unique and original community provision. Our strong partnership with Leith Academy, has unearthed a number of collaborative projects that we feel will be mutually beneficial. Establishing **Beyond the Ball**, investigating work placements and supporting school leaver career opportunities. Partnering LA on, in school and extra curricular **sports projects**, are among the early proposals being investigated. **Girls 'n' Goals**, is a proposed project exclusive to local girls. Targeting, primary and S1/S2, ages, with a specific emphasis on promotion of sports activities, partnered with Redpath Albion/Pilmey Sports Club, and utilising the games hall at Pilrig Park Special Needs School and Leith Academy. Uniquely, sessions would be facilitated on Saturday &/or Sunday afternoons. Re-establishing our "doorstep" **sports project** is also a strong possibility. In 2012/13 we facilitated, casual Saturday morning sports, on the grass sites (old bowling greens) at Dalmeny Street Park. Held over the summer months, the project proved successful, despite issues with the surfaces. We've recently



held discussion with the Local authorities, Safer Leith Community Team in relation to our use of the MUGA at Friday FEZ sessions, and been given assurances that a surface maintenance cycle will be put in place at Dalmeny, park by Spring 2016, in order to safeguard the surfaces for youth centre and community use. Children and young people's sports could soon be a regular addition on these important community sites.

Walking Football? Explained as...

"Walking football is a variant of association football that is aimed at keeping people aged over 50 involved with football if, due to a lack of mobility or for other reasons, they are not able to play the traditional game. The sport can be played both indoors and outdoors"



When "mind mapping" possible daytime uses of the parks MUGA and grass sites, it was suggested we investigate walking football. Initial approaches, to a number of 55+ gents in the community, were very encouraging, with most happy to give it a try. Wet weather days, and we'd be able to hold the weekly event at PYC, ending with a

coffee, bun and a blether. We're aiming for a Spring 2016 start date.

Room for Change.....a number of fabric changes are planned @ PYC. In consultation with our young users, our upstairs art & craft room is to become our new IT suite. Couple of laptops, netbook and an I Pad, will be installed in the new year. The facility can be utilised casually, or for practical purposes, when working on PYC projects. Some film, and photograph editing workshops, are also being explored in order to maximise use of the suite. Creative Music composition workshops, using PC software and iOS Apps, is another possibility. Our TV lounge, or "Chill-Out" space will also undergo a minor makeover with a new 40" Smart TV, wifi music system, new up lighters and some soft seating additions, as well as sprucing up the walls with posters, & framed photographs, selected and provided by the young people. These changes will also allow us to offer the space for daytime hire.

And finally.....As our Remembering the Leith Battalion Project draws to a close a special mention goes to our team who worked tirelessly, with endless hours of research and effort, PYC couldn't have done it without them. To our principal project leaders Craig (PYC) and Christine Boal (Leith Academy) and the Princes Trust XL pupils at Leith Academy, Robbie Huxtable, team leader, Leith Academy Alternative Education group. Mr Jack Simpson, Head Teacher at Leith Academy for juggling timetables and



supporting the project. To the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding the project, Heather Scott (Hide & Seek Art Glass) who led, created and produced our Tree of Life and Gretna stained Glass memorial. The young people of Pilmeny Youth Centre for their valuable contribution to the project, Out of the Blue Arts & Education Trust (Drill Hall) for partnering PYC and financially contributing to the Tree of Life, Ray Bird (Rarebird) Media for providing a selection of stunning project photographs, and to the families of the key project leaders for their patience and support throughout the 14 month project.

To the Lady Haig, Poppy Factory, The Edinburgh Reporter, STV Edinburgh, The Times and Edinburgh Evening News, for bringing the Gretna Tragedy back into focus