LODON NEWS



YOU Islington have produced a new map showing the locations of uniformed youth organisations within the borough. The map, the work of PC Dan Quinn, a serving Met Police Officer and VPC adult volunteer, gives information on the uniformed youth groups in the borough and - importantly for young people - bus routes to reach them. The map is available electronically on Twitter (@YOUIslington) and in hard copy at various youth centres around the borough. Printing costs were paid for by Islington Council.

If your borough would like to produce something similar, please contact Debbie Wilkinson, YOU London Co-ordinator on <u>youlondon1@gmail.com</u>, who can help with connections and funding.

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YOU Croydon Challenge

The YOU Croydon challenge was held at Royal Russell School on Saturday 2 June.



Young people from eight YOU organisations in Croydon competed in a 'round robin' programme of stands, with each organisation running a different stand.



The Army Cadets ran an observation and memory game followed by a 'grenade' throwing task (water balloons - not grenades!); the Guides a 'paper planner' exercise to develop creative planning skills and the Scouts brought a climbing tower. The Air Cadets hosted a paper plane competition; the Boys' and Girls' Brigades created an 'escape room' exercise; Royal Russell School CCF ran a Rifle shooting competition; the Sea Cadets a 'Command Task'; and the Volunteer Police Cadets a fingertip search.

The Mayor of Croydon, Councillor Humayun Kabir, visited the event and spent time talking to the young people he met.



Following a prize-giving ceremony where Sarah Jones MP presented YOU London pin badges, and a speech by Representative Deputy Lieutenant for Croydon, Colonel Ray Wilkinson, who praised the team-work and spirit of the event, the day ended with a well -earned BBQ. T-shirts, pin badges and the BBQ were funded by YOU London.

Many thanks to Royal Russell School for being such accommodating hosts. We're already looking forward to the 2020 event!

Photos: Michael Nolan



Getting the YOU London message out

As part of settling in to the YOU London Co-ordinator role, Debbie Wilkinson has been out and about meeting YOU London groups and promoting YOU London.

YOU London has had information stands at:

- Met Police internal Volunteering Fair, Empress State Building
- HAC Open Day, City Road



 Met Police Pan London Youth Event and Haringey Box Cup, Alexandra Palace



If you know of an event that would be suitable for a YOU London information stand, please drop Debbie an email at youlondon1@gmail.com

Briefing the Lord-Lieutenant

The Chairman of YOU London, Colonel Hugh Purcell, and Debbie Wilkinson briefed the Lord-Lieutenant for Greater London, Sir Kenneth Olisa, on YOU London at the end of June.

The Lord-Lieutenant is a great supporter of YOU London as a former St John Ambulance Cadet (and proud holder of the Grand Prior's Award!). He has also recently taken over from Field Marshal Lord Guthrie as Patron of London Youth and he looks forward to closer cooperation between the organisations.



The Lord-Lieutenant and Vice Lord-Lieutenant visiting a YOU competition

The Lord-Lieutenant's Strategy for London 2015-2026, *Building Bridges for a fairer London*, aims to connect individuals, organisations and social networks, to enhance Londoners' sense of belonging in order to make London a city that is inclusive and accessible for everyone.

The Lord-Lieutenant has a Representative Deputy in each of London's 32 boroughs. These distinguished volunteers support YOU London in a range of ways from presenting awards to encouraging adults to enroll as organisers.

YOU Haringey competition

It might have been swelteringly hot in Tottenham on Saturday 29 June but that didn't stop the annual Haringey YOU competition.



The event, which was hosted by the Sea Cadet unit at TS Wizard on White Hart Lane, saw six uniformed groups undertake a series of challenges to compete for the coveted YOU Haringey shield. Activities included indoor rowing, blind-folded football, deciphering morse code, tent pitching, filming a recruitment video and a tug-of-war.

Flight Sergeant Edoardo Reis of 268 (Tottenham) Squadron RAF Air Cadets, who meet on Monday and Thursday evenings in Tottenham, said: "Events like this are really important to bring young people in Haringey together. It's also great for the younger generation to see us out and about doing interesting things, so that we can inspire them."



Whilst the competition took place in the blistering heat of Saturday, the competitors had to wait until Sunday morning to find out the results. The shorts and trainers of Saturday were replaced by smart uniforms and shiny boots for Haringey's Armed Forces Day parade from TS Wizard to the Civic Centre in Wood Green. After the parade, the Mayor of Haringey, Councillor Sheila Peacock, and the Representative Deputy Lieutenant for Haringey, Captain Peter Baker, announced the victors as 16F (Wood Green and Hornsey) Squadron RAF Air Cadets. The winner's shield was collected by Cadet Corporal Kirunda who was also awarded 'best group leader' during the competition.





Photos: Michael Nolan

Off to South Africa!

Three lucky Londoners are off to South Africa for two weeks later this month after becoming finalists in CVQO's Westminster Award. The vigorous selection process saw hundreds of young people whittled down to just 10 national finalists.

The Westminster Award, run by CVQO - a UK education charity providing vocational qualifications to youth group members and their adult instructors - is an annual competition designed to recognise and reward their most deserving learners. Each year cadet and youth group leaders are asked to nominate an exceptional young person for something they've achieved.

This year's overall winner was Ruta Dubinskaite of Middlesex and North West London Army Cadet Force, who was presented with an engraved lion trophy by The Rt Hon the Lord Lingfield, Chairman of CVQO Trustees at the House of Lords on Thursday 27 June.

The other two London finalists were:

Alfie Green, London Fire Brigade winner of The Lingfield Medal 2019

Yasmin Grizzle, City of London and North East Sector Army Cadet Force





Photo: Michael Nolan

CVQO Chief Executive Guy Horridge said at the award ceremony, "Today there are winners who have overcome personal challenges, challenges at school and challenges in the cadets, but what they all have in common is not only have they successfully faced these challenges but they have never used them as an excuse or expected special treatment because of it.

"They have studied hard to earn their BTEC and ILM qualifications. They are in my opinion remarkable young people, mature beyond their years and I am delighted to say they have all joined a very special club by becoming CVQO Westminster Award finalists today."

Cadets Help in Riverside Clean up

Greater London South East Sector Army Cadet Force, in partnership with Thames 21 and Friends of Erith Riverside Group, took part in the annual Thames Riverside Clean Up where over 40 shopping trolleys and over 12 sacks of rubbish were removed from the river at low tide.



Cadets from 3 local detachments: 107 Cadet Detachment in Bexleyheath, 108 Cadet Detachment in Erith and 109 Cadet Detachment in Belvedere worked together with local people and river charity Thames 21 in a spirit of fun and collaboration to make Erith riverside a cleaner place to enjoy.



From 9am until 5pm everyone worked hard to cover over a mile of river front from the pier to the jetty - removing old bikes, shopping trolleys, ropes and harmful rubbish from the river environment. The event has been running as a collaborative project for many years and was co-ordinated to take account of the low tide for maximum effect.

The cadets greatly look forward to getting stuck into things and also to talking with and meeting local people to inform them about what they do and how 'Cadet in The Community' can be so impactful at events such as this.



BigDeal.Org.Uk

Did you know <u>BigDeal.org.uk</u> is a place for young people to find information and support related to gambling and gambling problems?

They also provide free training for adults who work with young people on how to recognise problem gambling, conduct brief interventions and run awareness workshops for young people.

If your organisation would like to take advantage of a free 45 mins - 1 hour workshop, do get in touch with:

Gifty Oduro-Anyan Youth Outreach Co-ordinator GamCare T: 0207 801 7005 / 07366977024 gifty.oduro-anyan@gamcare.org.uk



Free workshops for young people, free training for professionals. www.bigdeal.org.uk

Shout 85258

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex have teamed up to launch a new mental health initiative that will provide free 24/7 support by text to people who need help anywhere in the UK at any time.

Shout is a free text-based direct-messaging helpline that will match up people needing mental health support with trained volunteers and all it takes is a text message.

Anyone needing *Shout*'s services can send a text message to 85258 with the word 'Shout' in the body.

Shout already exists in the US as 'Crisis Text Line', but this is the first time the tried and tested technology has come to the UK.

Shout was launched in partnership with Mental Health Innovations, a digital mental health charity, which is a legacy from the Heads Together campaign that William, Kate and Harry formed in 2016.

In a video to launch *Shout*, Prince William says, "As texting is private and silent, it opens up a whole new way to find help. Harry, Meghan, Catherine and I have been able to see this service working up close and are very excited for its future."

Shout currently has a team of 1,000 volunteers but is hoping to expand that to 4,000 by the end of the year. All volunteers are fully trained online for 25 hours and can volunteer from anywhere they have a secure internet connection.

For more information visit <u>www.giveusashout.org</u>

What's the big iDEA?

The Duke of York Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award (iDEA) is an international programme that helps people develop digital, enterprise and employability skills for free.

Through a series of online challenges, participants can win career-enhancing badges, unlock new opportunities and ultimately gain industry-recognised awards that help them stand out from the crowd.

iDEA is the digital and enterprise equivalent of The Duke of Edinburgh Award. Bronze is beginner, Silver intermediate and Gold advanced. The iDEA Bronze and Silver Awards are available now. Gold will be released in due course.

The challenges are split into core categories, each with its own series of badges to be won:

citizen - digital awareness, safety and ethics

worker - tools and techniques which are useful in the workplace and employability skills

maker - digital creativity; how to build and make in the digital world

entrepreneur - how to originate ideas and bring them to life

gamer - gamification techniques and how to make games

More information can be found at <u>www.idea.org.uk</u>



85258

Organisation	Contact Name	Email Address		
Air Training Corps	Stephen Rudd	stephen.rudd319@mod.gov.uk		
Army Cadet Force Debbie Goodall		336goodal@armymail.mod.uk		
Boys' Brigade Chris Norman		chris.norman@boys-brigade.org.uk		
Fire Cadets Nicola Rees		nicola.rees@london-fire.gov.uk		
Girls' Brigade Julie Murdy		director@gb-ministries.org		
Girlguiding LaSER	Alison Bruce	alisonbruce5@btinternet.com		
Scout Association	Paul Spencer	paul.spencer@scouts.org.uk		
Sea Cadet Corps	Ryan Bentley	rbentley@ms-sc.org		
St John Ambulance Jane Fonteyn		jane.fonteyn@sja.org.uk		
Volunteer Police Cadets Steven Sweeney		steven.p.sweeney@met.pnn.police.uk		
YOU London Co-ordinator Debbie Wilkinson		youlondon1@gmail.com		
YOU London Admin Donna O'Hallorar		gl-offcadets@rfca.mod.uk		

It's all about...



The aim of YOU London is

to work together to support young people by maximising the benefits of the existing youth organisations. Working together takes many forms including inter-group competitions, sharing premises, sharing information, exhibiting together at recruitment events, or simply being aware of who is who in the boroughs' youth groups. Working together often produces for the groups much more than the sum of the individual parts can do.

Z-cards

Fold out business-card sized 'Z-cards' which advertise all of the YOU London groups are available from Donna at gl-offcadets@rfca.mod.uk



If you would like to contribute something for the next edition of YOU London News, please send articles and images to youlondon1@gmail.com by 30 September 2019. We're particularly after stories of collaboration between 2 or 3 organisations of no more than 200 words with a good digital image of at least 500Kb in size.