

## YOU CROYDON CHALLENGE

Over 100 young people from nine different youth organisations in The London Borough of Croydon took part in the YOU Croydon Challenge on Sunday 8th May at Royal Russell School.

The young people were all members of the Boys' Brigade, Combined Cadet Force, Girls' Brigade, Girlguiding, RAF Air Cadets, Scouts, Sea Cadets, St John Ambulance or Volunteer Police Cadets. Split up into mixed syndicates, they took part in a series of challenges designed to develop their teamwork, communication and leadership skills. Each challenge was run by one of the different organisations and included a blind-folded trust exercise, observation tests, triaging casualties following an imaginary helicopter crash, learning about paper aeroplane aerodynamics and a 'what's in the box?' communication exercise.



### FEATURED STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:

- YOU Croydon Challenge
- GL RFCA Annual Awards
- City of London Reception
- VPC Recognition
- Lord Mayor's Music Competition
- 2022 YOU London Leadership Conference

# YOU CROYDON CHALLENGE CONT...

The event was organised by the Guides, Scouts, Volunteer Police Cadets and Royal Russell School CCF on behalf of the Representative Deputy Lieutenant of The London Borough of Croydon, Colonel Ray Wilkinson.

After presenting YOU London pin badges to all participants and congratulating the winning khaki team, Colonel Wilkinson said: "Well done to all participants - you have worked hard today to complete some tough challenges. I especially want to thank the adult volunteers who go out of their way to do so much for their local community - these things simply don't happen without them."



Sarah Jones, MP for Croydon Central and Shadow Minister for Policing and the Fire Service; Councillor Sherwan Chowdhury, Civic Mayor of Croydon; and DCI Lewis Collins from the Metropolitan Police Service took time out of their busy diaries to visit the event.

# CONGRATULATIONS



## GL RFCA ANNUAL AWARDS

On Thursday 17 March, Sir Kenneth Olisa, Lord-Lieutenant for Greater London and President of both The Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association for Greater London and YOU London, presented awards to celebrate and recognise some of London's most dedicated and longstanding Cadet Force Adult Volunteers, Reservists and Cadets.

Awards included Certificates of Meritorious Service to London's Cadets; Certificates of Commendation for Uniformed and Civilian Instructors to London's Cadets and Most Outstanding Unit Commanders in 2021.

A special mention for Sergeant Major Instructor Debbie Goodall, YOU London's Army Cadet Force representative who was awarded Most Outstanding Army Cadet Force Detachment Commander for South East London.

The Lord-Lieutenant also officially appointed his three 'Lord-Lieutenant's Cadets' for the year. These are outstanding individuals chosen to represent their organisations at the highest levels whilst accompanying the Lord-Lieutenant on official duties.



The Mayor of Bexley, Cllr James Hunt, attended to congratulate winners from Bexley



The 2022 Lord-Lieutenant's Cadets are:

- Sea Cadet Corps: Leading Cadet Erin Williams
- Army Cadet Force: Cadet Corporal Mazin Hanafi
- RAF Air Cadets: Cadet Flight Sergeant Mariam Mohsin

# LORD MAYOR OF CITY OF LONDON THANKS CADET FORCE ADULT VOLUNTEERS

On Friday 22 April, The Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman Vincent Keaveny, held a reception at The Guildhall to thank Cadet Force Adult Volunteers for everything that they do to help young people thrive. Over 100 adult volunteers from units of the Sea Cadet Corps, Army Cadet Force and RAF Air Cadets close to the City attended the reception to hear the Lord Mayor reiterate that adult volunteers are the backbone of all cadet activity. Put simply, without adult volunteers there would be no cadets!



## CVQO AWARENESS EVENING

On Monday 25 April, CVQO held an awareness evening at Royal Russell School in Croydon to promote the vocational qualifications they offer young people in uniformed organisations and the adult instructors that support them. CVQO qualifications range from BTEC Level 1 for learners aged 13+ to Level 7 for adults (equivalent to a master's degree).

The new BTEC Level 2 qualification in Teamwork and Personal Development in the Community is free for 16-19-year-olds who are members of a uniformed organisation; and provides recognition of the teamwork, leadership and communication skills young people learn as members of these groups. The flexible course takes a 'blended learning' approach to modules, with a combination of face to face delivery and workshops, virtual learning modules, e-workbooks and hard copy learning guides with many of the modules mapped across to DofE awards and existing syllabuses. For more information, visit [www.cvqo.org](http://www.cvqo.org).

We are  
**CVQO**

**LONDON, EAST ANGLIA and  
HOME COUNTIES**

# CWGC 'EYES ON' PROJECT

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission's (CWGC) 'Eyes On, Hands On' project is looking for adult volunteers (over 18s only) in the London Boroughs of **Barnet; Brent; Ealing; Enfield; Hammersmith; Harrow; Hillingdon; Newham; Redbridge; Waltham Forest** and **Wandsworth**.

Volunteers are asked to visit their local war graves a few times a year to take photographs of any headstones that are in need of attention i.e. cleaning or replacing, and report back to the CWGC.



Whilst the official CWGC plots get lots of attention, it is the individual and often rather isolated war graves that sometimes get missed and forgotten. The idea of this project is for local volunteers to be CWGC's eyes on the ground, therefore playing a vital role in helping the CWGC to maintain all UK war graves.

Anyone in these boroughs interested in volunteering should visit: [www.cwgc.org/our-work/volunteer](http://www.cwgc.org/our-work/volunteer) to register.

## YOUTH CENSUS

The #YouthVoiceCensus 2022 is live until 31 May. It is an opportunity for young people (aged 11-30) to say what they think about study, work and life. The data will be used by Youth Employment UK to create public reports on how young people view study & employment today.

<https://s.alchemer.eu/s3/Youth-Voice-Census-2022>

#AddYourVoice

## NYA COVID GUIDANCE

Following recent amendments to national COVID-19 restrictions, many aspects of the National Youth Agency (NYA) guidance are no longer legally required but remain highly recommended by NYA to ensure youth work practice remains safe and COVID secure.

You can read version 11 of the NYA guidance (published on 11 April) [here](#).

## GOOD THINKING

Partnership for Young London has teamed up with Good Thinking to develop '5 Ways to Wellbeing for Children & Young People'. A series of five posters contain some of the ways to wellbeing suggested by the Good Thinking team and its Digital Health Ambassadors (aged 15 to 24).

<https://bit.ly/3KCW3eU>



okay

## UK YOUTH WORKSHOPS

UK Youth are working with partners Oliver Bonas and Aiimi to deliver a series of exciting interactive workshops this May.

Sessions will run every Tuesday between 10th - 24th May starting at 5pm, covering topics from building a social media brand and making a profit, to the future of tech and AI.

All sessions are available for young people (aged 16 and over) to attend online.

See their Eventbrite page to book and for more details:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/uk-youth-9871834484>

# VPC RECOGNITION

On 14 April, Hammersmith & Fulham VPC were presented with a Special Recognition Award by The High Sheriff of Greater London for their work supporting food banks in The London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham during the pandemic. The award was presented by the High Sheriff, Lynn Cooper, at the White City foodbank.



Five individual Volunteer Police Cadets were also presented with Special Recognition Awards by the High Sheriff for their contributions to their communities and cadet units last month.

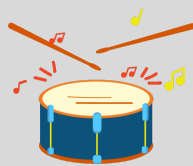
## LORD MAYOR'S MUSIC COMPETITION

Calling all marching bands.....

The Lord Mayor's Music Competition, which was due to take place in Guildhall Yard on Saturday 14 May, has been postponed until Sunday 25 September. This competition is well known to the musical bands of the Army, Air and Sea Cadets who participate each year. The invitation to join this competition has now been extended to all YOU London organisations with bands. The aim of the competition is to highlight the exceptional musical talent we have in London within our uniformed youth organisations and to give young people the opportunity to play in front of the Lord Mayor of the City of London in a prestigious London venue.

The competition consists of two separate categories; one for a full band and the other for a Corps of Drums. Three prizes are awarded for:

- Best overall band
- Best overall Corps of Drums
- Best overall bugler



Bands will be required to march on and play for a period of around 10-15 minutes playing both compulsory items and music of choice. There should also be a bugle solo if entering that competition. The band / Corps of Drums will march off on completion.

Bands / Corps of Drums must be from London (within the M25) and may be comprised of musicians from a single unit or from a combination of units. Each organisation may only submit one entry, for one or other competition, but not both.

On completion of the competition, a reception will be held in The Guildhall where the winners will be announced by the judging panel, chaired by the Lord Mayor and consisting of senior musicians from the Services and London orchestras.

Any youth bands interested in participating in this prestigious competition should contact Lt Cdr Tony Pringle on [gl-cedep@rfca.mod.uk](mailto:gl-cedep@rfca.mod.uk).

# YOU LONDON LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Last year's YOU London Leadership Conference was such a success that we will be repeating the event again this year in South East London. Allyn's School in Dulwich have very kindly agreed to host this year's conference over the weekend of 5 and 6 November. Overnight accommodation will be available for those who require it in nearby South East London Army Cadet Force's Weekend Training Centre in Blackheath.

An exciting array of speakers and activities is already being planned, including challenges designed by the Royal Navy, London Fire Brigade and Volunteer Police Cadets.

Details coming soon via your chains of command. See below some images from last year.



## GROUP TICKETS TO KIDZANIA



Let aspirations and inspiration soar as children step into the indoor city built just for kids aged four to 14. Here they can work, earn and play just like the real world, all in a safe and inclusive environment thanks to KidZania's ever-expanding programme of careers role-play.

From learning what it takes to fly the skies with British Airways in a real-life flight-training simulator, to sniffing out a good story with Metro newspaper, many careers are run in partnership with real-life brands to enhance understanding of real jobs and the skills required. There are also lots of opportunities for organised youth groups to work towards badges.

Group ticket prices start at £19.50 per child and £10.50 per adult, with a free leader place for every 10 children. The bigger the group, the bigger the discount. A minimum of 10 children per group is required and supervising adults must be at least 18 years old. Visits are for 4 hours. Visitors can expect to complete around 4-5 activities within that time frame. To book your group's place, email [Julio.Fernandez@kidzania.co.uk](mailto:Julio.Fernandez@kidzania.co.uk).

# YOU LONDON

## It's all about YOU...

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's who within each borough.

Working together often produces for the groups much more than the sum of the individual parts.

Organisation	Contact Name	Email Address
Air Training Corps	Squadron Leader Stephen Rudd	stephen.rudd319@mod.gov.uk
Army Cadet Force	Debbie Goodall	gl-se-ao2@rfca.org.uk
Boys' Brigade	Stephen Taylor-Hunt	Stephen.taylor@boys-brigade.org.uk
Fire Cadets	Jess Patten	jess.patten@london-fire.gov.uk
Girls' Brigade	Julie Murdy	director@gb-ministries.org
Girlguiding LaSER	Alison Bruce	alisonbruce5@btinternet.com
Jewish Lads' and Girls' Brigade	Martin Browning	Martin.Browning@jlgb.org
Scout Association	Kathryn Andrews	kathryn.andrews@scouts.org.uk
Sea Cadet Corps	Ryan Bentley	rbentley@ms-sc.org
St John Ambulance	Rosemary Herbage (West London) Hazel Shirley (South London) Suzanne Squirrell (East London)	Rosemary.herbage1@sja.org.uk Hazel.shirley@sja.org.uk Suzanne.squirrell@sja.org.uk
Volunteer Police Cadets	Sue Hickin PC Paula Cooper	Sue.hickin@met.police.uk paula.cooper@met.police.uk
YOU London Co-ordinator	Debbie Wilkinson	youlondon1@gmail.com
YOU London Admin	Donna O'Halloran	gl-offcadets@rfca.mod.uk

## 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](mailto:gl-offcadets@rfca.mod.uk).



## DIARY DATES

Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June - Queen's Platinum Jubilee commemorations

Saturday 25 June - YOU Haringey competition

Sunday 11 September - London Area Sea Cadets parade, Greenwich, YOU organisations invited to participate

Sunday 25 September - Lord Mayor's Music Competition

Saturday 5 and 6 November - YOU London Leadership Conference, Alleen's School, Dulwich

Saturday 12 November - Lord Mayor's Show

Sunday 13 November - Remembrance Sunday

If you would like to contribute to the next edition of YOU London News, please send articles and images to [youlondon1@gmail.com](mailto:youlondon1@gmail.com) by 30 October 2022. 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.