



www.thekeyproject.org.uk

Youth Work in the villages around
the Kent Estuary
Also in Dallam School
and with year 6 transition pupils



Kent Estuary Youth UPDATE Winter 2021

THIS TIME: Mainly a plea for more help from our communities!

KEY has now resumed its weekly face to face activities with Emma and Jamie, our youth workers:

- A new club for older young people has been started on Thursday evenings in Milnthorpe
- New provisions in Storth and Levens are well into the planning stage – as is the anticipated restart of Arnside youth club
- The Youth Café which meets at M:Hub on Wednesdays after school has seen increased numbers which is wonderful – BUT it means that we have to rely on asking for an extra adult to be present to enable the sessions to run

Currently we only have a pool of about 6 volunteers and Trustees who can be called on – and the same people have also been busy helping at other times, such as with the popular **Festival of Light** at the end of October, and at the recent **Christmas event** at the Little Deers shop (see photo) :-

Beforehand the young people worked hard to prepare items to sell; including Christmas tree decorations, bottle lights, sweets and hot chocolate cones. The grotto was also led by the young people, who carefully chose and assembled the contents of the personalised gift bags.

More volunteers will really make a difference to this organisation :-

Opportunities include: Helping to run activities e.g. crafts, games, cooking; Sharing interests/skills; Helping with refreshments; Being a friendly face/a listening ear; Supporting KEY with administration, fundraising etc. Volunteers can be of any age - indeed, our young people tell us they value having us older folk around!

Also we need more professional adult help with outdoor experience days - and on Residential Weekends for which we are looking to employ more sessional/bank workers

****so we are asking you all to please mention Volunteering for KEY to all the kind folk you are going to meet over this festive season!**

Other News

KEY was appointed to deliver the national 'Holiday Activities and Food' (HAF) programme during the summer holidays which was a great success and included sessions on a healthy lifestyle; we have now been asked to run a similar programme for two days in the Christmas holidays. Again there will be no charge for those in receipt of free school meals.

And finally some quotes from the recent autumn residential weekend where the young people's chosen theme was: stress management – and time out especially from the digital world.

"I learnt not to eat jammy dodgers and pringles for breakfast... the breakfasts and dinners were the best, the laughter and us all talking"

"I learnt that talking to people in person is better than over the phone and I don't need my phone to get through the day"

We wish you joy and peace this Christmastide,

Chairman: Peter Clarke, Wilf Gill, Irene McKay, Greg Tagney, Mary Salter, Janet Battye, Linda Baverstock

If you can help **KEY** please contact: peter@heversham.com or marybsalter@aol.com