

Reparation together

April 2013

Welcome to Reparation Together, Barnet Youth Offending Team's quarterly update on reparation in your community.

It seems that finally the cold weather is over and we are beginning to feel as though spring may have finally arrived.

We are thankful for this hope of warmer weather as we have one or two projects that are held outdoors and it is much more enjoyable if the sun is shining!

Current Partners

Barnet Horse Activity Centre (The Stables)

Due to the extreme cold weather, we have not been at the stables for our regular weekly session. However, we spent two days there in early April with Jon from Barnet Community Projects leading the activity. Helped by his co-worker Charlie, two of our young people helped to repair and replace the broken fences as they had rotted. The photographs below show various stages of work.



Sawing to size

Our young people enjoyed the time very much and even stayed an extra half an hour helping to move concrete bars and bricks for the yard manager. We worked in very heavy showers and even a storm and the boys carried on through it all. You will see the muddy conditions and puddles below!



Inserting a new post



Placing a new fence bar

As always, we would like to express our sincere thanks to Jon who puts so much time and effort into teaching our young people various skills and exploring their talents. He plans ahead and provides equipment, even bringing a gazebo to keep us protected from the rain and coffee to keep us warm! Barnet Community

Projects provide our volunteers and young people with refreshments and lunch, which is much appreciated. Jon is a huge asset to our reparation projects and we are very grateful to him and Steve, Manager at Barnet Community Projects, for their continued support.



Brand new fence and interested on-looker

Barnet Library Service

We continue our weekly sessions at Chipping Barnet where Ryan is the lead volunteer and we have now started a slot in Church End, Finchley Library expertly supervised by Angelina.

We thank all staff very much as they are very welcoming to our young people and give them interesting and varied tasks to complete.



Shelving

Barnet Afro Caribbean Association

We have three young people in attendance at our regular Friday sessions who help with preparing lunch and socializing with the service users. Rahaema assists as a supervisor and will be taking over the lead shortly. We will soon be extending the time spent at Barnet Multicultural Centre which will enable extra young people to attend. We are also hoping to re-start the Tuesday sessions to help with the art project that runs in the afternoon.



Preparing lunch



Using the computer to list books



Escorting service users into the centre

New Partners

Age UK, Finchey

We are delighted to be working with Age UK Barnet and Viridian Housing. Starting at the end of April, our young people will be assisting residents of the housing association with computer skills. This will be of great benefit to both groups, breaking down barriers and giving our young people the opportunity of sharing their computer knowledge. We would like to thank Helen Newman of Age UK Barnet for her support in enabling this project to happen.

RAF Museum, Hendon

This is another very exciting project which will hopefully begin in May. We would like to thank the General Manager, Dave Rowe, for the opportunity of creating mini allotments within the grounds of the museum, which will certainly be a challenging task for our young people! We are proposing to donate the vegetables grown to the café within the Museum and also the Food bank on the Grahame Park Estate.

Volunteers

We were very sorry to have to say goodbye to Ruth Fox who has now gained employment as a Social Worker within a prison. Ruth was a great asset as both a supervisor on reparation and also as referral coordinator. She is missed, but we wish her every success in this new post.

Our volunteer coordinator, Lisa, continues to receive several enquiries from interested volunteers and we are delighted to welcome the following 'recruits':

- Rahaema Andrews
- George Dobbie
- Chloe Kramer
- Esther Morrison
- Rebecca Nkrumah
- Kelly O'Connor
- Sam Reynolds
- Tammy St. John
- Natasha Wagjiani

Together with Referral Order Panel Members, we held a volunteer meeting in February where we received interesting and informative training by Dr. Almeera Ahmed, Youth Offending Service Senior Clinical Psychologist and also a presentation by Sandra Beeton, Chair of the Association of Panel Members. Volunteer meetings will continue to be held quarterly.

Barnet Youth Offending Service is committed to investing in the training and development of our reparation supervisors. Recent courses completed were 'Safeguarding & Child Protection and 'Positive Interventions'.

Kelly is a Support Worker for a local Children's Home and although she has not yet supervised reparation on her own, she writes below why she wishes to volunteer with young offenders:

Kelly writes...

“ I currently support 13-18 year olds in a Children's Home. I am looking forward to starting my volunteering role within the youth offending team - where I hope to learn new skills, meet and empower new young people in a different setting' ”

Volunteer voice

Kay Gray
Reparation Coordinator

Barnet Youth Offending Team

Telephone: **07949 730204**

Email: **Kay.gray@barnet.gov.uk**

