



## **BATTERSEA SUMMER SCHEME REPORT 2014**

A principal project of the Battersea Crime Prevention Panel, and has been organising trips, outings and activities for under-privileged young people since 1992, especially those living in the poorer and most disadvantaged areas in Battersea and Balham.



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battersea  
crime prevention panel  
*making battersea a better place to live, work and play.*

Herewith our report on activities that took place during the summer of 2014. We are so grateful to everyone who helped make this dynamic programme of activities possible and we look forward to an equally successful summer for 2015.

## FIVE A SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

On Saturday 28th June, we held our five-a-side football tournament. Chelsea Football Club ran the tournament for us and partly sponsored the four professional referees. 2 Girls teams and 14 Boys teams entered and played some very good football with a great competitive atmosphere. Despite some heavy downpours of rain, everyone enjoyed the afternoon.



## SPORT IN THE PARK

Our four day Sports Event held in Battersea Park during the first week of August, was another great success with over 400 young people daily and no rain despite an *appalling* forecast! Cllr Stuart Thom, Mayor of Wandsworth and Jane Ellison MP for Battersea gave their support to the event.

We had a really good range of non-sporting activities this year. These included an excellent dance workshop run by Caius House instructors; an Exercise and Movement team who ran a silent disco, fun to watch! Beatbox workshops were run by Battersea Arts Centre; the much loved Garg attended with his array of exotic animals; Arts and Crafts with Face-painting were run *completely* by volunteers. We introduced a wonderful



aerosol artist (one of the pictures painted was auctioned at our annual fundraising Ball), a fun crazy golf course and a knock-down inflatable game, all of which were very popular. We reverted to our original high ropes course – a high expense (!) but run with volunteers from the Fire Brigade, we were able to afford this challenging activity.



The Fire Brigade, who were also there with their appliances, gave fire safety talks and a demonstration of the devastating effect of adding water to a chip pan on fire. Other workshops were run by Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, Network Rail, there was a



Drugs Awareness presentation, an Anti-smoking team, and school nurses offering healthy eating advice; an organisation called More Life recruiting overweight young people to attend health camps, even an NHS Health Check booth targeting parents! We also had a charity called Street Doctors giving general medical advice and demonstrations on emergency resuscitation techniques. The Regenerate Youth Club Bus, a mobile youth centre, was present for one of the days, with their games, crafts, music and sports workshops.





We also had our usual array of sports, these include Archery and an assault course run by Challenger Troop, Athletics, (Street Athletics joined us once again and were as popular as ever), non-contact boxing by Carney's Community with George recruiting for this worthwhile project. For the first time we had Jiu Jitsu running alongside Karate and Judo. The Airhedz circus skills and trapeze as well as John and his climbing wall seem like family they have been attending for so long! Football, tag rugby, tennis and cricket complete the long list of sporting activities.

We cannot forget the Police Cadets who were there both to recruit and, more importantly were marvellous volunteers throughout the whole event helping us to set up and generally being useful.



## RESIDENTIAL COURSES

This year the demand for residential courses was exceptionally high so we organised six separate trips to some really interesting venues which the youth workers helped us to source and organise. All the organisations participating are incredibly enthusiastic about these residential courses. The staff see real benefits to the young people and consider these courses a very valuable resource.



We sent 12 older lads to a Farm in Devon where they met the remote countryside for the first time, camped overnight on the moors, learnt new skills and were challenged to step out of their comfort zones in many different ways. The feedback was fantastic.



We sent two separate groups of 8 boys sailing with the Island Trust off the coast of Devon. These boys came from very different backgrounds, especially so in the first group, where they came from Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award participants to others referred from the Borough Early Intervention Team, Youth Support Teams and Social Workers. They all learnt to sail, swim in the sea, line fishing, knot tying, cleaning & cooking, steering a motorised dinghy, navigate during the night and did some beach combing. They all completed and received certificates as competent crew and apart from some sea sickness (!) they enjoyed every moment. It was an amazing opportunity for these boys to experience, and the staff and instructors witnessed a lot of personal growth and improvement.



A group of 11 boys went to Avon Tyrell in the New Forest. The week consisted of a variety of water based activities, team building and challenges such as rock climbing, mountain biking, archery and high ropes. Night walks in the forest discovering nocturnal animals and the sky at night (not easily visible in London!). All the young people pushed themselves while having an exciting time.



A large group of 19 girls went on a 5 day Residential Course to Swanage, Dorset. Again the participants were from varying backgrounds with differing levels of need. They developed a long lead up to the actual residential, involving the participants in team building sessions and fund-raising activities towards this trip. They had great weather and took part in a dynamic programme which was well structured and executed by qualified and motivated tutors.



Last but not least, a mixed group of 14 young people stayed for a long weekend at Marchants Hill where as well as all the outdoor activities available, they had intensive training in Street Dance and learnt a series of routines. These were demonstrated at a fundraising evening at their Youth Club, which was well received by the parents and everyone present, - another great achievement.

## DAY TRIPS



Again we managed to pay for **all** transport costs and subsidised the entry fees by a significant percentage. As ever there was a slow start for day trips, but we booked 1,200 day places for our young people at 16 different venues. The tried and tested trips included Adventure Island, Arena Pursuits, Butlins and trips to coastal resorts. New venues included utilising Olympic sites and a visit to the Olympic Park - they had great fun on BMX bikes and at Brent, water sports. They also went to a climbing wall venue and the Snow Centre for skiing and snowboarding.



## OTHER ACTIVITIES



Wandsworth Borough Council's Sports Development invited us to take part and promote ourselves at their annual Wandsworth Active Day in King George's Park. It was a great day full of all types of sporting activities and well attended. We were able to hand out numerous leaflets to those present, made good contacts and recruited some new activities to take part in own Sport in the Park.



We helped organise a summer open day with Elays Youth Club and Robertson Street Youth Association aimed at promoting youth organisations in the East of the Borough to the Vauxhall Development Groups. It was deemed by all a very successful day, with many fun family activities and we are hopeful that the development companies may contribute time, if not money to the clubs.

## FUND-RAISING

We were very fortunate to be chosen as one of four local charities to benefit at the Battersea Power Station's inaugural summer community evening to help launch Phase 3 of the new planned development. Monies raised from their varied activities throughout the evening were divided equally between the four charities. Our share went towards Sport in the Park.

The Police Cadets helped again with a bucket collection at the Friends of Battersea Square's Carol Service in early December. All funds raised go towards providing activities during our summer programme specifically for the young people at the Katherine Low Settlement.

We were very pleased to be chosen once more as the in-house charity for this year's White Christmas Fair, also held at the beginning of December in Battersea. We were able to promote ourselves and fund-raise by selling books donated by Battersea Power Station, others donated by Bloomsbury Press as well as a raffle, with prizes donated by the Stall holders.

Peter Jones (John Lewis) has again donated one of their window displays – this year a 4ft penguin! Any fund raising ideas welcome!



We have successfully applied to Wandsworth Council for funding to develop a new professional website for both BSS and BCPP. We also have a volunteer developing a database programme for us, as well as another offering to load all our existing contacts etc.

We attended various lectures/workshops to improve our fundraising and presentation skills, - to keep up with current technology! Don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!!

## THANK YOU

Our very grateful thanks go to all the Charities, local businesses and individuals who generously donated the much needed funds for all the activities listed, as well as our wonderful team of volunteers. They help with the preparation and delivery of some 6,000 begging letters to the local community; they also support us during our sports events and with any other job required.