



shelford & stapleford
youth initiative

What a Summer!

Hello Friends of SSYI! I know the summer has felt very short and at times, questioned where the sunshine actually is, but having said that, SSYI have had a great summer!

Residential

As mentioned above, we have been part of two residential. One of the residentials was joining in with our partner organisation, Romsey Mill, and their annual Deeper residential that is for those young people who wish to find out more about Christianity and explore why people believe what they do.

The other residential we delivered was targeting a group of young people who needed some extra support in building their resilience, self efficacy and confidence in themselves and the people around them. We took 12 young people from the local area to a beautiful residential centre based in Cumbria, near the Lake District.

We participated in all sorts of adventurous activities such as kayaking, ghill scrambling, archery, tree climbing, abseiling, mountain walking and mining. Apart from having lots of fun and an amazing time, the young people really grew during this week. We saw young people coming out their comfort zones, challenged both physically and emotionally and many of them came back not only wanting to do it again, but wanting to make positive changes in their lives in both school and family life.

We wanted to monitor their progression to see if this residential would impact them and so we got them to complete a survey before and after the residential and the results are staggering. To name just a couple, we asked out of ten, how do they rate their confidence and the average response was 6.2 and after the residential, 100% expressed they had improved confidence. Another example is we asked them how much hope they had for the future out of 10, and the average rating was 6.5 but after the residential, again, 100% expressed they had more hope for the future!

One young person said "Thank you so much youth club for the amazing residential the best one ever and I over come my fears because of these people for encouraging me Ollie O'Meakin, Zac Britton and Tina Mogg, thank you all so much".



To see the full report, please get in contact and we will happily send it over. This trip would not have been possible without the generosity of Sawston Parish Council, Trumpington Church PCC, Stapleford Parochial Charity, Shelford Parochial Charity John Huntingdon, Trumpington Parochial Charity and of course, Friends of SSYI. Thank you so much!

The Copse Project

As you can see, our Copse Project has taken really nicely and certainly has made a significant and visible difference to the Great Shelford recreational ground. We are extremely pleased with the effort of all our young people, as well as the Playscape Committee and Sophie O'Hara Smith. We have three new provisional dates where we will be working on The Copse. The first date is the 16th September where we plan to move logs, create timber installations, making stepping stones and maintain the willow dome. The second date is the 28th October where we plan to rake the meadow, sow some more meadow seeds, plant some bulbs and woodland plants. The third date is the 4th November where we plan to plant some bare root trees.

Our 21st AGM!

We have our annual Thanks Giving Service at 7.30pm on Monday 2nd October 2017 at Great Shelford Free Church. This will be a time to share some amazing stories, share some future plans and thank God for all he has done. The thanksgiving service will be followed by our Annual General Meeting which you are all welcome to stay for.

Ollie

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