

Team Brief

EMS donates new strip for our football team



Local security firm EMS Security Services Ltd has donated a full set of new football strips for our residents' football team. The strip will be used for both five-a-side and full competitions, and as part of the new 'Just Play' initiative organised jointly by YMCA Derbyshire and the FA. Young people across Derby are encouraged to come along to Shaftesbury Sports Centre every Wednesday from 3pm to 4pm for a kick-around. The sessions are designed to keep young people fit and introduce them to the fun of team sports.

Derby Locality Manager Rachel Morris said, "We are very grateful to EMS Security Services Ltd, with whom we have worked for many years, for donating this strip to our residents. Football is a great way for them to focus their energies, get fit, gain team working skills and broaden their horizons.

"Making this donation now is very timely as we launch the 'Just Play' initiative, and I feel sure that our partnership with EMS will prove very beneficial to the vulnerable young people we serve and protect."

Jas Bains, EMS Operations Director, added, "The team looked fantastic in the new kit, and if everyone gives a little bit back to the local community we can make it a better place to be."

Delivered with a smile

We are very grateful to the British Red Cross for their regular weekly food deliveries for residents at The Campus.

The Red Cross provide an invaluable service by redistributing food from major retailers which is reaching its use by date and would otherwise be thrown away. The food supplied helps residents achieve a healthy and balanced diet, and often they receive luxury items such as birthday cakes and fruit cakes which are an extra treat.

Photo: Tina takes delivery of another bumper consignment of donated food from the Red Cross.



A message from the Chief Executive

September is a month for new starts. Children go back to school, students return to colleges and universities, and business gets back to normal.

For many young people, though, September can be a worrying time as they consider their next move. We may remember being in a similar situation ourselves. Our Learning and Development team has been working hard to inform potential learners of the benefits of our programmes and, for many of them, YMCA Derbyshire will be their next port of call on a journey to successful and fulfilling careers.

September can also be a difficult time for those feeling isolated or facing homelessness, especially as the nights draw in. This is why it is so important that we make our residential members feel welcome and supported. Residents often say that they feel at home with us, and this sense of homeliness is about much more than having a roof over their head. It means that they feel safe and comfortable with a sense of belonging. Our learners often say the same thing about their programmes.

The reason our service user members feel safe and welcome with us is that our support workers, tutors and indeed all members of staff across each of our services and localities *really care*. Greeting a service user by name and with a smile might seem an easy thing to do, but it can make a big difference when the recipient knows that it is genuine and heart-felt.

Our genuine concern is rooted in the vision of our movement and the values which underpin our work. It is also why I feel so privileged to work as part of a team that doesn't just go through the motions but really does care and goes the extra mile to make a difference.

Gillian Sewell

YMCA head writes to PM on riots

Following the rioting and looting that hit various English cities last month, YMCA England's Chief Executive Ian Green has written to the Prime Minister offering the Movement's help in getting to the bottom of what happened.

In his letter, Mr Green asked David Cameron how the Movement could contribute to the task group set up to draw conclusions from the riots and also warned against stereotyping young people. He wrote:

"The nation has rightly been deeply disturbed by the images of wanton destruction and criminality that took place and as a result the whole issue of 'young people' has been brought to the fore of national debate.

"It is important to highlight that the pictures shown on our television screens reflect the behaviour of a minority of young people in this country. Hundreds of thousands of young people played no part in the rioting or looting and feel very strongly that what took place does not in any way represent their views or what they want to see happen in their local communities. Indeed many young people are left feeling very frustrated that young people as a whole will now



Ian Green

suffer as a result of the mindless and criminal actions of a few.

"During the recent incidents YMCAs across the country have been working with others within local communities to help to reduce tensions and as a national movement the YMCA wants to be part of ensuring that this work continues.

"You will no doubt be aware of the YMCA's long 167 year history and the work that it does... Every year YMCAs serve over half a million young people in one form or another with the ultimate goal that every young person can belong, contribute and thrive as responsible citizens within their local community."

Marketing and Communications



Our new Annual Report is currently on the printing presses and will be out shortly. It includes an update on all our services as well as profiles of service users, highlights of the

past year and a feature on a typical day in the life of YMCA Derbyshire.

The Annual Report is a key marketing resource for our organisation. Please let me know if you would like additional copies for use at any event or meeting. It will also be available to download from our website.

Dominic Baster

Learning and Development

The release of exam results in August led to a busy time for the Learning and Development team as efforts have been made to promote our programmes and advise school leavers on their options.

The new Learning and Development Brochure is a tool for promoting our range of programmes and is also available on the website.

There has already been much interest shown in our Foundation Learning programmes as well as the new Ignite programme.



Brailsford churches give moving residents a head start



Mark Mullen receives a new starter pack from Rev Paul Taylor (right)

Our residential members who move on from The Campus into independent accommodation are getting a helping hand with vital items for their new homes, thanks to the Rev Paul Taylor and the Brailsford Benefice Churches.

The items for the packs – including electrical items, cutlery, pots, pans and toilet paper – are donated by church members and passed on to departing residents by our Resettlement Support Worker, Mark Mullen.

One recipient of a starter pack was former resident Michaela, who said: "When I moved on I had nothing, so the kettle, knives and forks, plates, cups and other things have been really helpful. Receiving the pack has also made me feel better about myself because I know that if people out there are willing to be so generous and care about me without knowing who I am, then I should care more and feel better about myself."

Renew Maintenance

Our new social enterprise company continues to be busy with work for Derby Homes, with one team permanently repairing and renewing fencing, one team plastering and a third team tiling kitchens. We continue to look and bid for new contracts and are currently in talks with potential clients around their reactive and cyclical maintenance needs.

In the photo are Renew team members Nathan and Andy.



The Café

The Campus Café has launched a new and refreshed menu, including a delicious full English breakfast in two sizes – 'The YM Breakfast' and 'The Big YM'. There are also other breakfast options served until midday and a new range of 'Melt Downs'. For more information, check out the Café menu or simply visit the Hospitality Service section on the website.

Reflection of the month

Prayer is nothing else than union with God. When the heart is pure and united with God it is consoled and filled with sweetness; it is dazzled by a marvellous light.

Prayer is a foretaste of heaven, an overflowing of heaven. It never leaves us without sweetness; it is like honey, it descends into the soul and sweetens everything. In a prayer well made, troubles vanish like snow under the rays of the sun.

John Vianney (1786–1859)

Knockout win for our residents



This year's 'It's a Knockout' event in Chaddesden Park, Derby, was a great success for YMCA Derbyshire as our two teams came first and second.

We took about 20 residents and former residents along to the event, which was organised by Derby Homes and attended by members of the public and key figures including the Mayor and Mayoress.

The winners received t-shirts and a trophy and a great time was had by all.



Children and Young People

The Y-Play summer playscheme went well with over 100 children attending in total and an average daily attendance of 31 children. Everyone enjoyed many different activities over five full weeks – including daytrips, a talent show and an end of summer party. The children also dressed up every Friday in costumes related to the week's theme and took part in a sponsored fun run which raised £120 for new toys for Y-Play.

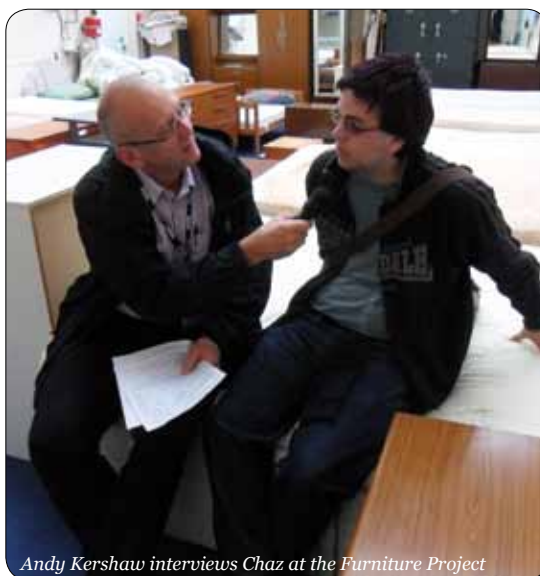
Thanks to funding from Derby City Council we were able to give 12 disabled children one-to-one support during the playscheme.

We now welcome a new team member, Michael Smith, who will be providing PPA (Planning, Preparation & Assessment) cover in local primary schools in the form of P.E. lessons. He will also serve as an Extended Schools Officer in the Babington Cluster of schools providing activities after school and during holidays for children and their families.

Promoting our services in Chesterfield

BBC Radio Sheffield's Andy Kershaw visited the North Derbyshire Furniture Project this month to put together a feature for the station's breakfast show. He interviewed Retail Manager Gil Bowles, a volunteer and Chaz Deane (left), a former user of the Project. Locality Manager Mark Love was then interviewed live on the show.

The Chesterfield team has also been busy organising an evening of comedy and entertainment in aid of the Chesterfield Members' Fund and Project 165. The event will take place at the Riverside Club on Hollis Lane in Chesterfield on Saturday 15th October, starting at 8pm. Innovative comedians Elliot J Huntley and Al Rudge have been booked to appear, and tickets cost £5 in advance or £7 on the door. For more information, contact Mark Love by emailing him at mark.love@ymcaderbyshire.org.uk or phoning 01246 564920.



Andy Kershaw interviews Chaz at the Furniture Project

YMCA at Greenbelt



The YMCA's Midlands Region received 12 free places at this year's Greenbelt Christian arts and music festival in return for running a 24-hour café on site.

We took two of our residents (Joe and Karli) along to the event and were there for five days, camping out and experiencing the music, comedy, speakers, movies and atmosphere. Marc Stevens and Marc Elliott, the Regional Youth Involvement Coordinator, teamed up to coordinate the volunteers. Next year they plan to take an even larger group.