

GLoucestershire ASSOCIATION OF YOUTH CLUBS



ANNUAL REVIEW 1975 - 1976

GLOUCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF YOUTH CLUBS

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Finance Officer: N. P. Barton, Esq.



The President: Sir Peter Scott, CBE, DSC, LL.D

Photo: Philippa Scott

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

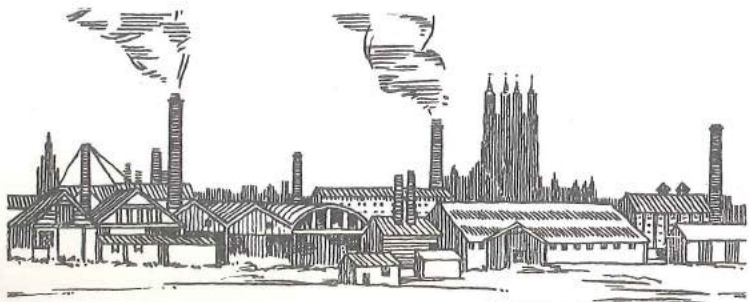
CHAIRMAN: Mr. A. D. Mentz, Esq., BSc(Econ), MEd

TREASURER: Mr. H. F. A. May

Mr. L. Agg	* Parry Hall Youth Club
Mr. J. Anderson-Dixon	* Field Officer
Mr. J. Bateman	* N.A.Y.C. Sports Officer
Mr. M. Butler	* Member - Cheltenham YMCA
Mr. C. P. Clarke	* County Education Officer, (Recreation & Leisure)
Mr. E. Coppin Q.P.M.	* Deputy Chief Constable, Gloucestershire
Rev'd R. Grey	* Diocesan Youth Officer
Miss A. Gregory	* St. Mary's College of Education.
Mr. B. Gillett	* Senior Probation Officer
Mr. N. Havard	* Leader St. Stephen's Club
Mr. I. Hughes	* Member - Westfields Club
Mr. R. Kilminster	* Hartpury Youth Club
Miss K. Morgan	* Member St. Barnabas Club
Father A. Murray	* Salesian School
Mr. J. Pedrette	* County Youth Adviser
Rev'd S. J. Riggs	* Gloucester Cathedral
Mr. K. Simmonds	* Activities Group Chairman
Mr. R. Tolman	* Leader Northway Youth Club
Mr. B. J. McCarrick	* Organising Secretary and Training Officer
Mrs. M. T. Tyreman	* Administrative Secretary

CLUBS REGISTERED WITH G.A.Y.C.

The number of clubs registered with G.A.Y.C. has risen from 37 in 1970 to 99 in 1975/76.



FOREWORD

'It was the best of times, it was the worst of times ...'. How often, in this life, sudden sorrows cloud moments of joy, or periods of hardship are contradicted by the richness of events.

In some ways, the past year has been of this kind. Along with millions of others, in this country and overseas, we have been suffering the effects of recession. The year began in another wave of financial retrenchment and the early discussions of your Executive Committee focussed, once more, upon the problem of survival.

However, times of trial develop strength, and I can record a year of unusual progress. For some years, now, the Association has struggled to adapt to changing conditions. Throughout this time, a small band of dedicated men and women have worked, patiently, to build a sure foundation. Their conviction is rewarded, for I believe that the Association is on the threshold of a period of exciting growth. Our future task will be to maintain the impetus.

This year, above all, I want to comment upon the quality of excellence which has been evident in the work. It has been shown in personal service, in caring, in warmth of human relationships...and all from a greatly increased number who are sharing in the task. The young people have excelled themselves in the variety of talent which has been devoted to high standards of achievement and to the pleasure of others. Many have been recognised at national and at international levels. They are to be congratulated, too, on the manner in which they have conducted themselves at numerous events where they have been either hosts or guests.

We have, in our headquarters, a first rate team who bring a variety of skills to the task of mobilising voluntary support. They are aided by our committee members and Field Officers without, whom, surely, it would not be possible to record such progress... a devoted group, who give freely of its time and

resources. Around them is a growing band of workers (supplemented by our own young people as they grow in age and experience) who organise and supervise GAYC occasions. I have met them on training days at events, at fund-raising functions and I am aware of the friendship which they share and the skill which they devote to the service of the community. I would wish, also, to pay tribute to the local authority and its officers, whose insight into the opportunities which voluntary work presents, has led to a highly productive working relationship.

May I present to you this review of the year's work and, in so doing, most heartily thank those who have made it possible through gifts of time, talent and money. Not least, perhaps, I would mention the families who have supported those husbands and wives, sons and daughters who have done the work.

Alan Muntz

DIARY OF EVENTS

August
1st -29th Sport for Youth Course at Gloucester Leisure Centre.

October
4th -5th Operation Moonshine - Night Exercise.
6th Annual General Meeting at St. Mary's College of Education, Cheltenham.
11th -12th Adventure Weekend at Biblins.
17th -25th Club Week.
18th Angling Contest.

December
12th -14th Meaning of Christmas W/E at Avon Tyrrell, Hants.
20th Candlelight Carol Service.



January
4th -6th Youth Opera at Gloucester Cathedral.
12th Homemaking Course Commences.
21st North & Middle Area Table Tennis.
27th Forest Area Table Tennis.
28th South Area Table Tennis.
30th East Area Table Tennis.

February
6th -8th Music, Art & Drama W/E at Cowley Manor.
12th Quiz - North Area.
14th Girls 5-a-side Football.
16th Junior North 5-a-side Football.
19th Lilliput Table Football Competition.
24th Senior North 5-a-side Football.
28th Junior Disco.

March
4th Quiz - South Area.
5th Netball - North Area.
7th County Rugby 7's Competition.
9th South Area 5-a-side Competition.
14th Senior 5-a-side Competition.
19th -21st Girls W/E at Cowley Manor.
26th Middle area Junior 5-a-side Football.
27th Forest area Junior 5-a-side Football.
27th Leaders Social Evening.



April
1st Chess Competition.
10th Lord & Lady Bledisloe 'At Home'.
11th County Finals.
22nd Girls & Craft Event at Seymour 66 Club.



May
2nd It's a GAYC Knockout & Tug O'War.
9th Leaders Consultation.
23rd Regional Finals.

June
4th-6th Regional Adventure W/E.
12th Junior Day at St. Mary's College.



July
4th Cirencester Park Event.
10th-11th National Dressmaking/Craft Finals.
24th-25th National Sports & Quiz Finals.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Once again the Annual General Meeting was held at St. Mary's College of Education on the 6th October, and was very well attended by members, leaders and friends.

The guests included The Duchess of Beaufort, The Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Cheltenham, Cllr. & Mrs. F. G. Herbert, The Deputy Chief Executive of Gloucester Mr. F. G. Fitzgerald and the Association Chairman Mr. A. D. Mentz who took the chair.

The address was given by Mr. J. K. Henderson, a Trustee of The Smith's Charity, which has given considerable support to the Association over a number of years.



Her Grace The Duchess of Beaufort with the K.G.VI Leadership Training Group at the A.G.M.

Photo - Len Agg

FIELD OFFICERS

The Executive of the Association were sad to lose the services of Mr. Alan Rice as the Gloucester City Field Officer during the year, for his contribution to the work of the Association over some years has been considerable. We are pleased that he will retain his interest in the Association through his work at Jordans Brook House.

Mr. John Brown (Cheltenham) and Mr. John Anderson-Dixon (South) continue to do first class work, Mr. Brown wisely using his expertise mainly in training, and Mr. John Anderson-Dixon concentrating on development work with new groups.

The addition of Mr. Neil Havard, a teacher, to this team must add further to a service that Leaders are finding invaluable. It is hoped that at least two more appointments can be made as soon as the economic situation improves.

THE COUNTY MOBILE HELPERS GROUP

Perhaps one of the most exciting developments in the Association in recent months is the team of young people recruited in the County by Mr. John Anderson-Dixon. The team's role is to give assistance to clubs who are having leadership or development problems, or to communities who wish to establish a youth club but have not got the immediate expertise available.

The young people work together to establish a club, and our Field Officer seeks out the potential leaders in the community to take over from them. Although the support is available from the young people on a short

term basis only, John Anderson-Dixon gives considerable encouragement to the new club as it becomes established.

The team grows weekly, as the young people respond to the challenge, but the nucleus consists of Alison Withey, Sue Wood, Belinda and James Anderson-Dixon, Dave Mason and Anna Gurranni. The Association is indebted to these young people for their hard work on our behalf.



CAROLS IN CANDLELIGHT

The lights of Gloucester Cathedral were lowered, and the plaintive voice of a chorister was heard in the far distance, and as the choristers proceeded from the North Transept to the Nave the Hymn "Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending" rang out as though from the Heavens.

It was a beautiful opening to the twelfth Annual Carol Service, which everyone agreed was a most moving experience, developing to its climax when during the last carol the lights dimmed, and the flame was passed from taper to taper until the Cathedral was lit by over 1000 candles held by the congregation.

The Rev. Roger Grey and Rev. Richard Wiggins - The Diocesan Youth Chaplains delivered the Christmas Message in the form of a dialogue, and young people took part in the service with readings and the singing of modern carols. The Gloucester Christmas Orchestra conducted by Mr. Tony Hewitt-Jones, and the Cathedral Choristers again led the singing.

The Association is indeed grateful to all those that contribute to this event which gives pleasure to so many.

* A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE ASSOCIATION & *
* ITS CLUBS *
* * * * *
* 1. Northway Youth Club win a gold, silver and *
* two bronze medals in the European Boys and *
* Girls Judo Championships. *
* * * * *
* 2. Jordans Brook House win the National Angus *
* Ogilvy Award for their efforts in Club *
* Week. *
* * * * *
* 3. Kathy Madge (Coleford Youth Club), and *
* Michael Barlow (Blaisdon Hall) come first *
* and second in the National Arts And Crafts *
* Exhibition. *



Members of the highly successful Northway Judo Team show off their European Medals.



LEADERS AND MEMBERS TRAINING

The Association is still heavily committed to supporting the Gloucestershire Training Agency, and supports that agency through the participation of the Organising Secretary and Mr. John Brown - in a dual capacity as GAYC's Field Officer, and St. Mary's College of Education representative. Mr. Brown in particular contributes much, thanks to his valuable experience in a training role.

Despite this commitment however the Association organises courses aimed specifically at youth club workers - and recent consultations have been held involving about 50 or 60 Leaders in discussions on programme content and activities in clubs, and on Junior Club Work. Plans are being laid for a day on Club Administration and Finance, and it is anticipated that this will take place in the Autumn.



HOMEMAKING COURSE Work with over 18's seems to have taken a lower priority in youth work in recent years, and the Homemaking Course was introduced in an attempt to redress this balance a little. Sponsored by the Bristol And South West Building Society and run at the Bell Inn, Gloucester, the course was for engaged couples and attracted the maximum attendance of 30.

The course over 7 weeks included discussions on house purchase, insurance, banking, family planning and personal relationships, and the legal aspects of marriage, led by experts in their subjects. The Association is particularly grateful to Mr. Peter Ray, Manager of the Gloucester Branch of the Building Society for his efforts on our behalf.

MAD WEEKEND

A group of young people who were particularly interested in Music, Art and Drama, met together in February to work in small groups to investigate a theme through these three disciplines.

The tutors, Marlene Eamer, Sally Eade and Sid Powell, kept the groups busy throughout the weekend experimenting with materials and instruments, and then applying the knowledge obtained to organise projects. At the end of the weekend the young people presented their ideas by combining the efforts of the three groups.



REGIONAL COUNCIL

During the year we welcomed the Rev. Sidney J. Riggs back to the work of the Association, as a member of the Executive. His interest in the development of the regional concept was quickly recognised with his election to the council, and then on to the Chairmanship of West Region. We are convinced that this work will now develop even further, under his guiding hand.

REGIONAL WEEKEND

Mrs. Jean Morris of the Hereford Association organised a first class Adventure Weekend for Senior Members in the region at Malvern in June.

Absailing, canoeing, dry skiing, and a day with the Army were all part of the enjoyment, and the ten participants from Gloucestershire arrived home on the Sunday, very, very tired, but with a feeling of achievement.



GIRLS' EVENTS

For some time Leaders in Clubs had been asking for something special for their girls, and plans were laid early in the year for a weekend that combined interesting activities with a real look at the woman's role in society.

On the Saturday the girls took part in groups for canoeing, archery, tie dying, fashion and beauty culture. On the Saturday evening the speaker at the Conference Dinner, Beryl Evans, made the challenge about woman's role in modern society. Janet Hunt of the National Association set the girls thinking further in groups on the Sunday morning, and a panel of guests - including the traditional chauvinists - were greeted with a barrage of questions and opinions.

Four students from St. Mary's College acted as Group Leaders, and discussions though informal reached real depth.



MISS G.A.Y.C. AND ARTS & CRAFTS

The measure of the standard of the Art & Craft sections of our event this year can be seen by the fact that the two exhibits that were forwarded to the National Finals in London came first and second in that event.



The venue at Seymour 66 Youth Centre was ideal and once again the Leaders and Members of that club played the perfect hosts for the occasion. The task of the adjudicators was to say the least difficult, for they had to identify the finalists in the Miss G.A.Y.C. from sixty entries for the event.



WINNERS:

Miss Junior G.A.Y.C. - Melanie Smith - Coleford
Miss Senior G.A.Y.C. - Sandra Harper - Gridiron

Soft Toys - N. Champion - Jordans Brook H.

Sweets - Leslie Davies - Shurdington Club

Cakes - Leslie Davies - Shurdington Club

Knitting - Lynne Davies - Shurdington Club

Photography - Andy Cahill - Salesian School

Painting - M. Mabbott - Salesian School

General - Kathy Madge - Coleford Y. Club

Woodwork - E. Canavan - Shurdington Club

Metalwork - Andy Cahill - Salesian School

Needlework - G. Udaloress - Shurdington Club

Posters - Karen Johnson - Tuffley Y. Club

Ceramics - Michael Barlow - Salesian School





MISS SENIOR

MISS JUNIOR

1st (centre of pictures) 2nd, and 3rd
in the Miss GAYC Competitions.

N.A.Y.C./SINGER DRESSMAKING AND ARTS & CRAFTS

The prize for the girls in the County Dressmaking Competition was a visit to the fabulous Hilton Hotel in London to model their outfits in the Singer/NAYC Final in front of Princess Alexandra and 500 special guests. Miss Jane Ramstedt of Longlevens, who along with Gaynor Roderick of Tuffley represented the Association writes:

"...I felt very special being waited on hand & foot, but couldn't get used to being called "Madam" all the time. Joan Bickell representative of NAYC, along with the staff of the Hilton Hotel made everyone very welcome by greeting us with open arms.

The weekend was made very interesting with talks from different people about make up, accessories, fashion choice and your fashion look. The rest of the time was filled with rehearsals for the final on the Sunday afternoon which made a very entertaining show.

On the Saturday evening there was a cheese and wine party organised for us, the guests being Mr. Allan Freeman, Princess George Galitzine and D.J. Keith Skues, who were all very interesting and friendly people to talk to. It also gave us the chance to meet the rest of the girls who came from all over the country.

All of the finalists were presented with lovely gifts and although I didn't win a prize I had a fabulous weekend which to me was a prize in itself, and was an experience I will never forget.

I would like to thank everyone who made the weekend possible, and giving me memories which I will treasure always."

JANE RAMSTEDT

A few days before the NAYC Event at the London Hilton, Kathy Madge, of Coleford Youth Club, received a surprise telephone call to say she had won the National Art And Craft Competition and could she go to London to receive her prize? Kathy took along an egg which had been delicately hand painted, and was asked to present this to Princess Alexandra. We print below a few quotes from Kathy's thank you letter to the Association:

"After the event we were taken to the Coronation Suite, where we were presented to Princess Alexandra and Mr. Ogilvy who congratulated us. I then presented my painted egg to the Princess, who said she would add it to her collection.

All this is something I will never forget, the whole day was tremendously exciting and I enjoyed it immensely. My thanks to G.A.Y.C. for making all this possible."

The crowning achievement, however, was that young Michael Barlow of the Salesian School, Blaisdon Hall, was awarded 2nd prize for his beautiful Ceramic Chess Set. To get first and second places in a National Competition is



ROCK OPERA IN
GLOUCESTER
CATHEDRAL

In January about 50 young people, mainly members of St. Catharine's Youth Club, Gloucester, performed an Opera which was an incredible display of the tremendous talent amongst young people.

The Opera is based on Milton's 'Paradise Lost' and was written and composed by the young people in a style of their own. They attempted to combine pop and classical styles to produce a sound that is appealing to all age groups, and undoubtedly achieved this objective to a high degree.

The Co-Directors - Charles Stephens and Robert Jones - soon convinced the GAYC and Cathedral Authorities that they should support the work, and agreement was reached for the presentation to take place in the Cathedral.

Every person involved; writers, directors, musicians, stage-managers, principles and chorus was under twenty, and the team effort and cooperation were a pleasure to see. Over three nights in the Cathedral 900 people were entertained by a most moving performance in a perfect setting. G.A.Y.C. and the Cathedral were delighted by the success, and the young people were invited to repeat the performance at Slough, following excellent reviews in the local press. Even as we go to print negotiations are in progress for the Opera to be performed in another Cathedral in one of our Major Cities, thanks to



Angling Competition - The Royal Forest of Dean Angling Club very kindly allowed the Association the use of its water, at Cinderford, for a match for individuals and teams of four. Unfortunately we chose one of the coldest days of the year, and the fish did not oblige. However, the 50 members that competed, thoroughly enjoyed their day out, even though catches were low.

The winner was Nigel White of Elm Tree Youth Club with a weight of 2lb 7ozs and he also led his team to victory with 22 points against 30 points from Charlton Kings Youth Club.



Operation Moonshine - Was organised on behalf of the Association by the 25th Army Youth Team in October, and took teams of four young people on a night exercise into the Forest of Dean.

It was not a race, but a carefully timed event, in which teams lost points if they were early or late at a check point. Northway Youth Club managed to win the Trophy for the event, which began at 11.00 p.m. at the Blakeney Youth Club and ended at the Biblins with breakfast prepared by the W.R.V.S.



Rugby 7's - Again a new event for the Association with Mr. O. Thomas, a County Referee, acting as co-ordinator. Sixteen teams entered, and the West of the County dominated the event with eight entries. Coleford won a hard final against Sacred Heart Youth Club from Cheltenham, and along with Pludds and Lydney Youth Clubs were invited to represent England in a tournament at Swansea against the Welsh Association of Youth Clubs.

COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Perhaps the feature of the GAYC Competitions this year was the 'It's A GAYC Knockout' and 'Tug O' War' Competitions, at Blaisdon Hall, where the School acted as the perfect host. 250 young people took part in this one event, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The other Finals were played at the Beaufort Centre in Gloucester, following an enormous programme of area events, in which more clubs participated than ever before. The Association is grateful to Mr. Ken Simmonds and his team.



RESULTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Quiz | - St. Catharine's Club |
| Netball | - Cheltenham Y.M.C.A. |
| Girls 5-a-side Football | - Hartpury Club |
| Junior Boys 5-a-side Football | - Tuffley Club |
| Senior Boys 5-a-side Football | - Coleford Club |
| It's A G.A.Y.C. Knockout | - Blakeney Club |
| Tug O'War | - Shurdington Club |
| Darts | - Northway Club |
| Table Football | - Northway Club |
| Table Tennis Boys | - Guy Greening - Cheltenham Y.M.C.A. |
| Girls | - Bridget Jeffries - Moreton-in-the-Marsh |
| Doubles | - Heather Stephens - Gerald Lay) Forum Club |
| Chess | - Leslie Hanley - Rodbrough & Kingscourt |



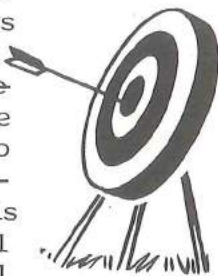
REGIONAL FINALS

Tewkesbury School was the venue for Regional Finals, this year organised by our Activities Group. A team of 35 helpers ran the fourteen activities, and the visiting Associations seemed delighted with the venue, the organisation, and the weather.

The Mayor of Tewkesbury opened the Event, and spent a large part of the day watching and supporting the young people. G.A.Y.C. won six of the competitions in the day.

ADVENTURE WEEKEND

The first weekend in October has now become a traditional Adventure Weekend at the Biblins organised by the Army Youth Team, and instructors various activities. 36 young people took part, and were involved in rock-climbing, canoeing, archery, etc., etc. The catering was the province of two of St. Mary's College students who joined in the activities with the young people - and a great deal of help was provided by Chris, a Leader of the Elm Tree Club. All in all an excellent weekend thoroughly enjoyed by all participants.



NATIONAL FINALS

Five teams represented Gloucestershire in the National Finals at Nottingham on the 24th July from Northway Youth Club (Table Football), Shurdington Youth Club (Tug O'War), Y.M.C.A. Cheltenham (Netball), St. Catharines (Quiz) and Tuffley (Junior 5-a-side Football). The teams were once again a credit to the County, and worthy representatives, even though successes in an event of very high standards were few and far between.

Shurdington gained our only medals as "Runners Up" in the Tug O'War for teams of 3 boys and 3 girls, despite the setback of going down to a team unbeaten for 3 years when they met in the first match.



CIRENCESTER PARK FESTIVAL

Nearly 1,200 people attended the Cirencester Park Day, which was held on a Sunday for the first time. A large team of volunteers organised a series of activities, which the young people thoroughly enjoyed, and the ability with which they organised the teams really had to be seen to be believed.

It's A Knockout organisers for example had to contend with 22 entries - even the TV Companies would quake at that number, but the event still finished on time. The Association is very grateful to Lord Bathurst for his continuing support to our Association.

The results of the events were as follows:

NETBALL 1st Forum Club 2nd Viking Club

RUGBY 7's 1st Matson Club 2nd Viking Club

CHESS 1st Paul Jennings - Longlevens
 2nd Neil Kempson - Holy Apostles

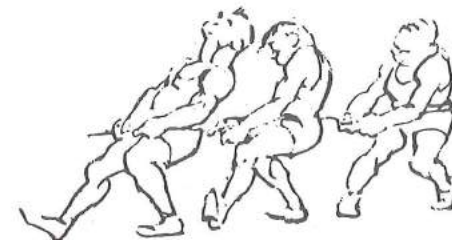
TUG O'WAR 1st Shurdington 2nd Forum Club

IT'S A NAYCOUT 1st Sheepscombe 2nd Holy Apostles

JUNIOR BOYS 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL:
 1st Forum Club 2nd Gridiron

SENIOR BOYS 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL:
 1st Jeanagers 2nd Viking Club

GIRLS 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL:
 1st Hartpury 2nd Coates Club



LYDNEY PARK 10th APRIL, 1976

In a moving message from the other side of the world our President, Sir Peter Scott, warmly welcomed all our Friends of the Forest of Dean area, and guests from the business world, who attended a social evening given on behalf of the Association by Viscount & Viscountess Bledisloe.

During his introductory address, the Chairman, Mr. Allan Mentz, explained to those present that it was our intention that they should understand something of the way in which the Association offers a service to youth work in Gloucestershire, and of the means of involvement open to them as they might feel appropriate:

by direct financial gifts (cheque, covenant, bankers order etc.)

through personally promoting a response from industrial firms and other bodies

by encouraging friends - to consider the merits of the Association and to respond financially or by forming a Friends Group to promote a fund-raising event.

Our Executive Committee is immensely encouraged by the social and financial success of this important occasion in our calendar, and has conveyed its deep appreciation to Lord and Lady Bledisloe for setting such a happy and rewarding precedent in our current financial campaign.



L to R The Bishop of Gloucester the Very Revd. John Yates, Mr A. D. Mentz and Lady Bledisloe



CIRENCESTER PARK FESTIVAL

Photos - Len Agg

JUNIOR DAY

Following the success of last years Junior Day the staff and students at St. Mary's College of education volunteered again to organise a similar event, and of course the club leaders responded quickly to accept the offer. Again 250 to 300 young people took part, and 16 activities were offered from which each junior took part in four.

The standard of coaching was extremely high - the tennis for example being organised by two Wimbledon junior stars. The measure of success is seen by field Officers and the Organising Secretary when juniors continually ask them "When can we have another Junior Day"?

All of the staff and students at St. Mary's are to be thanked for their efforts, but in particular Miss Ann Gregory and Mr. John Brown who are the important motivators of the idea.



TREASURER'S REPORT.

 * We are reviewing a year which, financially, *
 * has been a very critical one for the Association. *
 * It would seem essential that all concerned in *
 * the welfare of youth work should be aware that *
 * contingency plans had to be made to wind up the *
 * Association if funds did not materialize; or, *
 * at least to drastically reduce the function to *
 * match available cash. In the event a combination *
 * of our own efforts, coupled with considerable *
 * understanding and help from the Local Education *
 * Authority prevented the swallowing of what would *
 * have been a very bitter pill. The fact remains, *
 * however, that our funding operates from a platform *
 * that is much too narrow, and it is essential that *
 * every help is given to those currently trying *
 * to formulate schemes of improvement. The *
 * message is clear - If youth work is worthwhile *
 * at all, it is even more important in today's *
 * troubled world, if it is worthwhile it needs *
 * more than the dedicated work of a few - if it *
 * is worthwhile it needs more than lip service *
 * to make it successful and a prime need is finance. *
 *
 * H. F. A. MAY. HON. TREASURER. *



K. Madge presents her hand painted egg to Princess Alexandra

Photo - T. A. Wilkie

 * Jordans Brook House, with an *
 * average of £20.02. per girl, *
 * carried off the coveted National *
 * Angus Ogilvy Award, for the *
 * group raising the largest *
 * amount per member. This is *
 * the first time that this *
 * Trophy has come to the County, *
 * and we are proud of the *
 * efforts of the girls. *



With this great start it is not surprising that the fourteen groups participating increased their income by over 100% on last year. Members from Cam, Y.M.C.A. Cheltenham, St. Barnabas, and the South Area Development Group acted as a Head Quarters Team raising cash directly for G.A.Y.C.



The Clubs participating made the following returns:

JORDANS BROOK HOUSE	-	£240.12.
COLEFORD YOUTH CLUB	-	£191.20.
DURSLEY YOUTH CLUB	-	£118.54.
HARTPURY YOUTH CLUB	-	£74.33.
UP HATHERLEY YOUTH CLUB	-	£52.10.
SHURDINGTON YOUTH CLUB	-	£46.58.
NORTHWAY YOUTH CLUB	-	£33.50.
1st CHELTENHAM B/P SCOUTS	-	£28.00.
TEWKESBURY CLUB	-	£27.10.
ELM TREE CLUB	-	£22.00.
BLAKENEY YOUTH CLUB	-	£9.50.
FORTHAMPTON YOUTH CLUB	-	£8.40.
PARRY HALL YOUTH CLUB	-	£8.00.
HEMPSTEAD YOUTH CLUB	-	£7.60.
G.A.Y.C. HEADQUARTERS GROUP	-	£253.51.
CHELTENHAM FLAG DAY	-	£88.50.



£1,208.98.
 =====

OBITUARY – MISS MILES

With the death of Miss Miles the Association, and indeed, the whole Youth Service, has lost a friend and champion who, until the last few years, gave unstintingly of her time and considerable talents in the cause of young people.

She was Chairman of the Gloucestershire Association of Girls' Clubs & Mixed Clubs and one of the first members of the Education Authority's Youth Service Minor Committee.

As Chairman of the Gloucestershire Standing Conference of Voluntary Youth Organisations she upheld the rights of the Voluntary Organisations and worked indefatigably for the closest possible co-operation between the organisations and the local authority. To this end she played a major part in the formation of the Gloucestershire Training Committee, the Outward Bound Association, and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Committee.

Though never shirking public leadership, few people knew of the great proportion of her time and energy she devoted to the welfare of young people away from the public eye.

Generations of young people in Gloucestershire owe her more than they will ever know.

NORMAN DAVIES

PARTNERSHIP—Is a word much used in youth service with little meaning. In Gloucestershire, because of a positive attitude from the officers in both the voluntary and local authority sectors, the word has real significance.

The Gloucestershire Council for Voluntary Youth Service forms a focus for consultation and decision making, and undoubtedly gains in stature daily. This Association believes that co-operation should be developed in order to ensure that at a time when resources are severely limited, young people

benefit from an efficient service. To this end the Organising Secretary serves on the Executive of G.C.V.Y.S., and both he and the Field Officers are encouraged to work closely with the county and area staff of the Local Authority.

The G.A.Y.C., is particularly grateful to Mr. Peter Clarke (Education Officer Recreation And Leisure), Mr. John Pedrette (County Youth Adviser), and all the Authority's Staff for their continuing support.



Clubs Are Trumps

The following section is devoted to short reports from just a few of the groups that are registered with the Association. The reader will see from just this sample the great variety of work that goes on within the County. Shortage of space does not allow us to give anything but a brief look at this work in voluntary, part-time, full-time clubs and groups.

CINDERFORD YOUTH CLUB - A report from the club members includes the following plans for the future:

Later this year the School is due to take over three class rooms on the new school site at The Causeway in Cinderford, and we will be moving out of our present accommodation. With this move we hope to change our name and make a fresh start. Part of the work and decoration will have to be undertaken by ourselves but the authority are drawing up plans for the con-

struction of a coffee bar and kitchen area, so at least we will have one completed room to move into.

We have not had too much success this year in G.A.Y.C. Competitions, but our experience will stand us in good stead for next year - we hope. We have just taken charge of a VW Mini bus which is for school and club useage and this is helping to extend our activities, and in time we hope to develop some community work within the club.

Best Wishes - Cinderford Youth Club Members.

MATSON YOUTH CLUB - In September 1975 the full-time leader left Matson, and since then it has been successfully run by three part-time leaders. One reports:

"In September the club was reduced from 5 nights to three, which caused problems, but as Christmas approached the average attendance rose above 30 per night. During the Christmas break, the Rector, John George, and a small group of members worked on redecoration in the lounge and in January the Club reopened with the work complete.

The club has taken part in a wide range of sports events and trips including visits to Bristol Ice Rink, and a day trip to Weymouth, and we can report an excellent year's activities. We look forward with interest to September when the new full time warden takes up office.

JOHN GEORGE.



Tug-of-War at Blaisdon Hall during the County Finals

Photo - Fr. A. Murray

NORTHWAY YOUTH CLUB - They sent us a report about a tremendous success for their Judo Team. Four girls and a boy were selected to represent their country in the Boys and Girls European Championship in Holland. This in itself was worthy of praise, but when they achieved a gold medal, a silver medal, and two bronze medals in their various grades then only the highest praises could be enough.

Wendy Goodall (gold), Jackie Parkinson (silver), Neil Harrison and Sally Goodall (bronze) with Tina Simmons completing this highly talented line up.

SALESIAN SCHOOL YOUTH CLUB - BLAISDON HALL

One of the most pleasing aspects of a very successful year has been the fact that practically every member has taken part in one or more inter-club activity,

The Judo team enjoyed a successful and useful season. Melvyn Little took top honours in the Gloucestershire Junior Judo Championships by winning the heavyweight title. Towards the end of the season the team went out to Ruardean and to Cinderford to give Judo demonstrations to the Girl Guides.

The Life-Saving Team goes from strength to strength. Val Malinowski gained the Student Teacher's Award early in the year, and has recently qualified for the Teacher's Certificate. Ten boys gained the Bronze Medallion. The team has also amassed about two dozen lower awards and seems well prepared for any watery disaster you care to imagine.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award continues to enjoy great popularity especially the expeditions in the Forest of Dean and in the Black Mountains. A new venture in the service section was a very successful course in Police Service for the

Silver Award. Four boys have gained the Silver Award and eleven gained Bronze.

The boys were joined by girls from Blaisdon and Huntley for the production of "The Pied Piper" which they played on 6 occasions to a combined audience of 1200. The profits of about £120. will go to the Save the Children Fund.

A number of boys took part in the Lions Sponsored Walk in the Forest and raised £24. for the Lydney Day Centre for old folk. Other boys regularly give up their Saturday mornings to visiting old folk and doing odd jobs for them.

Finally our thanks to GAYC and to the clubs who have made us so welcome and to those who have joined us in Blaisdon for an enjoyable sports and social evening.

UP HATHERLEY YOUTH CLUB

Thanks to the vigorous efforts of our Club Leader, Geoff Foster, who assumed leadership of our Youth Club in April last year, the Club has widely broadened its interests.

There has been larger involvement of the club in GAYC Events, and in some competitions considerable success has been obtained. The club has also itself undertaken three fund raising events for charity during the last year - 2 Sponsored Walks, both over 16 kilometers and Carol Singing.

The membership of the club over the last year has risen to the maximum allowed of 40 and there is a considerable waiting list.

It is the aim of all involved with the club that the present success and achievements are continued in the coming year.

IAN STEER
(HON. SEC.)

WHY WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Gloucestershire Association offers many opportunities for clubs and their members to take part in sporting and cultural activities at both County and National level. The Association is particularly concerned to encourage the formation of clubs. The training of leaders is arranged and advice and practical help is always available.

The demand for this type of work is increasing. The need is for qualified and experienced men and women as youth workers to provide the leadership and expertise which is essential in a developing Association. By their work, large numbers of voluntary workers can be trained, guided and helped to deal with the complexities of youth in today's social conditions.

WE NEED NOW :-

- (a) Money to enable the existing full time youth officer to have more scope for his work.
- (b) Money to continue and develop the work of the part-time liaison officers who are serving different parts of the county.
- (c) Adult help in all areas to act as leaders or helpers in clubs, or to support the leaders of clubs by offering special expertise.

IN 1976/77 WE WILL NEED PARTICULAR HELP AND GUIDANCE TO WORK WITH THE INCREASING NUMBERS OF YOUNG UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.



Winners of the Angling Competitions with their trophies.

AFFILIATION PROCEDURE

The Association now affiliates all young people in the County to G.A.Y.C. under a new agreement with N.A.Y.C. thereby allowing any young person to take part in the Association's courses and training programme. Any club wishing to receive information about the Association's programme and activities is required to pay a registration fee of £3.00, which also allows the club to take part in competitions and events organised by the Association. In adopting this new system of affiliation the Association does not intend to run down its service to clubs, but hopes to increase the opportunities for young people to participate in the Association's affairs. In order to make this system workable the Association has appointed part-time field officers whose areas of responsibility are approximate to the District Councils of the County.

The following clubs have registered with the Association since the 1974/75 Annual Review was published. We would extend to them a very warm welcome and we look forward to long and friendly co-operation.

Bisley Y.C.
Brimscombe, Thrupp & Bowbridge.
Cheltenham Saracens Sports Club.
Cleeve & District D. of E.
Award Scheme.
Coates Y.C.
Condicote Y.C.
Huntley Y.C.
Longlevens School
Mitcheldean Y.C.
Penn Y.C.
Randwick Y.C.
Redmarley Y.C.
Robinswood S.C.
Swift Boys Club.
South Cerney Y.C.
Stratton Y.C.
Teens & Twenties
(PHAB)
Uley Y.C.
Woodchester Y.C.
Wotton Under Edge.



THE ASSOCIATION WISHES TO THANK....

The President, Sir Peter Scott; The Vice Presidents; The Honorary Auditors, Messrs. Kingscott Dix & Co.; The Honorary Solicitor, Mr. G. H. Turner; Members of the Executive and the various sub committees and working parties. The innumerable Youth Workers and Friends who have supported us in so many ways.

The Subscribers to the Scott County Appeal, and the members of the Associations Friends Groups.

The Gloucestershire County Council, and its officers both county and area for support both financial and practical.

The National Association of Youth Clubs for both financial and practical assistance.

The various Trusts and Firms that have supported the work of the Association in the past year. Particularly the Trustees of the Smiths Charity for their continuing support.

The Wardens of the various Conference Houses used by the Association in the past year, the Principal and Staff and Students of St. Mary's College of Education, Cheltenham, for their great help on a number of occasions throughout the year.

To all others that have in any way supported our work during 1975/76.



Some of those people who have taken an active interest in the work of the Association in 1975/76 at the Annual General Meeting.

Photos - Len Agg

