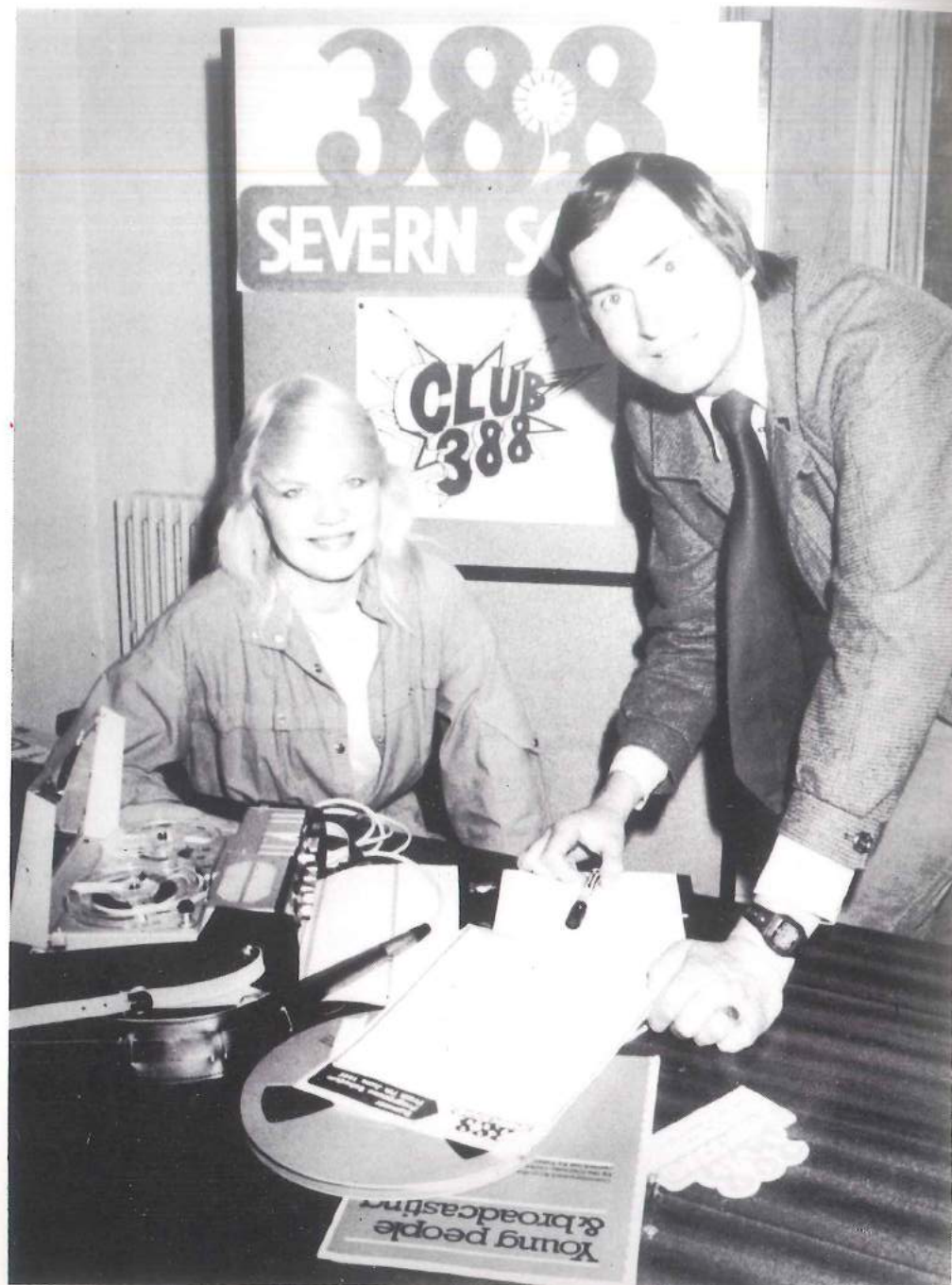




GLOUCESTERSHIRE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL
REVIEW
1981 — 1982



CLUB 388 GEOFF CRAGO AND ASSISTANT SUSIE DAWSON

GYA

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Association of Youth Clubs*

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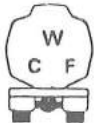


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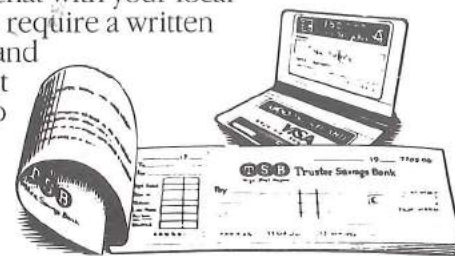
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REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

The energy and resilience of youth continue to be an example to all of us. Although the Council of Management cannot claim the zest of youth, it is buoyant in the present and hopeful of the future. It sees the task of GYA as knowing the needs of young people and of seeking to make provision for them. In achieving this it is encouraged to believe that GYA has been adventurous and responsive in provision and economical in the use of resources.

The past year has been one of consolidation following the formation of GYA. We have sought to provide a framework of voluntary management and financial control within which the various services to youth can be fostered and developed. Our response will continue to evolve and I take this opportunity of recording appreciation to the members of the Council who have given freely to provide a firm basis of good management. I am aware that, consistently, they have been motivated by a sense of responsibility to the community and the Association is fortunate in having secured their interest.

Our Youth Services Committee has provided a full programme of activities and support to registered groups. New ground is about to be explored through an experimental project which is called 'Club 388'. This is a joint venture which is designed for young people who are unable to benefit from current youth service provision, especially in rural areas, and which makes use of local radio.

'Youthforce' which is funded by the Manpower Services Commission goes from strength to strength. The Council has agreed to a recommendation that we should increase our full-time provision for unemployed young people in Gloucester and the Forest of Dean to 175 places. Reports tell us that our trainees and MSC are pleased and grateful for what has been achieved.

The training of members and adult workers has been developed. During the year there has been an increase in one-day training programmes and the Training Committee has been hard at work laying the foundations of considerable further developments. These will include the provision of

residential educational opportunities for unemployed young people as well as days given to professional knowledge and skills for youth workers.

Our headquarters is now bulging at the seams and we are exploring ways of providing more space. During this year, attention has been given to the very necessary maintenance and improvement of 78 London Road. There is still much to be done but priority is being given to renewal of the roof.

The Council of Management has followed a policy of deriving funds from public sources wherever these are available. In return we offer efficient and economical administration of the means for which they have been given. However, such funds are earmarked and specifically accountable in terms of the purpose in question. This means that there is a continuing need for voluntary giving if we are to maintain and develop those services to young people which have been our tradition for forty years.

This has been a good year, if in some ways a difficult one. As the Association grows, the Council is anxious that we should not lose sight of the importance of personal contact between all parts of the organisation. There is a special responsibility on each of us to know and to be known. This can be achieved by the willingness of all who are interested to participate, in events, in support, in making decisions. We are an association.

It is appropriate that gratitude should be recorded in respect of all who have in any way, contributed to the success of the past year. In numberless ways, observed and unobserved, loyal concern for our work has been demonstrated. Especially, we wish to thank the staff, voluntary and full-time, on whom so much depends.

In accordance with the Articles of Association one third of the members of the Council of Management retire, but are available for re-election. Norman Barton who kindly continued as Secretary for a limited period has now resigned. The other two retiring members are H.F.A. May and A.D. Mentz. Together, with Mrs. J. Kirkwood (Chairman of the Management Committee of 'Club 388') they offer themselves for election.



Chairman Council of Management.

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TRAINING COMMITTEE

Mr K David	- Chairman
Mr D Close	- National Association of Youth Clubs
Mr N Havard	- Field Officer
Mrs A Mentz	- The College of St Paul & St Mary
Mr D Jones	- Training Officer Glos. Training Agency
Mrs J Sewell	- West Gloucestershire Technical College
Mr R Tolman	- Regional Training Officer United Reform Church
Mr B McCarrick	- GYA Training Officer
Mrs M T Tyreman	- Secretary

TRAINING COMMITTEE REPORT

Since its formation in the Autumn of 1981 the Training Committee of GYA has met in most months. The present membership of nine will be extended as additional helpful members are proposed and invited to join what is proving to be a very experienced and active group of GYA staff and co-opted voluntary helpers.

To assess, consider, support, suggest, liaise, advise - these are the opening words of the committee's six listed objectives, and they perhaps indicate the nature of the way we see the role of the committee. Our task is to attempt to deepen and extend the useful training which has always been a major part of the Association's work for adult staff and for our young people.

We have many very experienced adult workers in the Association and opportunities for staff training must be offered as practical and relevant for down-to-earth youthwork; but at the same time we must also have an element in the training which enables people to lift their eyes to assess new horizons and needs. Youthwork is demanding and can fix our view primarily on present tasks and practical difficulties; training opportunities must be supportive in these tasks, but must always attempt to give attention to future trends and requirements for many changes lie ahead.

We have a series of conferences in mind to offer to GYA Club Leaders, the first of which was the "Working With Girls" day in April. Others are in preparation.

With young people the committee can only reinforce and support the established work of the Association, with

particular attention to the encouragement of potential leaders among our young people. The Jubilee training course and other residential conferences have taken a major place in our planning, as has consideration of the Government's New Training Initiative.

The committee has also spent considerable time considering training opportunities for our colleagues in Youthforce. Members of the Committee have acted as trainers for a number of day conferences which the staff have found beneficial. Other important in-service staff training ideas are gradually developing in this most important part of GYA sponsorship.

Gradually, therefore, GYA's new Committee will be seeking the best ways in which we can be supportive in the extensive work of our Association.

Kenneth David
TRAINING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

BEVERLEY AND ROSALIE

About 30 people attended the "Working with Girls" training day in April, and among them were Rosalie Lilwall and Beverley Bowles from Newnham Youth Club on the banks of the Severn. They are both caring people typical of the kind that one finds in every village, the ones that are always bullied into the organising jobs that need doing.

Two years ago a group of the village youngsters complained bitterly to a parish councillor that they had nowhere to meet, and that the village bobby was not happy about their meeting in the High Street. A meeting was called, a committee formed and of course Rosalie and Bev. found themselves in the team to run the newly formed youth club.

Rosalie and Bev recognise that they are only a part of a team without which the club would fail, but they still believe that the leader, who provides the continuity for the 30 or 40 members, is the most important member of the team, the one who gives the enthusiasm to the youngsters.

It is not easy to keep enthusiasm going, and even the adults in the village cause problems occasionally. "Everyone

recognises that young people need a place to meet, but they won't commit themselves to help - it's the time factor..... People say the youngsters should do it for themselves, but they forget that young people have not yet acquired the expertise and knowledge, they need support and help".

Bev tells us that she doesn't find it easy to get talking to the young people, and that this is because she doesn't meet them frequently enough. She and Rosalie would both welcome the opportunity to get involved in further training particularly if it was of a very practical nature.

Certainly efforts are being made in Newnham to get the girls more involved in the club and this is entirely due to the fact that some of the leadership group attended the "Working with Girls" training day, and they are now looking forward to a more practical follow up to that day.

LYNDA & LORRETTA

Were both on the first residential training course for young people on the Youth Opportunities Programme organised by the Association at the Lords Hill Centre in Coleford. They enjoyed the course greatly and gained much from it, particularly in confidence. Lorretta didn't realise how difficult it was being in a wheelchair until she was involved in a project to discover the problems faced by handicapped people in Coleford. She was also determined to produce a first class meal when it came to her team's



turn in the kitchen - and the Jamaican curried chicken was really enjoyed by the group.

Both girls enjoyed the outdoor work despite the terrible weather, and being a bit frightened on the night exercise. Lynda got most out of the discussion, particularly in the informal situation at night or round the meal table. She says she's not sure that people are really sympathetic to the situation that young people find themselves in, nor do they understand. Lynda has applied for 137 jobs and had 12 interviews, and with seven G.C.E. passes she's been told that she is over qualified, under qualified, too young, too old and not experienced enough. Well at least she is getting some experience on the Youth Opportunities Programme. "I don't like lazy people. It's no good complaining about the system unless you are prepared to do something about it" says Lynda.

Certainly, the accusation of being lazy could not be levelled at Lynda or Lorretta, they just want a chance to show they can make a contribution to society.

Perhaps the final word should be with Lorretta, she felt the course was better being all girls. "..... but I'd love to be a fly on the wall at the boys course and see how they handle this self catering business" she said.

NICK HOLYOAKE

The Jubilee Training Course is sponsored by the Queen's Silver Jubilee Trust and enables groups of young people to spend thirty evenings and three weekends over a year looking at the community. Nick Holyoake was persuaded by one of the leaders of Badgeworth Club that this was an ideal opportunity for him.

"The weekend in Liverpool was the highlight, particularly meeting the people of Toxteth within days of those riots, and being able to see how the media can exaggerate and influence situations" said Nick.

Nick learnt much more from the course, and welcomed the opportunity to get his own views clear in discussions with other young people and community leaders. He particularly liked the fact that the participants were encouraged to make up their own minds on the issues. "We heard all about positive discrimination, but I am far from convinced that this is a good concept".

Since the course, Nick has joined Cheltenham Leo's Club, and he felt the course had prepared him for this step. They are an organisation that has raised £1,200 for a guide dog for the blind and £400 for an adventure playground for the disabled recently.

"I want to help people" says Nick "but it's important that I enjoy myself in the process. We must see that young people do not get landed with the jobs that older people don't want to do".

Nick is concerned for the rural youngster, he believes people respond to the needs of City kids but tend to ignore those in rural areas. "A youth club is essential because those of about 14 or 15 are tied to the village and what else is there for them?".



COLETTE BALLINGER

Colette doesn't worry too much about having to address large public gatherings now and she finds it quite exciting trying to represent the view of young people to Ministers, M.P.'s and Civil Servants. These are tasks that she has as a very active member of the National Members Conference Committee. However, she feels that her involvement with Youth Clubs has accelerated her ability to work in these areas. Training received through N.C.C. has improved her skills, and has given her the confidence in these situations.

Colette never thought at 14 years of age that she would, five years later, be so heavily involved when she joined the clubs at Minchinhampton and Nailsworth. However, after a couple of G.Y.A. Members' Conference weekends at Bracelands and then attendance at National Conference as a County representative

she found herself elected as regional representative on the Conference Committee.

Colette was most impressed when the young people insisted on allowing an adult extremist to put his views to conference showing their belief in free speech, but in later discussion illustrated a total rejection of his position by passing resolutions condemning his organisation. In 1980 Colette was coopted to N.E.C. the ruling body of the National Association of Youth Clubs, and despite her recent move to London she remains very active, working in a club for Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied young people.

"The best thing about the past few years has been the opportunity provided to speak in public, and represent the views of young people to those in authority even if some of them don't really listen". It all happened because "I had the gumption and drive to take the opportunities available through Youth Clubs".



CERAMICS ENTRY AT GIRLS EVENT BY THE SALESIAN SCHOOL CLUB.

CLUB 388

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Committee - Mrs J Kirkwood	-	Chairman
Mr D Close	-	Nat. Assoc. of Youth Clubs
Mr G Crago	-	Project Director
Miss S Dawson	-	Project Worker
Mr R Harris	-	Nailsworth Y.C.
Mr J Hickey	-	Beeches Green Y.C.
Mr B J McCarick	-	Org. Secretary G.Y.A.
Mr J Pedrette	-	County Youth Adviser
Mr E Vickers	-	Severn Sound
Mrs M T Tyreman	-	Secretary

REPORT

Over 3 years ago the Home Office announced that there was to be a local radio station in Gloucestershire, and immediately the Association began to devise ways that this could be turned to the advantage of young people in the County. On the 26th June Captain Mark Phillips launched Club 388 at a huge event in Pitville Park, Cheltenham. Between those two dates the Association spent many hours negotiating with Severn Sound, an International Trust Fund, Manpower Services Commission and the many others interested in the concept of a Youth Club of the Air.

We are now on the way and a regular Friday evening programme along with regular inserts into other programmes on Severn Sound gives the club an impetus that will surely appeal to many young people. It is our intention to ensure that young people influence the club. Our project worker is herself only 21 and she has spent the early days of preparation in research to discover what will appeal to young people. From this point it is up to the young people to tell us what they want from the Club, and for those offering opportunities for the young to keep us well informed.

The Club is financed for only two years, and in those two years we have to convince young people that it is worth supporting. We can do that - but we also need a sponsor to enable us to continue the Club, when the initial grants cease.

The establishment of Club 388 is an excellent example of the close cooperation between G.Y.A. and the National Association of Youth Clubs. N.A.Y.C. was able to respond to the idea of a Youth Club of the Air in a positive way through its knowledge of, and personal contact with, those Trusts most likely to respond to the project. The very substantial funding needed was acquired by the hard work of N.A.Y.C. staff for which we are very grateful.

Mrs J Kirkwood
CHAIRMAN CLUB 388



SUSIE DAWSON has been on tour recently. Her task as the project worker with Club 388 has taken her all over the County visiting schools and other youth groups in order to find out what young people want to do in their leisure time.

Susie was appointed to organise events and activities for young people that would then be publicised through a special programme on Severn Sound, the local radio station. She also has the task of finding out about the huge variety of opportunities available to young people throughout the county so that the information can be broadcast.

Susie spent most of her childhood in rural Gloucestershire and really understands the difficulties for young people in the small villages of the County. "Transport is the main problem" she says "It is difficult for young people even to go to the pictures when they live miles from anywhere, especially as there are only about four cinemas in the county".

The intention is that Club 388 will go at least some way to changing all that, and Susie is quite determined to ensure that young people in Gloucestershire are at least aware of the opportunities available to them. She is also keen to assist young people in identifying the ways that they would like to fill their leisure time.

YOUTHFORCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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	Mr A Matthews (Manpower Services Commission)
	Mr H F A May
	Mr A D Mentz
	Mrs J P Sewell JP
	Mr J Tackney (Careers Advice)
	Mr P T Whitmore JP
	Mr W D Trehearne (TWGU)
	Mr R G Mitchell (Youthforce)

YOUTHFORCE STAFF

Mr R G Mitchell	Co-ordinator Youthforce 78 London Road Gloucester GL1 3PG Tel 422100/423060
Mr P Bailey	Senior Development Officer
Mr J Best	Senior Project Supervisor & Safety Officer
Mr T Witts	Project Development Officer
Mr T Jackson	Placement Development Officer
Mr D Thomas	Dean Development Officer
Mrs P Riches	Finance Officer
Mr G Walker	Training Officer

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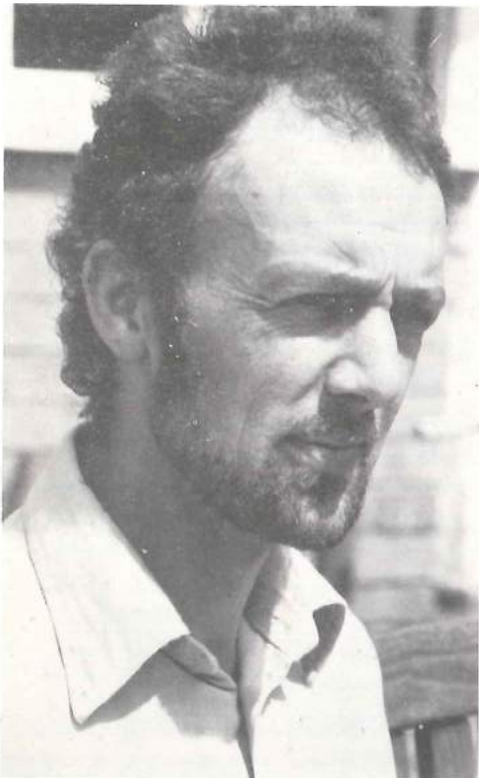
DAVID ROWSON

David Rowson is the Maintenance Supervisor at Wynstones School. He first heard about Youthforce through word of mouth. When it was suggested by the senior Development Officer with Youthforce that they meet and discuss the possibility of a project at the School, David was very enthusiastic.

With a fair amount of decorating and construction work, and the 'unanimous support' of the council of teachers the trainees began work on the project in April. David had no reservations about the abilities of the trainees knowing that they have an experienced craftsman supervising them and is indeed very impressed by the work already carried out. The trainees have completely redecorated the changing rooms and are currently working on some paving and construction work in the gardens.

However, as the project leader, David is aware that this is not a purely practical project and strives for some 'interaction' between the school and the trainees. In this way, David encourages the trainees to take advantage of the sporting and social facilities at the school. He feels the school gains from the project in increasing its awareness of the problems of unemployment and the realisation that there are people who care about these problems and want to give some positive help.

David has nothing but praise for Youthforce. He says that one of the most important benefits of these type of schemes, are that they teach the young people 'the experience of a daily rhythm which is such a major part of life'. David is hoping that the project at Wynstones School will go on until Christmas, if not longer.



David Rowson

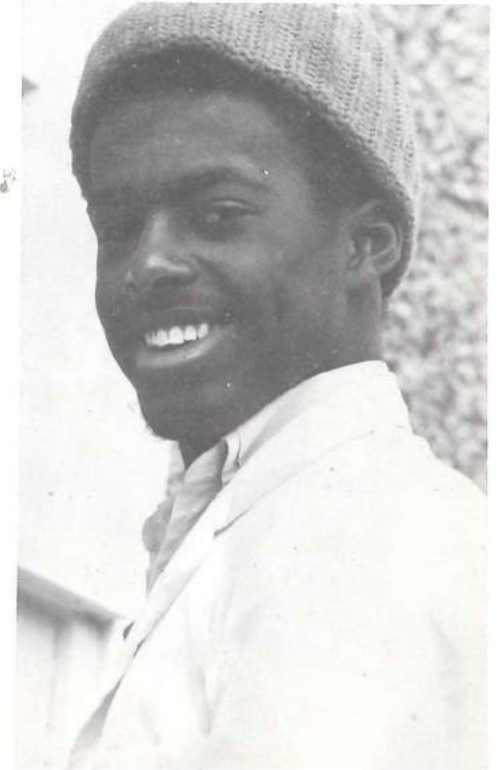
WINSTON THOMAS

It is obvious talking to Winston Thomas, a project trainee with Youthforce, that he has thought a great deal about the current economic situation which makes it necessary for schemes such as Youthforce to exist. He is resentful of the fact that the country cannot offer young people more when they leave school but as long as he cannot change the situation he is glad that he can fill his time in a worthwhile way which is giving him some good experience in painting and decorating, the craft he is learning on his project.

Winston's ambition, however, is to become an engineer and not a week goes by without him going to the Job Centre to see if there are any engineering apprenticeships available. He certainly does not want to be accused of not bothering to look for a job while he's got the security of a year at Youthforce.

Winston has made a lot of friends whilst with Youthforce not least of all Dennis McKenzie, his Project Supervisor. Winston sees him not only as the craftsman who is responsible for ensuring that the trainees do a good job, but also as their friend and advisor. If Winston wants to talk about anything at all—it could be a car or it could be a personal problem—Dennis is more than willing to offer any help he can.

*A very encouraging footnote is that whilst writing up this report Winston has just informed the staff at Youthforce that he won't be coming in to work on Monday morning—he has just been taken on as an apprentice at a local engineering firm. A happy ending for an ambitious lad.



Winston Thomas

TONY WITTS

Tony Witts, Project Development Officer, is responsible for finding projects on which the trainees can work. A 'project' could be a village hall that needs redecorating or alternatively it could be developing a grammar school into a multi-purpose community centre.

Tony finds the projects by visiting as many prospective organisations as he can find assessing which ones may benefit from the work of Youthforce. Having decided on a likely subject Tony approaches the proprietor of the establishment who in the case of the church hall would be the vicar. Surprisingly enough, not everyone is interested in taking part in a scheme of this nature. However, once Tony has explained that there is no 'catch', that not only will the project benefit the community, but also provide valuable experience for young people a new project usually emerges. From there Tony liases with the Senior Supervisor and Safety Officer to

check on the safety aspect of the project and to marry up the needs of the project with trainees available.

Tony is obviously very satisfied in his work knowing that as a part of Youthforce he is doing a job which in his view is "giving the opportunity for young people to gain a sense of responsibility not only in their working lives but in their lives generally".



Tony Witts
Project Development Officer

ANDREA WRIGHT

Eighteen year old Andrea Wright has been a placement trainee with Youthforce for nine months. Despite completing a Further Education course at Gloucester Technical College, Andrea was still unable to find a job. Consequently she took the advice of the Careers Office and applied for a place on the Youthforce Scheme.

Andrea was hoping that she'd be able to work with people 'to see different faces' as she puts it and was, therefore, very pleased when Youthforce were able to arrange for her to be placed as a Remedial Help at the National Star Centre for the Disabled. Her work involves helping in the swimming pool and gym with the rehabilitation of people with various physical disabilities—they may be accident victims or suffered from strokes. Andrea says her work is very rewarding and is glad that she isn't 'sitting at home all day long going mad with boredom'.

Apart from gaining practical experience Andrea and some of her fellow trainees were responsible for the complete production of a magazine called the Wednesday Patch Group Review containing the news and views of young people. The trainees produced the magazine during their life and social skills training at college, a valuable part of the scheme Andrea feels, especially if the trainees are willing to contribute something. Sales of the magazine have been very successful.

Andrea is a trainee who is particularly appreciative of Youthforce for giving her the opportunity to experience the sort of work which she is hoping to make a career of in the future.



Andrea Wright

ANDREW BISHOP

Andrew left school when he was sixteen in May 1981. Not surprisingly, the grim realities of the dole queue had seemed miles away to him while he was still at school. In fact, it was only when he had registered at the careers office, that he realized what little chance he had of finding a job.

Four months of signing on convinced him that there must be more to life than nothing to do all day. The name 'Youthforce' came up in conversation with a friend, and after a trip to the Careers Office, Andrew gained a place on the scheme.

When Andrew started with Youthforce last October, he was asked what sort of work he would like to do. Preferring to work outside, Andrew opted for learning as much as he could about gardening. So Andrew has spent the last nine months as a placement trainee with the Area Health Authority maintaining the gardens. In his job, he has had experience of all aspects of gardening—greenhouse work, mowing, tree planting and planting shrubs. He is also responsible for cleaning and keeping safe his tools.

Although Andrew says he would prefer a proper job doing whatever he could, he feels, with the practical experience he is gaining and the social skills training he is receiving, Youthforce has given him a much better chance of getting a job eventually. Meanwhile, he is even toying with the idea of setting up his own business! He says "I've been advised to become self employed but its something I'll have to think about hard before I make the first step".



Andrew Bishop

ARTHUR MEEK AND ROBERT SLADEN



Arthur Meek—Project Supervisor

Arthur is sixty-two years old, has been in the building trade all his life and has brought up five children (with the help of his wife)—all of which more than qualifies him for his job as Project Supervisor at Lydney in the Forest of Dean. Arthur is basically there to teach the trainees under his supervision how to go about the building and decorating work on any particular project that they may be working on.

At the moment, Arthur and his team of trainees, one of whom is Robert, are renovating a Church Hall. Robert is 17 and has been working on projects with Arthur since he joined Youthforce eight months ago. With Arthur's help, he has had experience of several skills including plumbing, painting and carpentry.

However, both Arthur and Robert agree that the role of the supervisor is much more than just teaching the various skills. Arthur explains it as "helping the trainees to fit into a working environment". This, to him, means not only the basics like good time-keeping and work discipline, but also helping them to be 'good citizens'. He likes the trainees to come to work washed and tidy and to be polite to any visitors that may come to the project. Arthur also demands respect and it is obvious he gains it from Robert and the other trainees, by combining just the right amount of discipline and tolerance.

Arthur can quite confidently say he has no problems with his trainees. He is prepared to adapt to any situation which may arise by becoming anything from confidante to English teacher. Virtually all of Arthur's trainees have managed to get jobs when they have left Youthforce. Robert is hoping that he will be no exception, but he feels more secure in the knowledge that he has had Arthur's help to prepare him for whatever he may have to face in the future.



Robert Sladen—Project Trainee



PRINCESS ANN MEETS YOUTHFORCE TRAINEES: JEREMY DEE, CHRIS HAILE AND CHRIS TAYLOR AT THE NEWENT COMMUNITY CENTRE WHERE SHE WENT TO OPEN NEW FACILITIES. THE TRAINEES ARE PART OF A PROJECT TEAM



TRAINEES WORKING AT THEIR PROJECTS, PLACEMENTS AND AT TRAINING COURSES. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: SAWING STONE FOR LAYING A PATH, SEWING AND KNITTING COURSE, PAINTING OUTSIDE OF COMMUNITY CENTRE, SHOWING THE WAY AT THE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE, SUPERVISOR SHOWING HOW TO LAY BRICKS, COOKING AT THE SURVIVAL COURSE, WEEDING A GARDEN AT A SCHOOL, AND FENCING IN A FORT FOR A CHILDRENS ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE YOUTH ASSOCIATION - YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chairman	-	Mr K R Simmonds MBE
Mr L Agg		Field Officer for Gloucester
Mr M Ball		National Members Conference
Mr C P Clarke		Education Officer (Community Education)
Mr D Close		Staff & Organisation Development Officer NAYC
Mr R Kilmister		Field Officer for West Gloucestershire
Mr A D Mentz		Chairman - Council of Management
Father A Murray		Salesian School Club
Mrs M Patrick		Chequers Bridge Club
Mr J Pedrette		County Youth & Community Officer
Revd S J Riggs		Vice-Chairman - Council of Management
Mr B J McCarrick		Organising Secretary & Training Officer
Mrs M T Tyreman		Administrative Secretary

REPORT

This had been the first full year of the Youth Services Committee in its new form. There has been a determination to ensure that, despite increased activity in other areas, the Association will improve its club services. Competitions have attracted reasonable entries this year and clubs seem to enjoy the challenge of progressing through the various levels to a National Final.

The practical task of changing the decisions of the Youth Services Committee into action is the task of the Activities Group. This team, consisting of field officers and mainly young people, makes a very valuable contribution to the work of the Association. By taking on more responsibility for the running of the events, others have been released to develop the Association's work.

South West Gas Board (Arts/Crafts & Cookery), Leisureland (Superclub Event), and Quedgeley Scout & Guides (Table Tennis) all sponsored events this year, and we are grateful for their support.

Perhaps the most successful participant in the sports field this year was Sylvester Callum of the Ebony Club who put in a lot of effort and practice in order to reach the last four of the National Table Tennis competition, losing in a tight match to the eventual winner.

Mandy King was delighted when she won £400 for her club in the Birds Dessert Recipe competition as the National

Runner Up whilst the Minchinhampton dance team managed to get to the last six of the National Competition and were seen performing on B.B.C. Television.

Mandy with others from the Association were honoured to be invited to a reception at St. James's Palace when they met the Queen Mother.

The committee have been a little disappointed this year that the response to major events has not been as great as in the past. We hope that leaders will let us know the variations in our programme that their young people would require.

Mr. K. Simmonds MBE
CHAIRMAN YOUTH SERVICES

COUNTY CHAMPIONS - 1981/1982

Netball		Blakeney YC
Quiz		Winchcombe YC
Darts - Team		Brockworth YC
Girls	M Lee	Bream YC
Boys	C Saunders	Forum YC
Tug Of War		Blakeney YC
It's A Knockout		Blakeney YC
5-a-Side - Girls		Brockworth YC
Juniors		Stonehouse YC
Seniors		Stonehouse YC
Pool		Matson YC
Chess	P Gibbons	Blaisdon Hall
Superclub		Blaisdon Hall
Badminton - Boys	R Shackleton	Winchcombe YC
Girls	J Whittock	Coleford YC
Mixed	J Sanderson & C Helmsley	Coleford YC
Table Tennis - Boys	S Callum	Ebony YC
Girls	K Jackson	Star 66
Mixed	P Jeff & D Hudson	Redbrook YC
Miss GYA	M Price	Shurdington YC
Miss County Princess	L Bird	St Mary De Lode



Left
MISS G.Y.A.
MARINA PRICE
(SHURDINGTON CLUB)



Right
COUNTY PRINCESS
LOUISE BIRD
(ST. MARY DE LODE
G.F.S. GROUP)

NICOLA GOODALL AND JUSTIN FANSTONE

Nicola and Justin are amongst the youngest members of the Association at eleven years of age. They are setting out along the Youth Club road, and are members of the Junior Section at Beeches Green Youth Club.

They both take advantage of the go ahead leadership of their club were the fight is not for the dart board or snooker table, though they are popular, but to get at the club's two computers. "Mr Barnes teaches us how to use the machines and write basic programmes" says Justin, and both point out that maths tests, and spelling tests are good fun when they are on the computer.

Nicola likes cooking and has won certificates for sweet and biscuit making. Nicola tells us that "Mum comes to the club and helps with the coffee bar, Mrs. Barnes persuaded her to come and help".

Justin is proud of the fact that he is the junior Table Tennis Champion of the South Glos. area, he also likes the quizzes which are a feature of the Club programme. Both agree though that 'Club is great because its where we meet our friends and make new friends".

RACHEL PREESE - Geriatric Nursing is recognised as one



of the hardest jobs in the Health Service and 16 year old Rachel Preese recognises this fact, because of the work she does on Saturdays at the Dilke Hospital. Encouraged by her club, Rachel is involved in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and her service section takes her to the hospital. Far from putting her off, the experience has

made her more determined that ever to achieve her ambition and go into nursing the elderly.

Her club is SoSo Club at Drybrook and Rachel points out that "without the club I wouldn't have been able to get any experience, but now I've got a good chance of going into nursing. When I joined the club I was quite shy, and wouldn't have got involved in half the things that I now do, but Val Jones keeps giving us an extra push to do things. Mrs. Jones sets high standards and she expects us to keep to them".

The club's name stands for Serve Others - Serve Ourselves and the leaders really try hard to get the young people active in their community. Rachel tells us that the club is now participating in all sorts of activities and she has become involved in sport and recently started canoeing. The club members also saw a film about the Camphill Village Trust which works with the mentally handicapped, and as a result some are helping at the trust centre in the Forest of Dean.

One thing is sure, Rachel and her friends around Drybrook are getting themselves well and truly involved in their local community and the Association wishes them well.

ED, SALLY, SARAH, VANESSA, EMMA & KATE

Ed Philpot at 17 is the envy of all his mates, whilst they are happy to ask one girl to dance Ed has five of the best dancers in the County dancing with him. The five girls and one fellow make up the dance team from Minchinhampton Youth Club that won through to the televised N.A.Y.C. finals at the Hammersmith Palais. This year they plan to do even better than that.

The group are members of the club at Minchinhampton, but their first interest is dance and they get on really well with Jill Woods their choreographer and teacher. They all agree "She's a real tyrant when we are working". "She works us really hard and makes us do our best" said Vanessa Lavey - the baby of the group at 14 years. However, the team recognises the need for this discipline, and know that they owe much to Jill and that when the work is over she is a different person.

When it came to the weekend of the finals the team were in real difficulty for 16 foot snow drifts on the Cotswolds almost stopped them from reaching London. Their two bus loads of supporters did not even get out of Minchinhampton. The team made it however, and were rewarded with a final place. There were no hard feelings over the winners either - "The four lads from Liverpool were great fun, and easily the best team" said 16 year old Sarah who still writes to one of the lads in that team.

Sally Beard has the last word. When it was suggested that dancing was an easy activity her comment was "We know better!"

OUR FRONT COVER SHOWS THE TEAM AT REGIONAL FINALS



MANDY KING

The last thing that Mandy King expected this time last year was that she would find herself chatting to the Queen Mother about ponies, and what it is like living in Gloucestershire. A couple of months later, though, that is what happened, and by entering the Birds Recipe Competition she ended up in London and at the Royal reception to celebrate 80 years of N.A.Y.C. In addition Mandy won £400 for her group at Quedgeley and met Toyah Wilcox, Peter Powell and Kid Jensen.



Mandy, a pupil of Ribston Hall, is working hard for 'A' levels but that does not stop her from working hard for others. When she finishes her exams she is going to Milton Keynes to spend a week surveying the town with ten others to identify the problems facing those who are confined to a wheelchair. This follows a week last year which she spent in Nottingham working voluntarily with the handicapped.

Last year Mandy was Miss G.Y.A. and was quite pleased when she was selected by the Lions Club for their young peoples service award for Gloucestershire. "The thing about G.Y.A. " says Mandy "is that it provides young people with lots of opportunities. Its been specially good for me and enabled me to meet lots of interesting people".

We wish Mandy luck in the future and hope she achieves her ambition of a University place to read English.

STEVE ROBINSON

Is really a product of successful youth work. He has grown up continually active in youth service from his early days as the disc jockey in Nailsworth Youth Club, to his present position as full-time leader of the Stonehouse Youth Centre. On the way he was committee member, members' chairman, part-time leader, and eventually, leader in charge, before spending two years training for professional youth work in Liverpool.

Really it's hardly surprising with this background that Steve is a believer in member participation. The young people in Stonehouse Club do take part in the running of their own centre. They have a strong and active members' committee, and what is more, Steve has ensured it has real power - with representation on management and its own very substantial bank account.

Steve suggests that by setting high standards, and at the same time by giving the young people responsibility, they respond by behaving as responsible adults. It's this treatment that ensures that there are always substantial numbers of senior members in the club at Stonehouse, and they are always prepared to help organise their friends. Steve believes that he should offer his members as wide and varied a programme as possible, and he, therefore, takes part in events organised by G.Y.A. or the Leaders' Council. "It's no good just putting up a notice on the board though, someone has to follow things up and encourage the members to join in" he says "but give them the chance and they will have a go".



STEVE AT THE CLUB WITH HIS MEMBERS.

PETE BOGLE

Pete is almost from the same mould as Steve, but he has developed an enthusiasm for outdoor pursuits and has qualified in this area to enable him to work with young people. Pete is one of the younger members of the Association's Activity Group. His first taste of outdoor activities came through the Up Hatherley Youth Club and then on a couple of G.Y.A. adventure weekends at the Biblins. He now acts as an instructor on the very weekends that he attended as a youngster.

Pete reckons that enthusiasm is important, and that the youth club is an opportunity for young people to try out a variety of activities until they find something that will provide them with an interest. He believes, though, that it is important for leaders to have a broader outlook, and not confining themselves to one narrow interest. Outdoor pursuits are just another way of working with young people and Pete recognises that it is useful to have a skill to pass on. This enables the adult to make that initial contact with young people which is often difficult.

Those early days at Up Hatherley were very important for Pete. He was on the Members Committee, and, for a while, was Chairman, and even attended a couple of National Members' Conferences.

"A good members' committee is valuable for a club but it takes hard work and training. Leaders must not expect young people to know it all. They have got to have support" he says.

Pete has just got married but he hopes to continue to pursue his interests in canoeing and youth work with the support of his wife.



LEN AGG

Not long ago Len Agg was presented with his Long Service Award for over 20 years work in Youth Clubs in Gloucestershire. Like so many others in youth service Len began as a member at 15 and after National Service returned as a voluntary leader to the same club at Parry Hall. His main interest over the years has been in sporting activities.

Len is well able to make comparisons between the present youth service and the service of the sixties. He feels that it is more difficult to create club loyalties than it used to be, with the young people tending to move around the clubs much more than they used to, and taking advantage of the opportunities outside of youth service. He also sees the clubs becoming a little more inward looking, with large scale events attracting fewer young people.

Len is now a voluntary Field Officer for the Association covering Gloucester and the surrounding parishes. He feels that the rural club seems to be a happier more friendly place than some of the town clubs. Every club though develops its own personality.

Len works full-time with Youthforce as a Placements Supervisor, and obviously his experience and training in youth work is a great advantage in his dealings with the young people.

"I am concerned about the vast difference in income between young employed and those who are unemployed. With cutbacks youth service can no longer subsidise events and activities, and this means that the young unemployed who need the most support are unable to afford to participate".

Len has been on the Association Executive for 7 years now, and in that time has been responsible for the art work and production of Annual Reviews. He is certainly to be congratulated for the high standards achieved in this period.

Matthew Stuart was a regular member of Forthampton Youth Club before he joined the Navy. On his 18th birthday he was killed in the Falklands on H.M.S. Argonaut. The poem below was written by his sister Alison. Our sympathy goes to his family, and friends. Young Matthew will be deeply missed.

MATTHEW'S SONG

I waved from the deck of the Argonaut
As she carried us off to the war
And my friends and I cried, full of fear and pride
For what we were fighting for
Oh, what were we fighting for?

The Navy life for me I'd said
When the fire of youth was ablaze
And the first few months were hard but good
And friends made short the long days
I felt so high, so warm and proud
In my badge and my uniform
But fear and the uncertainty
Were strong in the Falkland's dawn
My friends helped disperse the anxiety
And they had my support in return
But when the news of the Sheffield and it's dead men came
The tears in our hearts just burned
And floating in the death cold sea
I thought of these things once again
Of Ginge and Mac and good old Tim
As the bullets fell like rain
I thought of my parents, of Doug and Al
and the life I'd left behind
As I drifted away to a peaceful sleep
The memories calmed my mind

I waved from the deck of the Argonaut
As she carried us off to the war
And my friends and I cried, full of fear and pride
For what we were fighting for
Oh, what were we fighting for?
But I wanted Peace and I've found that peace
And so I will fight no more.

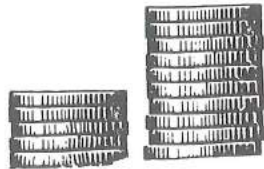
Alison Stuart - 23rd May 1982

TREASURER'S REPORT You will see from the balance sheet which is published with this report document that by careful management we have been able to balance the books. This has really been achieved by maximising the investment value of our freehold and confirms the wisdom of this purchase and its continuing and growing importance to the Association.

If we are to develop our service to the youth of the County there is a continuing parallel need for increased finance. We have a responsibility for the salaries of those that we employ in these functions and I would record our entire dependence in this area upon the goodwill of the local Education Authority without whose help it would be impossible to continue.

We look to the future with quiet confidence, but we shall need the support of both the public and the Local Authority if we are to maintain the standard that we see as entirely necessary.

H F A MAY - HON. TREASURER
(National Westminster Bank Ltd.)



WEST REGION OFFICE The Fund Raising Office for the youth associations of Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Shropshire is situated in the GYA Office at 78 London Road. Each County deals with its own appeals on a completely separate basis, and all have their own stationery and postal system. Letters are sent out to Industry, Trusts and Private Individuals, and all money coming back is allocated to the respective Associations.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all our supporters who respond to our appeals for funds. The cost of mounting the services outlined in this booklet remains a cause of concern, but with continued financial support we shall be able to meet the demands of the 80's.

Mrs Ann Fisher
FUND RAISER



THE MAYOR OF CHELTENHAM PRESENTING THE BADMINTON TROPHY AT THE A.G.M. LEFT TO RIGHT:
MR ALLAN MENTZ: MR TIM LORIGAN, CHAIRMAN OF YOUTHFORCE, SALLY MOSS, COUN. MRS M WATSON
Reproduced by courtesy of the Gloucestershire Echo.

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training pack



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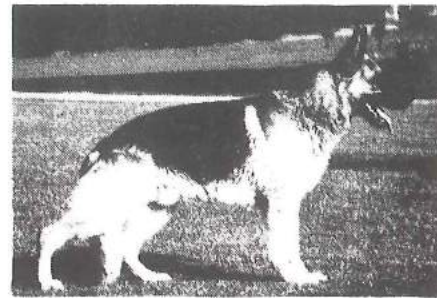
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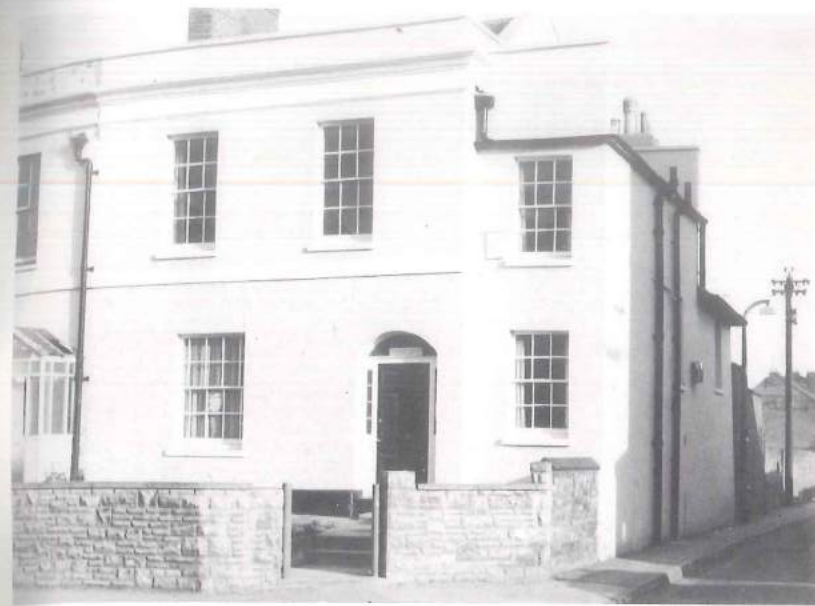
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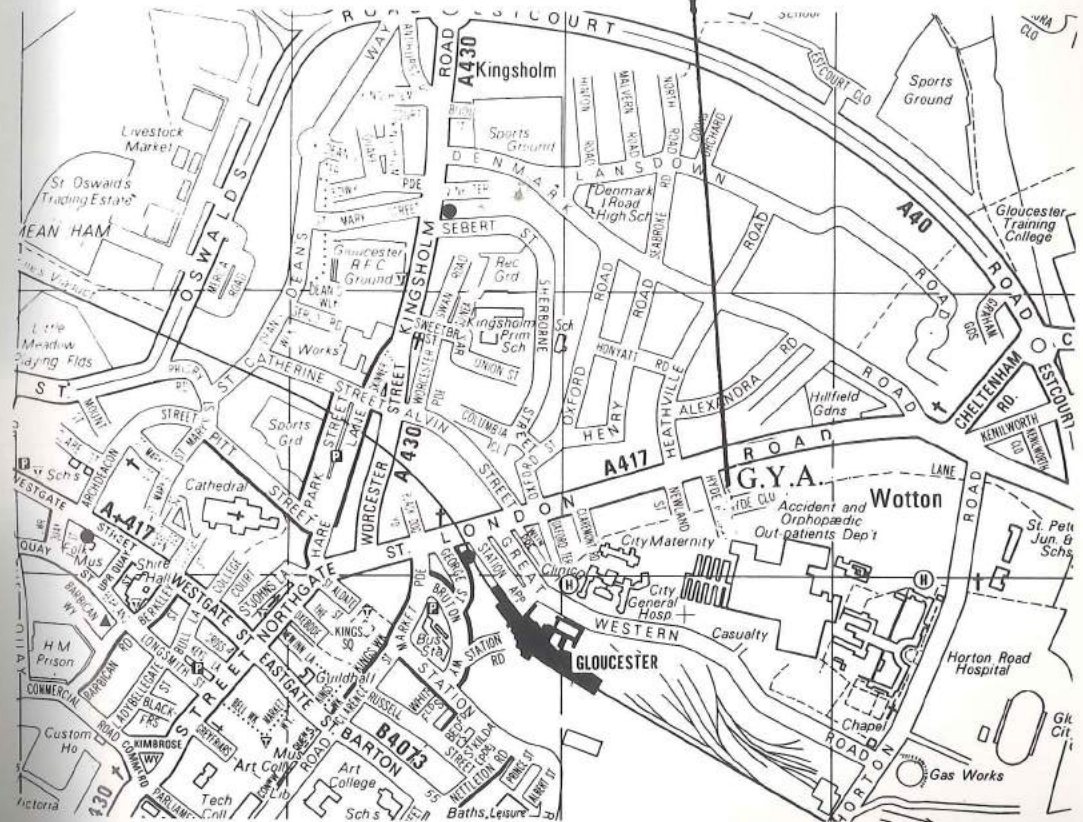
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