



**yg**

---

young gloucestershire

**INSPIRING  
YOUNG PEOPLE**

---

Annual Review  
Financial Year 2015/16



#yginpire

Two weeks before his sixteenth birthday Matt was placed in care after suffering years of abuse. Read how YG has supported him in his journey from a depressed and scared teenager to the happy and positive person he is now.

"I chose to leave my foster family when I was 17, I couldn't take living so close to my biological family. I moved to Gloucester where Social Services introduced me to YG and I started attending one of their youth clubs.

"Since that first introduction to YG in 2014, I have been on a journey of self-discovery. The staff have been the most supportive I have ever met. After years of being afraid to 'come out,' the staff at YG gave me the confidence to live the life that feels right for me. With their support I was able to make the decision to live my life as a man when I was born a woman and start the transition process.

"YG gave me a mentor who has helped me explore my options. With their help I went back to college, found a part-time job and started work experience.

"YG has encouraged me to go for more, they made me believe in myself when I didn't think it was possible. After working part-time, I have now secured a full-time position as a Care Assistant. After two years on benefits I am now self-sufficient and have nearly paid off all my debts.

**"I have experienced some horrendous things in my life that no-one should have to go through. But with the support of YG, I have the confidence and motivation to look to the future and be proud of who I am."**



This story was made possible by Cheltenham College who gave £2,000, which enabled two young people to be mentored for a year.

# WELCOME TO YG

Young Gloucestershire (YG) is a countywide charity that supports disadvantaged young people (aged 11-25) who are facing challenges in their lives.

We support young people who are facing some very difficult times; whether it be a disruptive home life, caring for a family member or coping with a mental health issue. Young people turn to us for help and we offer them practical ways to

find confidence and develop the skills they need to get on track and to move into a job, education or training. We achieve this by creating opportunities that educate, inform and inspire.

## WE PROVIDE

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

We support young people to engage in the local area and work with communities to provide opportunities for young people.

### PRACTICAL SUPPORT

We work together with young people to deal with the challenges they face in everyday life. From advice on employment and housing to budgeting and relationships; we support young people to make informed choices.

### TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

We offer a range of programmes designed to help young people gain confidence and increase their skills and knowledge so that they can take the next step in their lives.



# YG IN NUMBERS\*

**+54%**

more formal training courses delivered

**+26%**

more visits made to The Link, drop-in centre

**+78%**

more young people received mentoring

**+9%**

more outcomes achieved in youth clubs

**+27%**

more young people completed Road Code, a road hazard awareness programme

\*Compared with figures from 2014/15





Elliott signed up to NCS and had the Summer of his life in 2012. Now in 2015 he's back to help others. Read how his past Summer with YG has helped shape his future.

"When I signed up to NCS I had no idea of the awesome experience I was letting myself in for. It really was the best time in my life so far. I knew I wanted to go to college after my GCSE's but I had no idea what I was going to do with the long Summer ahead of me.

"When YG came into school to talk about the opportunity, I didn't hesitate. That's one thing that the experience taught me; grab every chance while you can, because you won't necessarily get given it again.

"I made friends with people that I never would have spent time with otherwise, friends that I still meet up with four years later. NCS brings together so many different people, it taught me to be open-minded and to work well with people from all different walks of life. **We got the opportunity to try amazing activities; coasteering was hands down the best experience of my life. To be able to do those types of things, at just 16 years old, was immense.**

"Since my initial experience on NCS with YG I have been off to college and I'm now at University studying Performing Arts. I work part-time at the weekends in my local theatre and regularly volunteer at festivals and events. I have no doubt that my time on NCS helped me with all these achievements, giving me the courage to meet new people, the skills to manage my time and the motivation to make every opportunity count.

"So when I was given the chance to come back and work as an NCS Programme Leader with YG I jumped at it. It's great being able to pass my experience on and watch the newbies change over the course of a few weeks. NCS has really made me see how important it is to support your community and I'm proud to take on a role that gives more young people the chance to do that. NCS really was the Summer of my life and has gone on to shape my future."

#yginpire

# TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

We offer a range of programmes designed to help young people gain confidence and increase their skills and knowledge, so that they can take the next step in their lives.

Having spent the last couple of years dealing with the impact of the Government's austerity measures, 2015/16 has provided YG with an opportunity to expand some of our current provision. 2015/16 has seen a massive increase in YG's intake for the National Citizen Service (the Government funded initiative for 16 and 17 year olds). Last year's dramatic increase to 290 young people saw us spilling out of the Gloucester Cathedral during our Summer Graduation Ceremony. YG became the first provider to take the programme to the high seas after being granted permission by the Cabinet Office. The group set sail on Tall Ships from Weymouth Harbour for a unique week long sailing voyage.

We have continued to develop our relationship with Gloucester Rugby Club and the HITZ Programme. The 12-week health and fitness programme was taken to a new level when YG employed an ex-professional rugby player to

lead the groups. This new post has opened up some impressive opportunities including a young person scoring a winning try at Richmond in front of ex-England Captain Will Carling.

Last year YG delivered the programme three times to 27 young people who gained a Level One in Employability and Entry Level Three in Sports and Leisure. On top of this YG delivered 69 informal community sessions in local youth clubs.

In 2015/16 we were proud to celebrate 25 years delivering the Prince's Trust Team Programme. This achievement was recognised by the Trust with a Delivery Partner Award in recognition of 25 years of Prince's Trust Teams. This highly regarded experience continues to offer an opportunity for change to young people who are not in employment, education or training. Last year 64 young people completed the Team Programme.

# YG IN NUMBERS

# 37

different training courses delivered to young people

# 401

young people completed a formal training course with YG

# 78%

completion rate across YG courses



This story was made possible by The Butterfly Garden, who provided community action projects for young people.





When Victoria fell pregnant at 17 she felt she had disappointed her friends and family. Suffering with postnatal depression, her confidence was low. Read how, with the support of YG, Victoria has found the strength to make a new start and plan for her future.

"I walked into YG's drop-in centre by chance. I originally just wanted to try and sort out my CV. I was a really shy and unconfident person so when I walked through the door of The Link, I hadn't been prepared for the welcome and support I would receive.

"Falling pregnant at such a young age was a shock for both me and my family. But after my son was born of course everyone in my community loved him, however at the time I felt I had disappointed everyone and I suffered with postnatal depression.

"The staff at YG have been amazing – they really listened to me and encouraged me to do more. I have become a regular at the young parent's group and have been matched to a mentor. Together they helped me get on to a Level Two course in Children and Young People's Workforce. As part of this I have found a placement in a pre-school. I was proud of myself managing to do that as before I started going to YG I would have been too shy to speak to people, particularly professionals and people in suits.

"I have also moved into my own flat with my son, it's great to have our own space. YG has been there to help me access grants to furnish the property and get my finances in order. **I love that YG don't do it all for me but just give me guidance when I want it.**

"My life has really started to come together. I feel proud of what I have achieved over the last year and I'm excited to take the next steps. I am keen to find work that fits in with my son's childcare and my own ambitions to work with children. It's great knowing I can come into The Link whenever I need help. I really appreciate the ongoing support YG gives me."

This story was made possible by partnerships including the NHS Community Midwife Team and the Teenage Pregnancy Midwives, who donated their time and expertise to The Link.

# PRACTICAL SUPPORT

We work together with young people to deal with the challenges they face in everyday life.

YG's drop-in centre, The Link, has become an integral service in Gloucester City Centre. The service has broadened its focus to support young people who find themselves wanting to improve their career prospects. With 2,891 visits from young people in 2015/16 compared to 2,288 visits in 2014/15, the service continues to develop in order to meet the demands of young people.

In 2015 YG secured funding to offer an in-house counselling service in partnership with Teens in Crisis. This is an important milestone in meeting the mental health needs of young people in Gloucestershire. The service will initially offer three days of counselling per week to under 25 year olds. The Link has also increased its offering of in-house vocational qualifications including; Customer Service, Hospitality and Manual Handling with 97 qualifications being completed last year.

YG's mentoring service continues to offer one-to-one support for young people. Relying on professionals to volunteer their time by passing on their experience, the project has grown from 49 young people receiving mentoring in the year to 87.

ViParents, YG's group for 16-25 year old parents, continues to thrive. In 2015 the project supported 25 young parents. In partnership with Infobuzz, YG took time out to focus on the important role of the father, by delivering a dads' only project. Meanwhile the group also raised over £300 for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust and the Special Care Baby Unit - causes close to their hearts. The service has welcomed the Community Midwife team, who run antenatal clinics and parentcraft sessions from The Link and next year YG's staff are looking forward to working with young families in Bromford Supported Housing.



# YG IN NUMBERS

# 2,891

visits made to The Link

# 97

vocational qualifications achieved in The Link

# 386

hours spent mentoring

# 100%

of Mentees rated the programme as positive

# 82%

of ViParents report having increased confidence and raised aspirations



LOTTERY FUNDED



From out of control teenager to commuting to a job he loves. Read how Greg's three year journey with YG has brought him out on top.

"I hate to think about what I was like when I was younger; I look back now and I don't even recognise that person. I over indulged in all the things I shouldn't and it had a terrible effect on me, my family and my friends.

"A friend told me about YG and I signed up for their National Citizen Service. I met some lifelong friends and had some amazing experiences but when it was over, I felt lost. I fell back into my old ways, I got in with the wrong crowd and started drinking again.

"YG ran a youth club near where I lived. They looked out for me and taught me about things like safe sex and drugs education. It was great to have that constant positive influence nagging at me. When they suggested I came back to try the Prince's Trust Team programme I gave it a go.

"I still wasn't in the right mind set and my temper meant I found it hard to deal with frustrations. It took me two attempts to complete the course. That's what is great about YG, they never gave up on me. It's like the staff have the minds of teenagers - they really know how to relate to you.

"The next step for me was to find work. I really wanted to be self-sufficient and make my family proud. When YG told me about WE DO. Print, I

was keen to get involved in something that might directly lead to work.

"WE DO. Print was different to anything I had done before. It put me in a real working environment. My behaviour had real consequences for the business and I felt genuine responsibility for my colleagues. It has provided me with a stepping stone into the working world and gave me a chance to prove myself to employers who might never have looked at me otherwise.

"Look at me now, I travel each morning to a job I love. I have been employed by The Commercial Group in a Customer Management role and I wake up early every day and feel motivated to help our clients, earn money and work hard to support my colleagues.

**"It has been a long slow process for me but I feel lucky to have had YG offering me all these opportunities which have built me up and made me who I am today.** I have even received a commendation from my Town Council. My achievements were recognised as part of the Civic Award for Young Person of the Year."

#yginspire

**WE  
DO.  
PRINT**

This story was made possible by Commercial Foundations, who have worked in partnership with YG to bring about social change.



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

---

Young Gloucestershire supports young people to engage in the local area and works with communities to provide opportunities for young people. We believe in working in partnership with the local community to improve the services available to young people.

In 2015 the worlds of charity and business came together when YG entered into a partnership with Commercial Foundations. The Commercial Group, who launched the Foundation nearly two years ago, recognised their ability to make a valuable contribution to sustainable social change. Providing a training and skills programme for out of work young people, through their innovative new social enterprise – ‘WE DO. Print.’ One of the three enterprises launched by Commercial Foundations.

YG was welcomed on board as professionals providing the specialist skills of working with young people. The partnership has proved successful with 21 young people completing a minimum of three months in the project and 11 going on to education and employment. Others have continued to access support from YG.

YG also continues to successfully deliver 12 sessions of youth work each week in communities across the county. We are thankful to the Parish Councils, Neighbourhood Projects and Housing Providers who fund this vital work in their local area.

The YG partnership scheme, which offers support and guidance for volunteers running their own youth provision, has continued to thrive with 59 members. Our training calendar has remained popular in 2015/16, we delivered 11 courses to 132 individuals from 24 organisations. We saw seven learners complete a Level Two in Youth Work Practice.

YG has successfully launched its bespoke provision in schools, offering specifically designed courses to suit the needs of young people. YG has been working in both Millbrook Academy and Cleeve School and hope to offer this opportunity to more schools over the coming year.

YG has continued to develop its partnership with UK Youth and UPS to deliver the road hazard awareness programme; Road Code. By working with The Gloucestershire Road Safety Partnership's Drive for Life campaign, as well as schools, colleges and youth clubs, we have delivered the safer driving experience to 234 young people.

# YG IN NUMBERS

---

# 72%

of WE DO. Print graduates have gone on to jobs or apprenticeships

.....

# 97%

of participants felt more confident after attending a YG training course

.....

# 3,587

outcomes achieved for individuals and groups attending YG youth clubs

.....

# 322

young people accessing YG youth clubs

.....

# 234

young people completed the Road Code programme





M&S

NICK

*“YG mentoring offered me the confidence boost I needed. Off the back of a work placement I was offered a job. I am so happy and life couldn't be better.”*

# 2015-2016 FINANCES

Total income was

**£1,067,301**

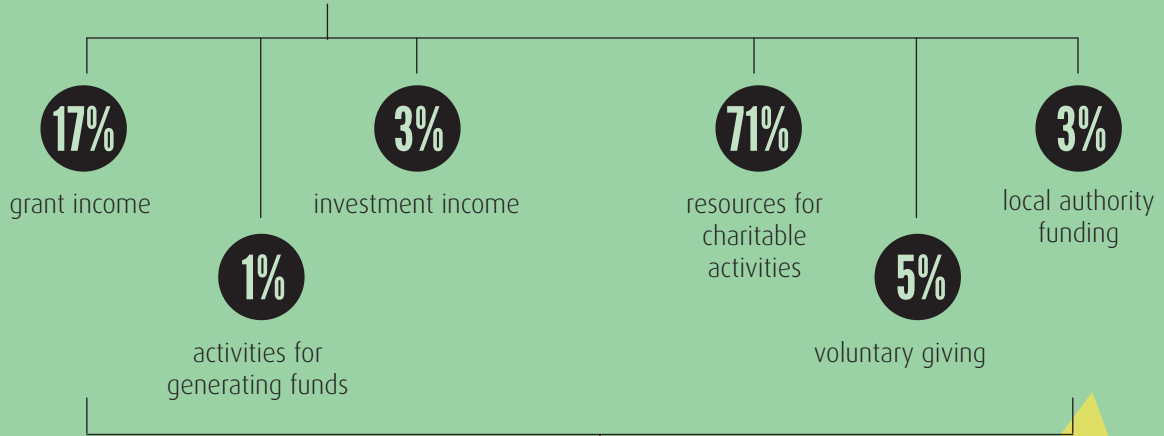
Total expenditure was

**£1,049,963**

Surplus

**£17,338**

Income breakdown



Expenditure breakdown



**86%**

of YG's income was spent on delivering charitable activities

**34**

YG employees in 2015/16

# A WORD FROM OUR CHAIR

YG has had a successful year, with many young people taking advantage of our wide range of services. Our vital work has also been recognised by a number of awards, including an award from The Prince's Trust for 25 years of successfully delivering the Team Programme to young people.

Other highlights of the year have included;

- The expansion of YG's mentoring service; we have increased the number of active relationships in a month from 35 to 45.
- The growth of YG's involvement in the Government's National Citizen Service (NCS). Last year 290 young people took part and raised over £10,000 for good causes, undertaking over 222,000 hours of community service.
- The Link drop-in has announced a new partnership with Teens in Crisis to offer a counselling service.
- The launch of an innovative new partnership with Commercial Foundations to open 'WE DO. Print.' a social enterprise providing on the job training.
- Securing a partnership with the inaugural Gloucester City Marathon, which will enable opportunities of work experience and fundraising.

## THE FUTURE

The successful expansion of our work has also been reflected in our financial position. YG has ended the

financial year positively, adding over £17,000 to our reserves which puts us in a strong position as we look to the future, where we plan to;

- Increase our NCS reach to work with over 450 young people.
- Expand the mentoring programme to reach 80 active mentoring relationships at any one time.
- Explore the delivery of key services in counties bordering Gloucestershire.
- Increase the inclusion of mental health services within YG's core provisions.

## THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to YG's achievements, our volunteers, fundraisers and donors. Without your invaluable help, YG would not have been able to support so many young people in 2015/16.

A big thank you to YG's dedicated staff for their commitment and enthusiasm. I would also like to thank my colleagues on the Board of Trustees, who have provided guidance to YG's Management Team and overseen the direction and vision of the organisation.

## YG Trustees

<i>Hugh Gladman (Chair)</i>	Retired Group Legal Director & Company Secretary St. James's Place Wealth Management
<i>Robin Bevan</i>	Retired CEO, PayByPhone
<i>Lynne Craig</i>	FE Advisor
<i>Jonathon Harvie</i>	Finance Director
<i>Susan Newcombe</i>	Retail Operations Manager, Tenovus
<i>Claire Owen</i>	HR Director, Birmingham Royal Ballet
<i>Mark Sheridan</i>	Retired COO, Zurich ( <i>appointed February 2016</i> )
<i>Dominic Smith</i>	Senior Practitioner, Winston's Wish
<i>Nicholas Upton</i>	Chartered Surveyor, Nicholas J Upton & Partners

# A NEW APPROACH TO FUNDRAISING

Unlike many small charities, YG has managed to navigate its way through the recent budget cuts by successfully diversifying its funding streams and by delivering high quality programmes for young people which meet funders expectations. Karl Gwilliam, YG's Fundraising Manager, explains how trusts, foundations and local businesses can partner with YG to help more young people achieve their goals.



"I'm pleased to be joining a local charity after 11 years' experience working for national charities; WellChild and NGO Send a Cow. YG has done a great job securing income from funders like The Big Lottery and also local funders such as The Summerfield Trust, however I am looking forward to ensuring a rolling programme of applications that ensure the charity is being heard and supported by a wide base of trusts and foundations.

"I will be working to expand our community fundraising initiatives with local businesses and groups such as the Round Table and Rotary. My role will make it easier for businesses to meet their corporate social responsibilities by donating time, resources and money.

"I am pleased to have secured YG as the chosen charity for Trimax's inaugural Gloucester Marathon. A relationship which we hope will continue to flourish over the coming years and will provide the first of many opportunities for young people to play a part in our community fundraising events.

"We ended 2016 by announcing our first major appeal; Mentoring Young Futures. We are reaching out to Gloucestershire's businesses, individuals, community groups and schools to help us raise £50,000 needed to give another 50 out of work young people a hand-up rather than a hand-out. This represents just £1,000 per young person for one year of mentoring, which provides the full package of training and support needed to deliver this vital service to young people."

**GET INVOLVED  
AND RAISE MONEY**

Get in touch or visit our website for fundraising tools and advice.



# FUNDING PROVIDES

## £5

can provide a daily bus rider pass for a young person to attend a YG training programme

## £100

would fund a youth worker to be trained in safeguarding

## £500

would fund two youth workers to deliver a programme in school one day a week

## £1,000

would provide a mentor to support an unemployed young person for a year

## £3,000

would fund a twelve week programme for one unemployed young person

## £5,000

would keep a youth club open one night a week for a year

## £25,000

would fund an advice and information worker to support young people for a year

**JustGiving™**

## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FUNDERS

Active Gloucestershire  
Anne Cadbury OBE JP DL  
Awards for All  
Awre Parish Council  
Barnett Waddingham  
Bernays Charitable Trust  
Blockley Parish Council  
Bridgwater College  
Cainscross Parish Council  
Charles Irving Charitable Trust  
Cheltenham Borough Homes  
Cheltenham North Rotary Club  
Cheltenham Sunrise Rotary Club  
CHK Charities  
Boost Charitable Trust  
Cotswold School  
Crowe Clarke Whitehall  
Fasthosts

Gloucestershire Apprenticeship Awards  
George Cadbury Foundation  
Gloucester City Council  
Gloucestershire Community Foundation  
Gloucestershire County Council  
Gloucestershire Police & Crime  
Commissioner  
Gloucester Rugby Club  
Gloucester Severn Rotary Club  
Green Square  
Hazelwoods  
June Stevens Foundation  
Langtree Trust  
Learning Curve  
Lechlade Parish Council  
Lord High Sherriff of Gloucestershire  
McFarlane Walker Trust  
Notgrove Trust

Priors Park Neighbourhood Project  
Reed in Partnership  
Renishaw plc  
Royal Bank of Scotland  
Sprirax Sarco  
Street Games  
Stonehouse Parish Council  
St James's Place  
Sainsburys  
The Big Lottery Fund  
The Eastgate Shopping Centre  
The Summerfield Trust  
UK Youth  
UPS  
Weston College  
Wilson Sumner Foundation

## HOW TO CONTACT US

Young Gloucestershire  
Greyfriars House  
Greyfriars  
Gloucester  
GL1 1TS

T: 01452 501008  
E: [hello@youngglos.org.uk](mailto:hello@youngglos.org.uk)  
[www.youngglos.org.uk](http://www.youngglos.org.uk)

Charity No: 281797  
Company Reg No: 1547097



Follow us on Twitter: [@youngglos](https://twitter.com/youngglos)



Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/youngglos.org.uk](https://facebook.com/youngglos.org.uk)