

JUNE 21

YAB NEWS

News updates from the Norfolk Youth Advisory Boards



Boats, Goats, and Kayaking YABs return to face-to-face groups with a splash!

At last, we saw an opening up on restrictions and some better weather - youth groups are returning to have some much-needed social time, fun, and learning all within the current guidelines around Covid-19 safety. The Young Commissioners have continued to work hard for their communities, engaging with local counsellors, MP's, libraries, and young people to find out the effects of the pandemic and to address what support is needed to address mental health needs.

To contact any of the YABs click the logo below

As you can see YABs have been able to meet in real life with young people and continue to deliver their groups both face-to-face and over digital platforms in line with the National Youth Agency guidelines.

The YABs have adapted their working practices during the Covid-19 pandemic in order to continue to offer essential support whilst keeping young people, families, and staff safe and will continue to do so throughout the current restrictions due to the pandemic.



Norwich YAB have a splashing time!

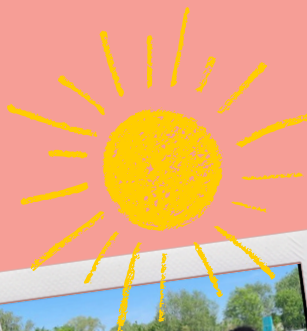
This half term Norwich YAB got out and about to have some well-deserved fun together! They had a lovely picnic on the grass at Eaton Park and a trip to Whitlingham Broads to canoe and kayak! All the young people tried something new and really enjoyed themselves. Young people showed real joy and enthusiasm to be out on the water, trying something new and working together in a variety of challenges and games.



“ NEXT TIME I WILL TAKE THEIR ADVICE AND BRING SOME SPARE CLOTHES! ”



WE WERE LUCKY TO HAVE LUSH WEATHER ON BOTH DAYS! THE YOUNG COMMISSIONERS PARTICULARLY ENJOYED SPLASHING ABOUT IN THE BROADS, WHICH RESULTED IN SOME STYLISH BIN-BAG OUTFITS FOR THE TAXIS HOME!
LIZZY - YOUTH WORKER



AT FIRST THEY WERE REALLY SCARED BUT THEN THEY REALLY ENJOYED IT (YOUNG PERSON INITIALLY AFRAID TO KAYAK ON THEIR OWN)
Y'ETSHA - YOUTH WORKER



Great Yarmouth YAB walk for wellbeing

Being together and walking for wellbeing was the theme for Great Yarmouth YAB when they had their first face-to-face meet up of the year on Great Yarmouth Beach. The young commissioners played some outdoor games, had a paddle in the sea and ended the session with an ice cream.



Broadland celebrate the Power Of Youth campaign, plan for summer and have some fun on The Broads

Broadland YAB has returned to meeting face to face, in line with current guidelines around Covid-19 safety. During half term we visited Wroxham- we ate chips and went on a boat tour of the Broads, where we spotted lots of wildlife! We now have regular face to face meetings each week, alongside our weekly Zoom meetings, so there's something to suit everyone.

We're currently planning an exciting Summer Holiday programme of adventure activities, team building and training at Hautbois House, which will be open to all young people who live or study in Broadland. Get in touch with ColinDutton@map.uk.net or SarahHudis@map.uk.net if you'd like to get involved.



Broadland joined in with the [Power Of Youth campaign](#) and shared some of the things young people have been doing during the pandemic. Power of Youth Day is an annual celebration of the important roles children and young people play in their communities. The 2021 celebration focused on the resilience, strength, and generosity of young people during the Covid-19 pandemic, and recognised the ways the pandemic and national lockdowns have been particularly tough for young people.

Broadland YAB decided to create graphics highlighting the roles they and other young people have played in their communities during this difficult time.



Breckland YAB using their voices to campaign for a better world

Young Commissioners have written letters to their MPs asking them to support the Plastic Pollution Presentation Bill. Young Commissioners wanted to join up with Norfolk Youth Parliament and campaign against the production of non-essential plastic. Fingers crossed they get some responses. Alongside this Young Commissioners have designed an eco-project/competition for Breckland schools. They have asked Breckland District Council to support them with this and will be working with Indigo Illusions to produce a video to introduce the project in schools.

Breckland with West Norfolk - Walking with goats!

14 Young Commissioners from Breckland & West Norfolk YAB went to Cherry Tree Farm in Methwold recently as part of a trial to see if they would like to commission the farm for a future project to arrange activities for free, with the aim of improving mental health for young people. The Young Commissioners worked in pairs with a member of the farm staff to learn about the animals and how to take care of them. They spent time with rabbits, guinea pigs, ponies, and goats. Learning how to muck out, groom, and feed them. They also took the goats for a walk!

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IT WAS A LOVELY DAY OUT AND A GREAT WAY OF MEETING NEW PEOPLE. I LOVED WALKING THE GOATS (EVEN THOUGH I WAS KIND OF SCARED). IT WAS GREAT FUN AND SO MANY JOKES MADE AND SO MANY LAUGHS, ESPECIALLY WITH THE GOATS

YOUNG COMMISSIONER

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North Norfolk provide space for young people to improve their mental health

North Norfolk YAB has been busy planning summer activities and a library link project to encourage other young people to visit and make the most of library spaces and everything libraries have to offer.



Young Commissioners have been considering and discussing the mental health issues caused by Covid for their peers and have decided to provide one activity a week over the summer – which will be open to young people outside of the Youth Advisory Board to provide support and a safe space to have fun.



In the half term the NNYAB spent the afternoon on a day boat hired from Broads Tours in Wroxham. We had three tranquil hours sailing around the broad water – all five Young Commissioners took turns in driving the boat. It was a lovely afternoon looking at the wildlife, mastering mooring, and learning how to control the boat!

South Norfolk YAB have been caring for land and people - find out how...

It's been a busy time for SNYAB as we have been introducing some face-to-face work into our programme. Alongside our usual online activities of youth clubs, cooking, quizzes, etc, young people have been able to enjoy some outside activities too.



We've re-started our conservation work at Quaker Wood in Diss - a 5.5-acre site comprising young woodland, open spaces, wildflower meadow, pond and natural areas. Young people have been carrying out different tasks so that this area can be enjoyed by the local community and the varied wildlife. Young people cleared some wild areas, carried out some maintenance on the dead hedge, and thoroughly enjoyed being outside and working as a team.



**I LIKE BEING OUTSIDE AND THIS IS AN
INTERESTING AND GOOD WAY OF
SPENDING A DAY!**

YC – SOUTH NORFOLK YAB



Young people have also been working at Clinks Care Farm, which is a 143-acre farm in Toft Monks. It combines the care of the land with the care of people. Young people did lots of different farm jobs but particularly enjoyed helping to feed the animals including pigs, sheep, and goats. They also fed geese and ducks, and collected eggs from over 400 chickens, whom all seemed to be running around at that moment!

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE ANY
FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT
ANY OF THE CONTENT OR
HAVE ANY FEEDBACK DO
GET TOUCH!**

**WE ♥ FEEDBACK!
COMMS@MAP.UK.NET**

**“ BEING ABLE TO
SEE EVERYONE
FROM YAB AGAIN
REALLY CHEERED
ME UP ”**
YAB MEMBER

