

COMMENTS ...

- ◆ *'Can we go for longer next time – a week!'* teenagers asked Jane after Halls Green Camp this summer
- ◆ *'It's really easy to talk to you, partly because I don't know you that well, but also because I know that's what you are here for.'* this is what Judith was told by a lad after a particularly delicate conversation about his love life.
- ◆ Mr. Daly, Head Teacher at Wildernesse Boys School recently wrote to the trust commending the work of Jane and Judith at the school ...

'Their contact with the boys at school has linked with their out reach work in the local area and this has had an impact on the behaviour and social attitude of a number of our pupils. I believe that the facility provided by Judith and Jane has been beneficial to individuals and to the school community as a whole'



TRUSTEES OF SEVENOAKS AREA YOUTH TRUST

Rev Dr Michael Cooke

Chair of Churches Together in Sevenoaks & District (CTSD). Church of England Parish Priest for Seal Chart and Underriver.

Rob Marsh

Many years as voluntary youth worker, founded SAYT, now Chief Executive of West Kent YMCA.

Stephen Scott

Solicitor and Chairman of Sevenoaks Christian Counselling Service. Member of Bessels Green Baptist Church.

Chris Walker

Community Regeneration Project Manager, and Elder of St John's Hill URC, Sevenoaks.

Chris Williams

Podiatrist and Member of St Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks.



For further information and our latest newsletter visit our website, www.sayt.org.uk or contact

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or

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SAYT

Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust



Working Together
for young people

Registered Charity No 1090595
www.sayt.org.uk

HOW IT ALL STARTED ...

In 2001 SAYT- Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust was set up by members of Churches Together in Sevenoaks and District to employ and support detached Christian Youth Workers in Sevenoaks and the surrounding villages.

Currently the Trust employs two full time Youth Workers (one in a 50/50 partnership with St Mary's Church in Kemsing).

WHY ...

Because teenagers in Sevenoaks are effected by Asbos, hoodies, sex, drug and drink abuse, family breakdown and teenage pregnancies, vandalism and violence. Surprisingly suicide rates for young males (16-20) in the area are well above the national average. Many young people feel alienated and often just need someone to talk to.

HOW ...

To get alongside young people ...

- ◆ To make contact with young people in their environment (e.g. the streets, clubs and other social settings), to listen to them, and to develop a relationship with individuals and groups.
- ◆ To work within the school environment to establish credibility and develop relationships with young people.
- ◆ To model the values and beliefs of the Christian church in all aspects of the work.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP ...

The Trust works with both statutory and voluntary agencies, for example KCC Youth and Community, District and Parish Councils; Police; West Kent Housing Association; Bradbourne Girls School and Wildernesse Boys School; local churches; Grey Zebra Drugs Project Workers.



OUR YOUTH WORKERS ...



Judith Cork has worked for SAYT since May 2002. Judith graduated from university in 2000 with a degree in English and Cultural Studies and subsequently took a year out working for three Methodist churches in Dublin as a Youth and Children's Worker.

Judith moved to Sevenoaks to take up her position as the first SAYT employee and has since been training part-time on the Oasis Youth Work and Ministry Course. Judith attends a local church where she sings regularly with the music group and occasionally leads services. Outside work Judith enjoys reading, going to the theatre and has tap dancing lessons!

Judith comments, with regard to her work, *"My prayer is that the young people that we meet will experience God's love through our work and through that they may grow socially, emotionally, spiritually and in maturity."*



From near Bath, Jane Down originally trained as a solicitor before taking up youth work which she has now done for over 12 years. This has included working at her Methodist Church, two YMCAs, a Youth Advice Centre, and Devon County Council. She qualified as a Youth Worker in

2003 and moved to Kent to work for SAYT and St Mary's Kemsing and to be near her sister. She enjoys travelling, playing tennis and is currently doing a counselling course.

She writes: *"My heart is for young people to become the best that they can be. In my work I witness to the God who loves us unconditionally, shown in Jesus, and who wants to be part of that process if we'll let him".*

CAN YOU HELP?

By Praying...

If you would like to receive a regular newsletter and prayer fuel, please complete the form enclosed.

By volunteering ...

No qualifications necessary just a willingness to listen to young people and join in the fun. Judith and Jane can't go out on their own, if you could spare a couple of hours

a week then please complete the form enclosed and one of them will be in touch with you.



By Giving...

To date, funding has largely come from churches in Sevenoaks and District who promised sufficient funds to meet the cost of one Youth Worker for 5 years.

The addition of a second Youth Worker in 2003 means that we have had to draw on our reserves. Renewed pledges from churches, as well as other long-term funding, must now be secured.

Although we seek grants from statutory agencies, we are currently totally dependent on donations by churches, clubs, businesses and people like you who believe in our work.