

BYZ NEWS



The official newsletter of Blackburn Youth Zone: May 2019 | Edition 3

I am thrilled to be back full-time after returning from maternity leave and I'm excited to share with you updates, successes and opportunities from the last month at Blackburn Youth Zone. It is really important to reflect on the great work carried out every day at BYZ and to share this with all of our supporters.

Throughout April we had 2,704 visits from young people across our universal provision, 314 people attend for daytime facility hire, 220 school engagements and 249 young people attend holiday club taking the total to 3,487. I'm really proud of the team here at BYZ for the amount of work that goes into planning and delivering an engaging programme of more than 120 activities every week. Engaging thousands of young people would not be possible without our patrons and supporters - so thank you very much - I hope you enjoy reading and look forward to catching up with you soon.. - **Hannah Allen, CEO**



Young Peoples Awards Night

200 people attended the Young Peoples Awards Evening including young people, parents, board members, patron and partners. It was a great evening of celebration with the whole

BYZ community coming together, 60 awards over the evening where presented to young people to celebrate their achievements over the past six months.

OnSide celebrates biggest ever presidents cup

Over 400 young people from across the country descended on Wigan Youth Zone at the weekend for OnSide's biggest ever President's Cup. BYZ took 36 young people to Wigan to compete at the event.

Young people from across the OnSide network came together to compete in sports and arts challenges on what was another amazing day.

In total, 14 Youth Zones were represented across 12 teams – with Future Youth Zone entering their own team for the first time, while Unitas Youth Zone, Legacy Youth Zone and Hammersmith and Fulham Youth Zone made up Team London.

The competition is held annually and this year it was last year's winners Wigan who hosted the extravaganza, this time around.



Congratulations to Claire Sanderson - Volunteer of the month!

April's volunteer of the month as been awarded to Claire Sanderson who volunteers each week across numerous sessions and has built up some great relationships with young people and staff alike, and has a very supportive, empowering and nurturing approach.

We would like to say a big thank you to Claire for all the hard work and commitment she has put into her role here at the Youth Zone.

Blackburn Youth Zone is supported by over 58 volunteers who have volunteered 1,122 hours throughout April.



You can volunteer and support young people in so many ways at Blackburn Youth Zone. For more information please contact dean.edwards@blackburnyz.org or call 01254 292000.

Working Together

- The National Festival of Making is back and this year BYZ will be transforming into a STEAM hub... save the date now Saturday 15th June and Sunday 16th June
- This June Blackburn Youth Zone is partnering up with CANW at the annual 'Pound Day'. We are searching for local dance groups to take part in a dance competition on the day. This is FREE to join and everyone will receive

a medal. Contact ccrossley@canw.org.uk for more information or to register your interest

- Blackburn Youth Zone is searching for 3 talent acts who could be in with the opportunity of performing at the Royal Albert Hall. If you have a talent that is perfect for the big stage get in touch!
- Congratulations to BYZ Diversity football team who came first in the 'ability league' and have now been promoted!

Book on BYZ Holiday Club every half term for £10

Blackburn Youth Zone runs a holiday club every half term for 8 - 11 years. This half term holiday club will run 27th - 31st May 2019. Book your space now for £10 a day or £40 for the week with breakfast, snacks and lunch all included.



Patron Spotlight

A big thank you to PM+M Accountants who have been patrons of BYZ since April 2011.

"Involvement in the local community is fundamental to the ethos of PM+M and that is why we have been supporters of BYZ since its inception. We are proud of how the funds we raise allow the Youth Zone to provide an inspirational and safe environment for thousands of young people in Blackburn. Our most recent activity has included



the donation of office furniture and our 'speechless for the day' campaign, where our partner, David Gorton, managed to raise over £2,600 after staying silent for a whole day, a mean feat for anyone who knows David!

Nothing can replace the feeling of walking into the Youth Zone for the first time and meeting the passionate young people, the dedicated team and the army of volunteers.

That was when we realised that our support was crucial. BYZ is



the most important development in the Blackburn area for years, providing great opportunities for young people and bringing the community together. It is an excellent example of public and private sector partnership. The organisation has become a catalyst for the business community to come together to support our young people. We are committed to continue our support of BYZ and to playing our part in its future success.

Jane Parry - PM+M Solutions for Business

Naphens Solicitor Sponsored Swim for Blackburn Youth Zone

A Blackburn solicitor is set to take on a swimming challenge in support of Blackburn Youth Zone. Oliver McCann, Employment & HR Partner and head of Naphens Solicitors' East Lancashire office, will be

swimming the 5K Great North Swim on the 7th June 2019, to raise vital funds for the local charity.

Oliver McCann said: "This is a challenge for me personally, never having swam 5k distance before or in open water. I'm naturally apprehensive, but determined to do this and knowing it is for such a great cause and will raise vital funds is all the motivation I need"

Want to sponsor Oliver? Visit BYZ website for the link.

<https://www.blackburnyz.org/solicitor-sponsored-swim-for-youth-zone/>



@blackburnyz



@blackburnyz



@blackburnyouthzone

PART OF THE **SLIDE** NETWORK