HOUNSLOW ACTION FOR YOUTH ASSOCIATION

Annual Report

for the year ended 31 March, 2005

INTRODUCTION

HAY was established as a charity in 1986 to develop programmes for children and young people in Hounslow, in particular those at risk of offending. HAY meets its aims through the management of a vibrant youth and community centre catering for all ages. The Hanworth Centre is used for youth work, a range of programmes delivered in partnership with local agencies and activities run by community groups. HAY focuses on meeting the social, cultural and educational needs of children and young people within this safe environment. Our ethos is to promote social responsibility by both providing programmes to develop skills, and encouraging active participation in the running of the Centre. This is done through consultation with young people, residents from the community and local agencies.

CHAIRMAN
David Kaye

Five years after taking on responsibility for the Hanworth Centre, we have now achieved one of our two main goals. The redevelopment of the Centre is complete - the existing 700 m2 building has been completely refurbished and a new wing has been added for the under 8s. To see it through to completion has taken vision, commitment, drive and cooperation from center users, the professional team and management committee. Our funders have believed not only in our ability to manage the project, but also in our ethos; the Local Authority has consistently supported our efforts, and all users have shown considerable patience while their activities were being disrupted. We believe it has been worth it, and are proud of what we have achieved.

Our plans concentrate on ensuring the continuation of our existing programmes, identifying needs for new programmes and profiting from the opportunities that the building now gives. The challenge now lies in securing funding which gives some certainty. Approximately 45% of our revenue comes from the different branches of government, to whose changing priorities we have to adapt and, as a local charity without visibility outside the local area, we need to secure medium term funding from trusts.

This Annual Report highlights the activities of the main user groups and, for the first time, of the Centre Director, who joined us in September and who has had such a positive impact. We believe that it makes encouraging reading.

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
Louise Kaye

At last, after years of disruption with builders on site, the Hanworth Centre refurbishment, including the new wing, is complete. I can hardly remember the state the building was in when I first set eyes on it in 1998, but when I look at the old photos I know that we can all be proud of our achievement.

The most eye-catching part of the refurbishment is the magnificent mosaic mural on the huge curved façade of the building. This was created - under the leadership of our Art Worker Susie John - by dozens of local children and adults. Taking the theme of "Our Community", the mosaic took six months to plan, design and create. It has made a landmark of the building and is much loved by all.

Aside from bricks and mortar, the single most important change since the last Annual Report has been the creation of the new post of Centre Director. Last September we appointed Debbie Hughes. Her calm, firm leadership has helped not only to pull the staff team together, but also to ensure that our links with other agencies and community groups are well managed to the benefit of all concerned.

We have entered a new phase of consolidation of all the programmes that have been set up over the past few years. This is vital to ensure that they continue to run smoothly and effectively on a continuing basis.

We now have a vibrant, colourful and functional Centre, providing an exciting range of activities that cater specifically to the needs of the local community. Our challenge for the future is to secure ongoing funding, not only from government and trusts, but also from local businesses, to ensure that we can continue the good work we have begun.

CENTRE DIRECTOR
Debbie Hughes

I have now been in the newly created post of Centre Director since September 2004. At that time work on the main building was complete and the building of the new Under 8s wing had started. The Youth Groups were able to come back into the Centre and run their sessions once again. The Playgroup and Breakfast Club were able to move in and start operating there in June.

The Centre had a successful launch in September when all the user groups, funders, young people and members of the local community came to have a look at the new, bright, fully accessible community building. The mosaic mural was fully installed on the front wall of the Centre in time for this event. Colin Ellar, Leader of the Council, was there to join in the celebrations which included a wonderful dance demonstration and display of models made by the children.

This year has seen some staff changes at the Centre. Jill Mapes, Connexions Personal Adviser, left and was replaced by Sarah Jukes who started in August 2004. Mario, our Caretaker, left the Centre in March this year due to ill health. Our new Caretaker, Eric Ogundipe started in April and is currently working six hours a week. Vanessa Targett left to join a new Youth Project at The Attic in Hounslow. Vanessa's replacement, Fazlul Haque, started in May 2005 as the new full-time Youth Work Manager responsible for all the Youth Groups.

I have had a challenging but enjoyable year, on a tremendous learning curve as I have been getting to grips with my role at the Centre through many changes and developments. It is a thriving and busy place to be, with tremendous staff and users from all sections of the Community. This has been a year to establish the role of the newly refurbished Hanworth Centre within its community and I look forward to developing further programmes in the future.

SENIOR YOUTH CLUB
Jan Cross

The Senior Youth Club caters for boys and girls aged 13 – 19. The sessions are held on Monday and Wednesday evenings. At the beginning of the year we went to Lazerquest and took some of the boys to Hogarth Youth Centre for a football tournament. The young people enjoyed this very much.

On Monday evenings, Abbi teaches mixing and music in the decks room, which is the main activity of the night and is very popular. Other generic activities on offer are: pool, table tennis, board games, dancing lessons and football.

On Wednesdays we focus on sport and Daniel had been doing football coaching with the young people. Unfortunately he has now left and we have not yet been able to replace him. I am hoping we can find someone new by September, as the young people have a great passion for this sport.

We have had a lot of new members coming in, which is very positive, and a lot more girls coming to the mixed night, which is very good to see.

Under the new Youth Work Manager Fazlul Haque's leadership, we are planning more structured and varied programme from September.

Case Study

G is one of the older members and had a habit of coming into the club without paying. Other members looked up to him and followed his lead. To overcome this problem I asked him if he would like to come down as a helper and he said that he would. Consequently, he started to come extra early to the sessions and took control of the football area. He was very positive and made sure that all the young people paid their subs. He has even said that he would go on a football coaching course in order to be able to help younger members improve their skills.

GIRLS' GROUP

Jan Cross

The Girls' Group runs on a Wednesday evening and is proving to be very popular. The girls concentrate mainly on dance and have grown in confidence over the last year. In October we attended a dance competition at Pontins in Prestatyn, North Wales for the weekend. This was the first time that they had danced in front of an audience. At first, nerves were showing, but after the rehearsal and talking to other groups they looked a lot more confident. On the night of the show the girls really excelled themselves and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Participants entering the competition were from varied backgrounds and ethnicity and they all got on really well and supported each other when they were performing.

Since the weekend in Wales, the girls have given numerous performances and taken part in the Youth Achievement Awards ceremony, held at Feltham Assembly Hall. This has helped to give them even more confidence. I am really proud of the way that they have progressed this year and I know that they will only get better.

Case Study

M was with Andy Clarke's Junior Youth Inclusion Project last year and had serious behavioural issues. She had only been coming to our Girls' Group for a couple of weeks when she came on the residential with us. She sat up until all hours of the morning braiding the girls' hair and was meticulous with their make-up before they performed in their show. She has since become a special member of the Girls' Group and has contributed not only with make-up and hairstyles, but also with dance routines.

JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

Andrea Skilbeck

Junior Youth Club meets two afternoons a week and the activities on offer are:

- street dancing led by Nanna in the new dance studio. At the end of term, the group gave a performance of their dancing for all the children in the club.
- information technology led by Chandeep. This was something new for the children who have had the opportunity to surf the net and are learning to use computer programmes.
- Mosaic Mural Project which ran for six months, all the children took part with enthusiasm. They were keen to get their individual pieces of work included in the finished mural.
- table tennis and pool
- board games
- junior discussion forum
- sports coaching proved quite difficult because of the building work, we managed to overcome this and once again football was the most popular.

Sadly, last May, a 15 year-old girl who had once been a member of the junior club died suddenly. It was an emotional period for staff. The children took this loss quite badly and it raised a lot of concerns around death. We decided that we would create our own book of condolence. All the children took turns to put something in the book; some drew pictures, others just wrote messages. We discussed death and why children sometimes die. The youth workers were exceptionally supportive during this period, helping the children to alleviate their fears and to understand why things like this happen.

Once the ground floor was re-opened we were able to use the kitchen and decks room. Cookery, as always, was incredibly popular and the new decks room was something the junior club had never had access to before. The girls really enjoy decks and are less shy than the boys when it comes to using a

During the year we have had a number of off-site activities including trips to Lazerquest, Pizza Hut and bowling.

Plan for 2005 – 2006

- Residential for nine children to PGL Hindhead
- Targeting children who are disadvantaged, socially excluded and BME background
- Themed months, to include: healthy eating, personal health, anti-bullying and personal safety
- To work alongside the Junior Youth Inclusion Project and integrate the groups
- To offer more varied and planned workshops, ICT and curriculum led youth ventures.

Currently the Junior Youth Club has an average of 40 children per session of which at least 25% are from ethnic backgrounds and a number have special educational needs.

Case Study

H is an incredibly sensitive little boy who recently came on a residential with the Junior Youth Club. Because he gets upset over very minor things, he usually avoids participating in activities. On the residential, staff and children encouraged H to try activities that included a climbing wall, quad biking and zip wire. He tried everything, despite finding it a struggle. He also shared a room with two boys with whom he was not previously a friends. His experiences helped him to bond with the other boys and girls on the residential, and although he is still very sensitive, this will no longer stand in the way of him participating in the future.

INTERS YOUTH CLUB

Leanne Skilbeck

The age range of this group is 11–13. Many of our activities are conducted on site and include IT, decks training, dancing, football, and cooking. The sessions have been very popular with the local young people. We have, occasionally, been on off-site trips too. This is a great way of getting to know the youngsters, help them build their self-confidence and work together as a team. We have two young people with special educational needs who are assisted by a Support Worker from CIP Playteam. They interact well and join in all activities. The Inters Youth Club has 65 members, averaging 20-25 per session.

JUNIOR YOUTH INCLUSION PROJECT

Andy Clarke

The objective of the Junior Youth Inclusion Project (JYIP), which is funded by the Children's Fund, is to provide diversional activities, specifically for children in Hanworth, aged 8–13, who have been identified as being at risk of falling into offending behaviour. In particular, we seek to help children and young people who are problematic and struggling at school and also siblings of offenders in the area. This programme is making an enormous difference to children, their families and their community, by helping to provide support at a critical time in their lives.

The JYIP has engaged more than 50 children and young people since the programme started. Every evening an average of 20 children attend and enjoy the many activities offered at the Centre. These include arts and crafts, cookery, football, street dancing and break dancing and decks training. The children and young people have also participated in off-site activities. These include trips to Thorpe Park and Chessington Zoo, going to the theatre, swimming, bowling and a residential. They have also been involved in community activities such as tree planting, tree decorating and creating welcome and good-bye signs for the Olympic delegates in different languages. Many of the children and young people now access other mainstream activities within the Hanworth Centre and at the local church.

Prior to joining the project, many of the children and young people were known to the Anti-Social Behaviour Action Group (ASBAG) and were on Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs). All of these young people have successfully completed their ABCs and have not come to notice since. As Project Manager, I have received a letter from the ASBAG group and also from the police commending the project on its achievements. School attendance has improved among the group.

Most importantly, it has been reported in local newspapers and at the Feltham West Forum that crime in the Hanworth area has been falling, while in other areas, like Bedfont and Feltham, crime is on the increase.

Case Study

M's attendance at school was very poor. She was hanging out with the wrong crowd and causing problems on the Estate. She lacked confidence and had low self-esteem. Through her participation in the Junior Youth Inclusion Project and her involvement in the activity sessions and discussion groups she has now started to enjoy school and is attending more frequently. She has linked into the Girls Group Dance sessions and she now attends this twice a week. She is also using the skills she has learnt to teach dance to the Junior Youth Club and has just begun to develop this within the Senior Youth Club.

CONNEXIONS

Sarah Jukes

At the end of August 2004, I replaced Jill Mapes as the Personal Adviser, based three days a week at the Hanworth Centre. I provide intensive support to 16–19 year olds in Hanworth and Feltham, who have been identified as having multiple issues which prevent them from engaging in education, employment or training. The majority have emotional and behavioural difficulties and I advise on many things including benefits, housing, career/education and relationships.

Over the past nine months, I have worked with over 40 young people. 15 have moved into education or training and no longer require support. Of the 20 currently on my caseload, seven are now attending a local E2E (Entry to Employment) course but they continue to need intensive support with other issues in their life. Five are young mums, or pregnant. All but four of my current caseload left school with no qualifications. I also have brief contact with many other young people whose issues can be dealt with more quickly.

The breakdown of my current caseload is as follows:

Age	Gender	Ethnicity
16 7	**Male** 12	**White British** 19
17 6	**Female** 8	**White Irish/Asian** 1
18 6		
19 1		

I work closely with many other organisations and receive referrals from the Hanworth Health Visiting Team, Youth Offending Team, Connexions Personal Advisers, Youth Workers, Travellers Team, Homeless Persons Unit, colleges and parents.

Recent exciting initiatives include the following:

- I invited a Youth Offending Team Officer to use the Hanworth Centre for weekly sessions with local young people on her caseload. This has led to an increased attendance rate as they no longer have to travel across the borough to Isleworth for their sessions. Some of these young people are also on my caseload.
- December 2004 saw the Hanworth Centre being used for a project run by the NEET Personal Advisers. Young people on our caseloads were invited for a day of cooking and art. It was a great success and more sessions are being planned.
- Over the summer 2005 I will be busy working with an additional 15 referrals of 16 year-olds who were Feltham Community College non-attenders. They are identified as the most disaffected and require intensive support to re-engage them with education, training or employment.

Case Study

J, a male aged 16, was referred to me by a local school. He was unemployed and had not been in education since the age of 14. He was known to the Youth Offending Team, but had never had contact with a Connexions PA and did not know such support existed until I made contact with him. He was especially pleased because I am based in his local area. After several meetings we agreed that an E2E course at the Feltham Skills Centre would be ideal for him as he would get to study motor vehicle mechanics, a trade he is keen to learn. He is now enjoying the course, much to his surprise, and is aiming to work as a mechanic when he completes his studies.

SERVICES FOR THE UNDER 8s

Liz Cooper

Caterpillar Playgroup

"It was fate that brought K to you". His mother had been struggling to manage her toddler for most of his two and a half years. She came to the playgroup desperate for help. Nothing she did seemed to get the sturdy little boy to communicate and she thought he was deaf. Marie, the playgroup leader, immediately took over. He was given one of the HAY funded free places for 3 days a week, Marie went on a course to learn Makaton, one of the most popular forms of sign language, spent concentrated time with him in the playgroup encouraging him to join in and started to teach him Makaton. During this period she arranged for the adviser for children with special needs to visit him at the playgroup to see if he would qualify for a bursary from the Early Years Child Care Partnership (EYDCP) on the grounds of his requiring one-to-one attention.

It turned out that K was not deaf but has severe language and communication problems and a number of learning difficulties. The EYDCP now funds his place at the playgroup for a specialist worker to give him the one-to-one help he needs. After 8 months at the playgroup he knows 15 Makaton signs and also answers the register with a 'yes'. With Marie's support his mother is learning new ways of communicating with him and he is a much happier child.

The Playgroup was registered by Ofsted in August 2004 for 26 places, which we can provide from September 2005 in the new Under 8s Wing. The Playgroup staff, Marie, June, Ying and Leanne have worked hard at providing a stimulating environment for the children.

We are very appreciative of the grant from the EYDCP to help towards the capital cost of the refurbishment and the start up costs of the playgroup. The professional help from Lena Engel and her staff helped us to reach the standard necessary to qualify for the National Education Grant for all 3 year olds. Another key person during the past year has been Wendy Williams, who has helped the staff to deal with the challenging behaviour of some of the children. HAY is anxious to continue to provide the playgroup five mornings a week so that local children can benefit from structured playing and learning during their vital early years.

AL-UMM GROUP FOR MOTHERS AND TODDLERS

Moslem mothers and their children come from different parts of Hounslow to this group which has been meeting regularly on Tuesday afternoons and is run by 3 volunteers: Bettina, Samia and Saskia. It gives the children the opportunity to do craft work, play with toys and to enjoy music and singing together. The Eid party was a great success with a bouncy castle and delicious food, which was shared with all the staff in the building.

BREAKFAST CLUB

June Jamieson

The breakfast club provides high quality, child-centred care and a healthy start to the day in a safe, caring and stimulating environment. Membership of the Breakfast Club is open to families with children attending Oriel school. The children are provided with a healthy breakfast and a variety of activities.

We have a walker who collects children from their homes to bring to the Club. Two of the children who attend were not getting to school in the mornings before they joined. We aim to ensure that the scheme reflects and meets the needs of the local community and incorporates equal opportunities in all areas of our work.

HEALTH VISITOR

Jenny Miln

Bringing up children is a demanding challenge and the Hanworth Health Visiting Team is able to provide sensible, practical and professional advice on a range of issues, whilst promoting a healthy lifestyle.
A new baby is a time for celebration, but it can also be a very stressful period. The Well Baby Clinic, held on Wednesday afternoons, serves to support not only these new babies but is also there to help the whole family. There were 320 babies born last year to Hanworth mums. Many more children moved into the area to live. Children are also seen by appointment on a Monday afternoon for health assessments and developmental checks.

The opening of the new under 8s wing of the Centre is an exciting development. The child friendly atmosphere can only enhance our work with the under 5s and we hope to expand our services and offer a post-natal group. We continue to promote the use of other groups in the Centre.

ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Pauline El-Grew

Widening Participation Co-ordinator

In 2004, Hounslow Community Education secured funding from the Hounslow Economic Development Group to expand its community learning programme in Hanworth to give local people the opportunity to gain new skills and learning experiences to improve their well-being, life skills, and job prospects.

The new project started in September 2004 and courses have operated from the Hanworth Centre and the local Library. These included: Introduction to Childcare, Classroom Assistant's Course, First Aid, Art & Craft, Make up & Manicure, 'Take Action'-skills for life & job preparation, a parenting course and a qualification Computer for Beginners course.

Working with Partners

Two of the courses have operated in partnership with Hounslow Homes.

A community 'Tree Decorating' and a 'Tree Planting' event were held on the Butts Farm Estate working in partnership with 'Groundwork' - a CIP partner, the event was supported by the Zenith Resident Association, Crane Park School and children from the JYIP.

The 'BAA Red Job Bus' working with the Careers Development Group came to visit Hanworth offering job opportunities in retail & catering, career development advice and ACE course information & advice.

Establishing Links within the Community

Links have been developed with local schools, playgroups, community health workers, resident associations, two local churches, and with others users of the Centre including Connexions, and JYIP.

Already one learner has been successful in winning an award for Adult Learner's Week. She has been exceptionally enthusiastic and joined most of the courses on offer. 88 people either attended a course, an event or were referred to other courses within the

area. The programme is expanding rapidly with further 15 classes arranged until July 2005.

On Friday mornings, a 'drop in' information & advice session operates. Further courses & events have been planned for the remain ing academic year to include: British Sign Language, Skin Care & Make up, Fitness, Food Hygiene Certificate, Complimentary Therapies & ESOL for beginners.

ADULT EDUCATION ICT PROJECT

Paul Goddard

Hanworth Computer Project provides ICT taster sessions. We run two, two-hour sessions daily. Learners are encouraged to make a commitment to attend at least one regular session per week. Tuesdays have been set aside for elderly learners who may be nervous or reserved about ICT. This has been done in conjunction with Age Concern. The pattern of the sessions uses the same formula as on other days, but with a slant on older people's issues. At present, at least 10 out of 12 workstations are occupied at every session. Learners range in age from 16 to 87.

These classes have been most successful. From September, in order to enable people to gain skills to help them back into work, we will be starting a new qualification course at the Hanworth Centre in conjunction with the Hounslow Careers Development Group.

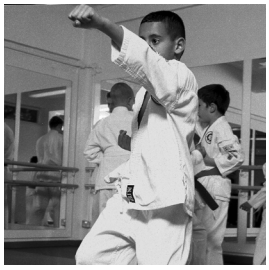
COMMUNITY GROUPS

In spite of the building works, a number of community groups have still been able to use the facilities:

Karate: Martial Arts classes for children and adults including Karate and Kick Boxing. Runs on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, 6.45-10.00pm.

Dance: Ballet, Tap and Modern dance classes for children, which run on Saturday mornings 9.00-1.00pm and Monday evenings 5.00-6.30pm. We also have a new Adult Tap Dancing class, which runs on Tuesday evenings 7.00-9.00pm for beginners and advanced.

Balkan Dance: Adult Folk Dance Group which run on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays each month, 8.30-10.30pm.



TREASURER

David Kaye

Summary Results for the years ended 31 March

(£000)	2005	2004
Income		
Building redevelopment	480	377
Revenue funding	291	195
Unrestricted	38	43
	809	615
Use of Cash		
Leasehold improvements	562	308
Staff and projects	204	179
Hanworth Centre	40	26
Equipment	2	2
Association	5	9
	813	524
Increase (Decrease) in Current Assets	(4)	91
Profit	497	368
Current Assets	346	350
Leasehold improvements	1,009	508
Retained Income	1,355	858
Unrestricted reserves	83	118

In future years, it is to be expected that both the income and cash balances will fall following completion of the redevelopment and most of the income and expenses will be related to running activities at the Centre.

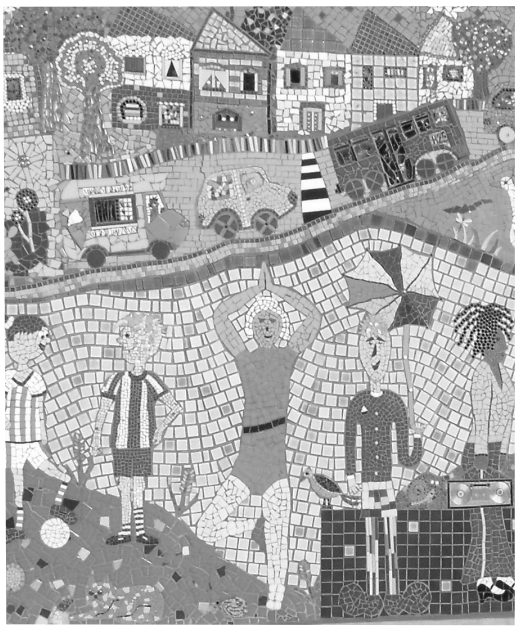
Building redevelopment

Overall, we have raised a total of £1,242,000 for the three phases of the building redevelopment.

- Phase A was completed in 2002. Cost: £217,000.
- Phase B was completed in 2004. Costs are expected to be within the £545,000 raised, although the final contract value is still to be agreed.
- Phase C, the new Under 8s wing, completed in May 2005. £480,000 has been raised for this phase, and an overrun of £30,000 is expected for changes in specification and additional equipment.

Reserve policy

Our policy is to maintain a reserve of £50,000 as a contingency against additional building costs for the new wing and potential loss of income at the Hanworth Centre during this period. The overrun for Phase C will be taken from this.



A BIG THANK YOU

Dozens of people and organisations have been involved in making our work possible at the Centre. Unfortunately we cannot thank everyone individually. We extend our warmest thanks to everyone who has helped us during the year. We would, however, like to mention the following major supporters:

Beatrice Laing Trust

Big Lottery Fund (previously Community Fund)

Bridge House Estates Trust Fund

Charles Dunstone, Children's Fund

City Parochial Foundation

Community Investment Fund

Connexions London West

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation , Golden Bottle Trust

London Borough of Hounslow, PAYP

The Henry Smith Charity, Anonymous trusts

We would also like to express our appreciation to the following organisations for their support and active input into the development of the Centre over the past year:

Community Initiative Partnership

Feltham Community College

Hounslow Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership

Hounslow Lifelong Learning, Leisure and Cultural Services

Hounslow Homes

Hounslow and Spelthorne NHS Trust

Hounslow Voluntary Sector Forum

Hounslow Youth Service

Oriel School, Skills Centre

Youth Offending Service

Particular thanks go to Liz Hassock, Alison Leake, Lena Engel, and Jenny Miln for all their encouragement and the huge amount of faith that they have shown in our work.

Thank you also to all the individuals who have supported HAY through their love of music, in particular Barry Jobling, Lisa Rijmer and Maya Sapone.

HOUNSLOW ACTION FOR YOUTH ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity No: 296372
Company Limited by Guarantee No: 2081759
Auditors: Stone Osmond Limited
Bank: Barclays Bank plc
Solicitors: Jones Day

Committee Members
David Kaye - Chairman and Treasurer
Carol Moore - Secretary
Louise Kaye - Development Director
Liz Cooper - Project Director
Richard Carr
Phil Doyle
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To make a donation to HAY or to enquire about possible ways in which you or your organisation can support our charity, please contact the Development Director by email at louisekaye@btinternet.com