

March 2011



The Big Society is Coming are you ready?

Hello everyone! This month we have a jam packed and exciting edition of the YvW newsletter for you, including Poetry, Art, Political Insight and Music reviews. And that's not all, it's a Big Society bonus edition, not sure yet what David Cameron and Nick Clegg are talking about when they mention the Big Society? And what it might mean to you? Well hold onto your hats and read on, during this month's edition.

In other news, there is a Multi-cultural five-a-side Football Tournament taking place on **Sunday 27th March**, open to all age groups and all ethnic backgrounds. Hosted at Pershore High Schools Astroturf from 11-3, this is a multi-cultural event, aimed at bringing all the different communities of the local area together, through the spirit of sport. Entry into this event is free for all submitted teams; there will be press shots taken, and a cup to be won! So please see the shout outs section, for more information on how to submit your own teams entry.

VUE Cinema Celebration Event

We will be holding a celebration event at VUE Cinema in Worcester at the end of March; A grand celebration for all the volunteer's who have participated throughout the YvW project, which has been running for over two years now. YvW will be hosting a wonderful Movie event to celebrate all the hard work and dedication shown by all our volunteers, and highlight some of the amazing volunteer projects and activities young people have set-up themselves, with the help of the Vinvolved project. It would be wonderful for you to come to Worcester on **Tuesday 22nd March**, so we can enjoy the celebration together.

Numbers are limited so if you are coming please let Laura know on laura@pershorevolunteers.org as soon as possible. We'll be issuing invites/tickets out very soon.

What is Your Favourite Movie? Poll

We want to include input and feedback from everyone for this event, so please send in your favourite movie recommendations, what film would you most like to see? Star Wars, Happy Gilmore, one of the fantastic Rocky Movies? Film entries no higher age rating than 16+ please.

Also In This Newsletter

YVW2

*Art, Reviews &
More.....*



*New Volunteer
Opportunities:
Transition Pershore*



Shout Outs

Chris: chris.wallett@gmail.com

MARCH AFTERWORD

by Christopher Wallett

The Latest News and Action on Current Youth Volunteering

Hello everyone, and thanks for reading this latest edition of the Youth volunteering Wychavon newsletter, every day has been a little bit brighter and getting a little bit warmer, which for me is amazing, for I cannot wait for the summer to arrive, with all its outdoor activities and music festivals to enjoy.

YvW has been out in full force over the last few months, trying to reach out for new members all over the Wychavon and wider area, this has included visits to Pershore High, The Riverside Youth Centre, Little Comberton, Evesham and Worcester Tech College, The aim of YvW is to encourage as many young people to start thinking about, and going on to setup their own volunteering activities and projects, it encourages personnel independence, gain's invaluable experiences, and can help young people realise their full potential, knowing that they can have the ability to have a genuine positive impact on the world around them.

Stop the Youth Quake, Is Youth Action networks campaign to highlight the current cuts to Youth Volunteering funding throughout England, The campaign was set-out to cover the ever changing circumstances of Youth funding is now facing and to also highlight within the campaign, the importance of Young people contributing to society when they volunteer for things. It's named Youth quake, aimed to rescue *youth action* from disaster! They are asking Yong people for their own experiences so far of volunteering, and what they feel they have gained from doing so, entries can be submitted on the official campaigns website, and you can sign up for the official campaign at www.stoptheyouthquake.org.uk.

Pershore High School Christmas Gifts give-away

We mentioned during the last edition of the newsletter, the work being carried out by the YvW team based from Pershore High school, and their recent fundraising activities to raise funds to donate Christmas gifts to The Children's Ward of the Worcester Royal Hospital. Well, we are happy to report that the fundraising activities were a great success, with the team managing to raise enough, and gain enough donations to fill a huge Christmas themed sack of gifts, suitable for both girls and boys, all being expertly wrapped up too. The nurses on call on the day were very grateful for all the hard work the group had obviously put into making this happen, saying the children would be very happy to receive these un-expected surprise gifts during their stay on the ward over the Christmas period. Please see the photo section for some pictures of the handover moment, by the Pershore High School YvW group, and well done team!

YvW held a celebration event on Friday the 21st of January, hosted at the Blue Lagoon restaurant in Evesham, the meal was wonderful and the company even better, it was brilliant to see everyone together and enjoying the evening over a wonderful and sometimes very hot curry! Thanks to every YvW member who could attend this event. We always want to hear your feedback, and ideas fro future celebrations, so please contact a member of the YvW team with your suggestions; you can also keep informed of all the upcoming celebration events by reading the YvW newsletter or keeping up-to-date with our latest facebook and twitter notifications, We really want you to take part, and be as involved as possible!

YvW



Multi-cultural Football Tournament

The logo for the Multi-cultural Football Tournament features a central black and white soccer ball. Surrounding the ball is a circular arrangement of colorful human figures in various poses, representing different cultures and ethnicities. The text "Multi-cultural Football Tournament" is written in a large, bold, black font, curving around the top and sides of the central graphic.

Sunday 27th March 2011

11am K.O

A new five-a-side football tournament is being hosted by Youth Volunteering Wychavon with support from the Mira Project

The aim is to bring more communities within the local area together, through the spirit of sport. The event will be hosted at Pershore High School Sports AstroTurf's, Station Road, Pershore. It will take place on Sunday the 27th of March from 11am to 3pm. We are seeking team entries from all ethnic and cultural groups.

The winning team will receive **A Trophy Cup** and press shots of the event will be taken.

We are also looking for **VOLUNTEERS** to help support the event in a number of different capacities.

For more information on volunteering or to register your five-a-side team please contact Laura Synnuck at laura@pershorevolunteers.org or call **01386 554299**

February in Pictures...

Photography by contributing Members



Pete: pg.bryant@yahoo.com

Rhys: shadow_blade@hotmail.co.uk

Chris: chris.wallett@gmail.com

The YvW Facebook and Twitter pages

We are always updating and posting the latest information and events, to both our facebook and Twitter pages, so please sign-up and keep up to date!

Facebook: Youth Volunteering Wychavon



Or

Twitter: twitter.com/YVWychavon



A Word from Chris....

(The Newest Member to the YvW Team)

Well, what a last couple of months this has been, I've certainly learnt a lot, and hope to keep on learning through the coming months, and hopefully some way into the rest of my life haha... What I have really enjoyed the most, has been going out and visiting the different places colleges and Youth clubs around the local area, trying to drum up support for the Number 8 Young Persons Film Club, which is hosting some free training sessions for Film projector and Theatre management, The training sessions will be available for anyone who would like to participate within the 16-25 age group, and would like to add something special to their C.V, and gain some worthwhile experience while being part of the Number 8 Community Arts Theatre. If you have an interest in Local Theatre management or Cinema and Film booking, please just send me a message, and let me know at (christopherw@pershorevolunteers.org) and I'd be happy to provide more information to you, and keep you informed of the next training's session date.

I enjoyed the experience of planning out, and then going on to try my hardest to promote this event, because it was clear with every talk and sit down with young people I made, they each had their own and often unique, personal requirements or wants of what they would most like to take away from the experience themselves. Be it the theatre management training session's, or running of the Young Persons Movie Club committee at Number 8 which the training was their to support, It was interesting to find out their own needs, how the project would benefit them, and what I could then do, to best help them achieve this.

Important Changes at YvW

Unfortunately, it is with great regret to announce that the Youth volunteering Wychavon project and almost the entire Vinolved national scheme has had its funding suspended, operations drastically reduced, and is basically being closed down over the next few months on a local level. However the national website will still be running, So please check it out at (www.vinspired.com) for a great source of information and direction to Youth Volunteering opportunities nationally.

We will work hard to continue to support all of our youth volunteers, right up to the projects completion at the end of March, and there will always be helpful staff members still present from the Pershore Volunteer Centre, capable and always keen to listen and help out with your volunteer activities Youth or otherwise. Any questions on the matter, please don't hesitate to contact Laura at Laura@pershorevolunteers.org or call 01386 554299, she will be happy to have a talk with you about the projects eventual closure, and how these changes may effect you.



New Volunteer Opportunities

Do something heroic, brave, admirable, magnificent – VOLUNTEER TODAY!



LCYC – Little Comberton Youth Club

The Little Comberton Youth Club is seeking new Volunteers to attend and manage a village, self-run youth club along with other members.

We are seeking enthusiastic and fun volunteers. The club is hosted on a bi-weekly basis, from 6-8 at the Little Comberton Village hall. This is a great opportunity to gain some great experience working with youth work, participating in a club, and having a lot of fun at the same time. A CRB check will be required but provided for.

For further details, please contact Katie at (lcyouthclub1@aol.co.uk)



Website Skills Guru

The Pershore Volunteer Centre is looking for a skilful Volunteer who could help update, expand and develop its own website to make it look even better, freshen it up by including much more recent and relevant information and hopefully add some more pictures of the Centre's activities.

Some basic html skills will be required and/or relevant experience working on a website beforehand, but this is a perfect opportunity to add to a budding website developer's CV and really help out a local charity. Full support for this project will be offered by the friendly staff at the Pershore Volunteer Centre.



Multi-Cultural Football Tournament

There will be a new five-a-side football tournament taking place on Sunday the 27th of March, with the aim to bring communities within the local area together, through the spirit of the beautiful sport. The event is hosted at the Pershore High School AstroTurf, and is open to anyone from the age of 16 and upwards.

We are requesting your own team entries before this date, so if you feel you have what it takes to win this Cup, please contact us at the Pershore Volunteer Centre for a registration form. Kick-off will take place from 11am until 3pm.

For more information on these projects please contact YVW's Youth Project leader, Laura Synnuck, at

laura@pershorevolunteers.org or **07895843751**.

The Big Society – a new direction for third sector support

By Chris Wallett

So what is The Big Society?

It's a massive new swing of Ideology by the new coalition government, fundamentally the aims for the Big Society are for the big Government to be dismantled and a new Big Society built in its place, Instead of having orders and grants directed from central Whitehall, There will be a big change to people more directly involved and participating within their local communities through their own initiative, helping to decide and run the services they use, both sometimes in a voluntary capacity, but also talking on previous government contracts for public services, seeing what a local community or enterprise can do with it, instead of having such a top-down direction of power within the public and third sectors.



The Big Society Bank

The Big Society Bank, is to be launched over the next coming months, with an initial fund of over £200 million to invest for its first year, it is aimed to provide the much needed cash to help social ventures get going, develop and scale up, in order to help fulfil David Cameron's Big Society vision. Social ventures are businesses – often, but not always, non-profit distributing – whose core mission is producing a social benefit. Among its goals, the bank is intended to help staff leave the public service and sell their services back through social enterprises. The size of the Social Enterprise can be from very large, in the case of the John Lewis partnership, which operates a department store run and owned by its own employees, or an example of a smaller social enterprise would be The Bike Shed, which is a bike repair workshop initiative, providing young people training and developing skills, fixing and repairing bikes to be re-sold or leased out again.

Futurebuilders is another new option setup in 2010 available for Social Enterprises requiring some extra investment, It is available to all third sector organisations in England delivering or planning to deliver public service contacts and are unable to secure investment from commercial lenders.

So what does this all mean to you?

Well, do you have an idea for a new social cause or enterprise? and the entrepreneurial nature to make it happen, with change comes great opportunity in business, so maybe its time to innovate original ideas and create something new, starting your own social enterprise could soon become a real option for you to be considering, Is there a government service that you feel could be run better, or a social need that is important but not being fully addressed? Further information about Social Enterprise's can be found at (www.socialenterpriselive.com).

The Girl in the moon

The Girl in the moon is alone with stars and
spaceships

And angels fall like shooting stars

Planets spin like metronomes

Whilst ice diamonds

In the vast space

Between places

Crystallises

And forms as an idea

Sharp, clear

And brittle

Light bulbs of the cosmos

Wink and burn out

Or spark and glow

But all I care for

All I want to know

Is to sit beside

The girl in the moon

Alone with the stars

And spaceships

And slip her hand through mine

And tell her

Her wait is over

My heart

For her own

And to sit and watch the stars

Grow old

Until the light of the Universe dims

Until my hand

Can hold no more

But my heart never

Let's go

By Guy Rhys Evans



Phoenix on floating clouds

I float amongst

The clouds

And the ideals

That become

Dreams

I know the worst

And hope for better

A Phoenix to rise

From ashes

Left too long

Unstirred

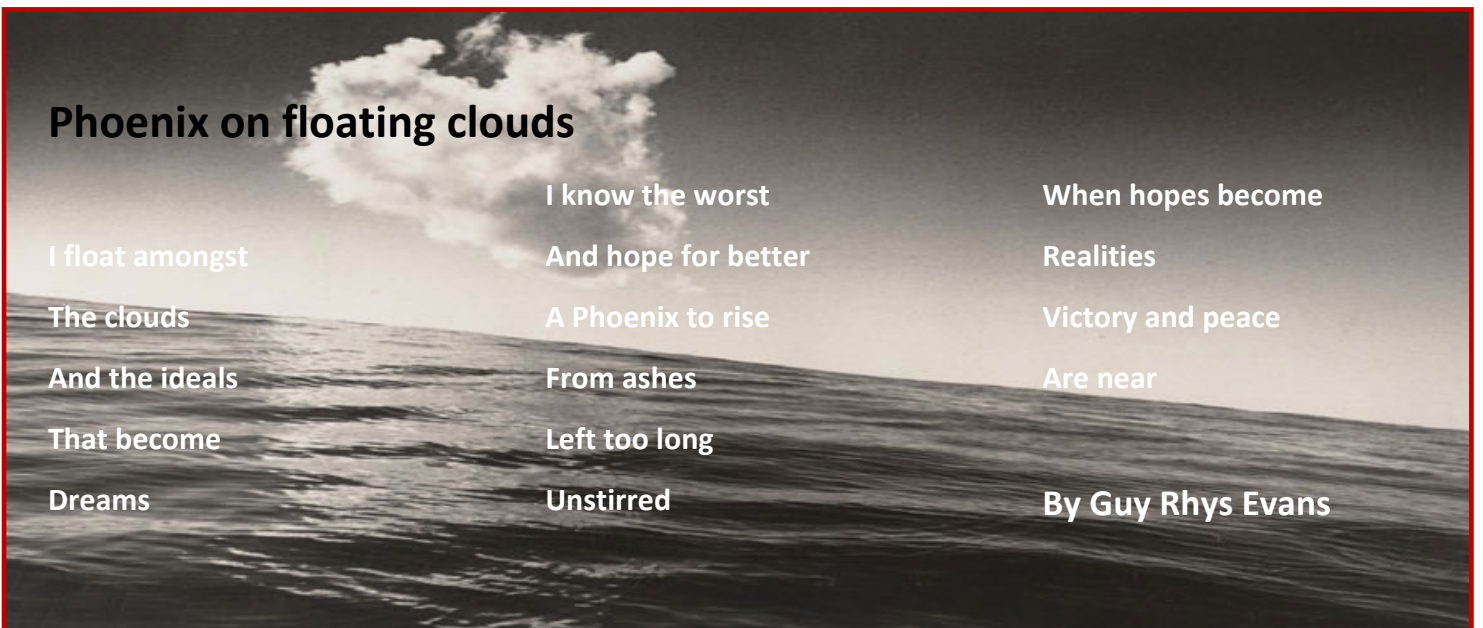
When hopes become

Realities

Victory and peace

Are near

By Guy Rhys Evans



During the Aftermath of Wikileaks

By Mathew Kizzely

From the start of the furore surrounding the Wikileaks revelations, its founder and spokesman, Julian Assange, has placed himself at the centre of the controversy. Leading up to the second round of classified disclosures on 28th November of last year, dubbed 'the single biggest intelligence leak in history', he gave several well-promoted interviews to high profile news outlets; each included extensive biographies of the mysterious former hacker, now styled as 'a journalist and internet activist'.

Particularly noted was Assange's involvement in the dealings between Wikileaks and the multi-national collection of newspapers, represented in the UK by *The Guardian*, which he personally selected to distribute the contentiously acquired information uploaded to his website. The negotiations were described as having 'moments of difficulty and tension', and that Assange exploited the situation as a personal circus; 'as if a Stieg Larsson script had been passed to the writer of *Downton Abbey*, Julian Fellowes'.

The latest twist in this ongoing saga is the recent overruling of Mr Assange's appeal against extradition to Stockholm, where he faces charges of sexual misconduct, that were levelled against him by two Swedish women back in December. Throughout this distracting drama, he has firmly denied any wrongdoing; believing that he was being made 'a scapegoat of', over the sensitive material his website had released. If, as his lawyers think likely, Assange is extradited and tried in Sweden for these possibly spurious accusations; will he then be forced to board another flight for the U.S. and be tried for the weightier offence of releasing classified documents and possibly treason as well.

However, what these prolonged allegations have achieved is to distract the attention of the public (and to some extent the media) from the profound implications that have resulted from Wikileaks' display of the internet's power. It suggests that simply because Assange is silenced, it does not mean that the company he founded will be: As soon as wikileaks.org was temporarily shut down a multitude of 'mirror' websites emerged to host the leaked data in its place; similarly, when Amazon, Paypal and Mastercard, due to suspected pressure by the U.S.

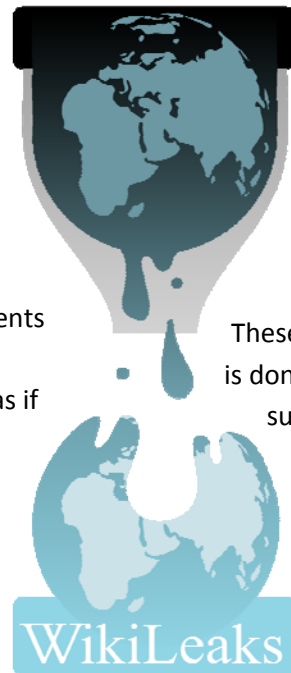
government, ceased to act as proxies for donations to the website, a legion of self-styled 'hactivists' bombarded each of the companies' websites in the hope of briefly shutting them down.

These instances have proved that whatever damage is done to the great Hydra that is Wikileaks, substitutes will undoubtedly spring up in its stead, and continue its work of redefining the level of state-control over information. Furthermore, in unofficial coordination with social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook, who proved their relative importance in keeping the public connected

during the recent rebellions across the Middle East, Wikileaks is forcing governments to readdress the problem of keeping their citizens subject.

The crucial thing to take from this constant update of Mr Assange's pains is not the troubles of a 'martyr who hasn't been killed' but the changing face of diplomatic relationships and the commotion's implications for the manner that governments should interact with their people.

www.wikileaks.ch



Shout Outs

Take a look at this month's news, reminders and things to do in your area!



National Citizen Service (NCS) is a newly launched scheme to build a bigger, stronger society for young people. NCS includes fun and challenging activities like canoeing or abseiling and will also give you the opportunity to help others and give something back to your community through a project that you and your team-mates will create. By taking part in NCS you'll learn new skills that will make your future brighter and show that young people make a positive impact in their community.

NCS is aimed at those just finishing High School, click onto the official Facebook page @ NCS, for more details on how to take part nationally.

Or visit

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/YoungPeople/Workandcareers/Workexperienceandvolunteering/NationalCitizenService/index.htm>
to find a scheme local to you.

Youth Quake is the new campaign set up by the Youth Action Network, The aim of which is to draw attention to the upcoming budget cuts afflicting the youth work sector nationally, and to offer information about how to campaign against these changes, be it through Re-tweets to get the word out, Signing up to the website, or sending a letter to your local MP.

More information can be found at www.stoptheyouthquake.org.uk or give them a call and say how you're being affected by the cuts to the Youth Budget (0121 236 2912).



Zingh.co.uk is calling for Artists! Are you a budding artist or creative writer? Zingh.co.uk is there to help, and is always looking to promote local artists work, get it online and out there as much as possible, they want submissions of photography, written articles, and pictures of your own art work to show the world, so please log-on, check it out and upload your work to the website soon.

www.Zingh.co.uk

“Volunteering can be an exciting, growing, enjoyable experience. It is truly gratifying to serve a cause, practice one's ideals, work with people, solve problems, see benefits, and know one had a hand in them.

~ Harriet Naylor