

Big Draw 2011*drawing water*

Bring your granny, brother, neighbours, friends, mum, dad and teacher and join us at York House Centre for another glorious imagination-busting day of drawing, decorating, making, stories, and loads of FUN, FUN, FUN!

Saturday 8 October

10am to 4pm FREE for all

Join professional artist and illustrator Jonny Boatfield to help create the history of the world on the sea bed and transform York House into an underwater world. There will be moving sea lighting for a sub-aqua feel and your artistic creations will be hung from the ceiling to give a sensual as well as a visual dimension. Music will also play an important part to stimulate the senses and add to the underwater atmosphere.

Refreshments available throughout the day.

The Town Council and Milton Keynes Community Foundation have helped to fund this event plus generous donations from City Print, Karen Parker Photography, Kate Davies Graphic Design and MK Signs.

Hayes Mews

We have now submitted our formal bid to the council for the money for community facilities. They have confirmed that York House was the project in mind when the legal agreement was drafted. But we wait to see if we get this money to carry out the improvements to the back of our building. We hope to have news at the AGM. The plans are available in the office.

We are also talking to them about the details of the woodland area between York House and Hayes Mews: paths, fences, trees

AGM2011**7.30pm Thursday 15 September**

All members welcome. Any member can stand for election as a trustee and we need volunteers. Please contact us at the address below to find out more.



6th Cock & Bull real beer festival
Friday 2 and Saturday 3 September
noon to 11pm both days
York House Centre

The 5th Beer Festival in February showed that 20 beers and 4 ciders were just not enough for the connoisseurs of Stony Stratford, so we may have to get a few more in for number 6!

Stroll along and enjoy some (fairly) local real beers – Bradwell, Olney, Whittlebury, Northampton and a few from a longer hop away. AND, once again, we have a cider from Wolverton!

Youth Clubs

Two clubs now run at York House: Shirt Design and Tie-dye; juniors on Monday nights; seniors on Wednesday nights. Both have submitted end of year reports to the town council who generously fund them. The complete reports are available from the address below but in summary...

One of the juniors's highlight was their world war two re-enactment, including: with air raids, 1940's cooking, ration cards and an escape from prison camp! They have had theme evenings with: football, water and wheels. Their Christmas party had kids cooking mince pies and parents singing carols. The club tries to offer something arty, something sporty and something quiet.

The seniors have also has a successful year and future plans include: Trip to MKGallery for a private view; after invite from artist Emma Wilde; Cycle Maintenance and Bike Ride; T-

If you want to know more; want to be involved as a volunteer or a member then please contact Nic (Juniors) or Tim (Seniors) at the address below.



London Road Stony Stratford Milton Keynes MK11 1JQ
 01908 563361

www.york-house.org.uk
admin@york-house-centre.co.uk

Lanterns 2011

Well, here we go again! It's time to get creative and make your lantern ready for the Lantern Procession at Stony Stratford's Switch-On Fun Day on

**Saturday
26 November**

If you've been watching the procession for years but have never taken part then maybe this is the year for you to join in? Join us at the York House lantern making sessions in November:

Saturday 12th Sunday 13th

Saturday 19th Sunday 20th

10am to 4pm with a cafe throughout for snacks, drinks and light lunches.

Anyone can make a lantern (although young children will need help) - this project is for the **WHOLE COMMUNITY** and all ages and abilities are welcome. Construct your frame from willow withies and masking tape and cover it in colourful tissue paper and PVA glue - the design is limited only by your imagination. The lanterns are lit from within with candles and make a wonderful spectacle as they are paraded through the streets of Stony Stratford ready for the switching on of the Christmas lights. Magical!

The theme for this year is

Cartoon Christmas

The number of lanterns is limited to 270 - we can't fit any more in. £4 per lantern. Please contact us at the address below for more details. And thanks to the Town Council, Business Association and Milton Keynes Community Foundation who have all helped to fund this project
http://www.york-house.org.uk/yhc/Lantern_Project.html

Projector

And a big thank you to Santander whose donation paid for our new multi media projector

What a difference a day makes



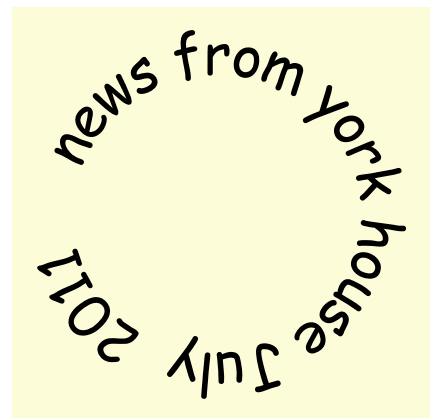
On 22 June, York House Centre welcomed a team of 20 willing volunteers from AXA ICAS for their regional 'Hearts in Action' volunteer day - some of the volunteers travelled from as far away as Eastbourne! They were joined by volunteers from XPS Help Line who brought their gardening equipment and together they tamed the jungle that was the rear grounds of York House. The brambles, thistles and weeds were strimmed and cleared, piles of rubble were removed into skips and the grass was cut - the finished result was amazing! York House Trustees and Staff would like to extend their very grateful thanks to everyone who took part.

This much needed assistance came just in time for Stony Open Gardens which this year included the York House Community Gardens Project for the first time. The sun shone and over 220 people visited the allotment-style

plots which are being developed by a whole host of local community groups including Milton Keynes Mind, Stony Stratford Women's Institute, York House Youth Clubs, MK Home Educators, Headway and Stony in Bloom. The project was made possible by a grant from the Ecominds Lottery Scheme and, despite work on the plots only starting in April, there was lots to see - loads of vegetables growing and even a couple of interesting scarecrows!

We will shortly be welcoming the regional and national Britain in Bloom judges to view the project as part of Stony in Bloom and we have also joined the Royal Horticultural Society's 'It's Your Neighbourhood' scheme for community gardening.

Photos by Sue Palmer and Nina Buchanan.



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