

# YORK PLAYSPLACE GROUP

Room 1, Danesmead Centre, 33 Fulford Cross

York, YO10 4PB

Tel. 01904 627285

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 505921

[www.yorkplayspace.org.uk](http://www.yorkplayspace.org.uk)

## Board of Trustees

As at October 2011

Chair	Martin Cross
Vice Chair and Secretary	Fiona Pickering
Treasurer	Emilie Murphy
Elected Members	Lisa Nelson
Co-opted Members	Chloe Jepps Hannah Morrow Meesha Warmington

## Election of Board of Trustees (Extract from Constitution)

- (a) Playspace is managed by a Committee of Management
- (b) The Committee shall consist of
  - i. Four officers; chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary and treasurer.
  - ii. Up to six elected members
  - iii. Up to five co-opted members as specified in paragraph (g)
- (c) Officers and elected members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).  
Co-opted members shall be co-opted at the AGM, or subsequently by the elected Committee.

## Employees

Playspace Manager	Alison Shepherd
Chill Out Zone Manager	Alex Leahy
Volunteer Co-ordinator	Vacancy (awaiting funding)
Administrator	Kim Hill
Capacity/Project Co-ordinator	Anne Parkinson
Training & Development Co-ordinator	Alison Brophy
Chill Out Zone Senior Workers	Daniel Leahy Caroline Higginbottom
Chill Out Zone Play Workers	Melissa Theobald Jenny Hartley Mathew Shepherd Vacancy

## Independent Examiners

Broderick's  
1 Heslington Court  
Heslington  
YO10 5EX

## Bankers

Unity Trust Bank PLC  
Birmingham

Skipton Building Society  
York

Northern Rock PLC  
York

## Aims of York Playspace

Our aims are to provide and promote quality play opportunities for Children and Young People aged 0 – 18 years in and around York. Our constitution allows us to:-

- Provide Children's play facilities
- Encourage and support other Children's groups
- Work together in Partnership with other like-minded groups
- Promote awareness of the importance of Play
- Seek to increase the funding devoted to Children's play
- Provide and encourage the sharing of resources and equipment for Play
- Provide and promote training for Playworkers
- Support and promote networks in the field of Play
- Affiliate to organisations with similar aims and objectives

This Annual Report sets out to show how we have met these aims and objectives during the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

Our programme included: -

- Holiday Playschemes, both centre-based and mobile
- Provision of Chill Out Zones
- Promotion of Playwork training
- Support and joint action with other local Play projects
- Active support of regional, national and international play organisations
- Development and promotion of Playwork volunteering.



## **Welcome to the York Playspace 2010/2011 Annual Report**

### **Message from the Chair – Martin Cross**

This has been another very busy and productive year for Playspace. We have sadly had to say goodbye to some people but we have also had the pleasure of welcoming lots of new talent to the organisation. It has been a year of expansion and rising to the challenges posed by an increasingly difficult financial environment.

In summer 2010 our chair Sumit Krishnan unfortunately had to return to India at short notice. I stepped into the breach and was pleased to take up the position of chair with Fiona as secretary and Emilie as treasurer on her very welcome return to York in October. We also lost Julie to devote herself to her council duties. I'd like to thank Julie for all her work for Playspace over the years. Sheray also joined in 2010 and with the continued support of Lisa has helped develop the work of the board. I'm pleased that the trustees have been able to re-establish our regular visits to the Chill Out Zones, which is an important part of the board keeping informed about the work of Playspace. I'd like to thank the trustees for their support in this.

The Senior Management team with Alison's continued dynamic leadership has seen several important developments.

Mary joined the team in April and continued her excellent work as Volunteer Co-ordinator increasing the pool of volunteers, offering support and training. This was made possible by monies from the North Yorkshire Learning Consortium, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and latterly, because of the immense value of Mary's work, money from our own resources.

In May 2010 we were also one of the successful organisations to receive Youth Volunteering funding from the Government via City of York Council. Sadly this money was withdrawn almost as soon as we received it due to a change of Government.

At the end of 2010 we took the decision to split the Play Development Officer role to create the positions of Chill Out Zone Manager and Project Co-ordinator.

Alex became the Zone Manager in January 2011 and was able to start to devote herself solely to the Chill Out Zones.

Alex was sorry to say goodbye to her work as project co-ordinator as summer 2010 was another very successful season. The Ryedale Rangers was very well attended and it was the final year of Ryedale Summer Fun. The ward committees were able to fund two teams of Mobiles and together with a further team funded by the City of York Council "Shine" fund children aged 5 – 13 years benefited from over 150 two hour play

sessions visiting over 40 different open spaces. I'd like to thank Alex for all her work over the years in making the summer schemes such a success.

January 2011 also saw the arrival of Anne as our new Capacity Builder/Project Co-ordinator. Anne is spreading the word about Playspace and in a short space of time has already secured several new play projects in the City including eight weekly sessions at Ralph Butterfield's school delivering ICT sessions using ICT as a play tool and Easter Playschemes in Haxby and Wiggington and Chapelfields.

The Senior Management team has also welcomed Kim as Administrator in that vital role to keep the office functioning. The work in the office was also assisted by volunteer Gordana and we would particularly like to thank her for her help with funding applications. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Sean, our website support and developer. Sean is the silent, rarely seen volunteer member of the team who looks after our ever developing website. If you have not already seen our website then take a look at [www.yorkplayspace.org.uk](http://www.yorkplayspace.org.uk) . The news page is regularly updated with interesting snippets.

The Playworkers continued their good work and we'd particularly like to celebrate Graham, Daniel and Charlie's achievement in gaining their Level 3 NVQ's. Well done!

Another good thing about the year that I'd like to mention is having Kaylie, a social work student on placement. Kaylie was a great help in the Chill Out Zones and in the office. This social work placement is something we will be able to continue offering in the future.

During the year we had many other achievements including the Play Builder opening events in several open spaces in York. We did the mosaic at Moor Lane and there was bag packing at Tesco's to raise funds for a bowling trip by Moor Lane Chill Out. Thanks to several grant making trusts and funders in York, the office got new computers and we were Fenwick's charity of the year (many thanks to Fenwick's). Once again we held the "design our Christmas card competition" and a young person at Tang Hall won. The design was used for our organisational card and was distributed to our funders, members and supporters. Despite the artic conditions we just about managed to hold our AGM in November. Workers, volunteers and trustees finished off 2010 with an enjoyable and fun Christmas meal.

As you can see it has truly been a very active year for Playspace and I'd like to thank everybody for their hard work and dedication, which is helping to put the organisation in a good position to meet future challenges.

Martin Cross - Chair of Trustees    October 2011

## York Playspace Members

Membership of York Playspace can either be as

- a) **Group Membership** – Any Children’s Group can be a member of York Playspace.

Group Members have the right to

- i) vote at AGM
- ii) nominate individuals to sit on the Voluntary Management Committee

- b) **Individual Members** – Any individual who has an interest in the rights of Children to Play.

Individual Members have the right to

- i) vote at AGM
- ii) nominate individuals to sit on the Voluntary Management Committee
- iii) be nominated to sit on the Voluntary Management Committee

It was agreed at the 2010 Annual General Meeting that membership fees, which were previously at a nominal rate of £1.00, would be reduced to Nil. Membership forms were to be sent out in January 2011 along with information that donations can be made if desired with Gift Aid. We received many individual donations from members when membership renewals were sent out. Many thanks for your support.

### **York Playspace values its members and welcomes new members both from Children Groups and individuals.**

#### **York Playspace members as at 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011.**

- Martin Cross
- Chloe Jepps
- Emilie Murphy
- Hannah Morrow
- Fiona Pickering
- Lisa Nelson
- Meesha Warmington
- Sheray Warmington
- Sarah Barker
- Gaye Chambers
- Jon Cooper
- Susan Peters Corbett
- Rebecca Guest
- Jessica Foulds
- Mark Gladwin
- Liz Hempshall
- Paul Smith
- Colin Stroud
- Gordana Trefzer
- Orchard Park Pre-School
- York Carers Centre
- Bell Farm Social Hall

## **Placements and Volunteers**

In April 2010 we were successfully awarded European Funding through the North Yorkshire Learning Consortium (NYLC) in the form of a Community Grant. We used this money to support, train and develop over 20 volunteers in play over a six month period. The volunteers supported our work in the at our Chill Out Zones and summer projects. After the six months we were granted money for volunteers from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation managed by York CVS to continue this project. We continued to offer support and training to additional volunteers.

In April 2010 we were also awarded Government funding through City of York Council to support Youth Volunteers aged 14-16 years. Unfortunately due to a change in Government in May this funding was withdrawn in September. Any previous commitments that we had made up to that date would still be funded. We had made a commitment to support four young people with volunteering opportunities at our Chill Out Zone at Moor Lane and also to purchase a laptop to support the project. All these costs were met.

We are very grateful to those who volunteered their help during the year. This support came in many forms: on the Playschemes, both center-based and mobile, at the Chill Out Zones, helping to support funding applications, website development and the running of the office. Everyone who volunteered has contributed to the success of York Playspace.

During the year Playspace also took part in the Government's Future Jobs initiative, which funds organisations to be able to offer a long term unemployed person a short term placement within the organisation to build confidence and learn new skills to be able to enter employment. Playspace benefited from having Dan join our team both in the office and at the Chill Out Zones early in the year. Dan left Playspace to take up a full time job.

From January to May 2011 we benefited from the support of a social work placement student named Kaylie. Kaylie was a great asset to both the office and to the Chill Out Zones. We also received funding to support Kaylie.

We actively encourage Youth Volunteers at all our provisions and particularly at the Chill Out Zones. Those Young People, who are over 13 years old and no longer eligible to attend the Zones, where appropriate, are encouraged to stay at the Zones and work as Youth Volunteers. Their contribution to the Zones is very beneficial to both the Zones and the Young People.

We are also very appreciative of the work of the Voluntary Management Committee (Trustees) without whose dedication and attendance at meetings, we would be unable to operate as a Charity.

## **Affiliation**

During the year Playspace has been a member of the following organisations: -

- North Yorkshire Forum for Voluntary Organisations
- Play England
- City of York Council – APEL
- York CVS

## **Organisational Development Work including Staff Training**

We continued to draw on the experiences learnt over the year and developed our practices and procedures. We continually review our policies against current legislation.

We continued to invest in the people of the organisation, which are our greatest asset and largest resource, through training. We have invested time and money in both external and internal training, staff supervisions and appraisals. Three of our Playworkers achieved NVQ level 3 in Playwork during the year.

As part of the Governments initiative to support the unemployed, we received “Future Jobs” funding to support a candidate to gain experience both in the office and doing admin to support the Chill Out Zones.

During 2010 we have been able to attract funding for a Volunteer Co-ordinator who has supported over 20 Adult volunteers in play and 5 Youth Volunteers.

Throughout the year we have built up relationships with the Youth Inclusion Team (YISP) and Network II and had many referrals to the Zones as a result of our partnership working.

With the help and support of a Volunteer we have been able to develop our website [www.yorkplayspace.org.uk](http://www.yorkplayspace.org.uk) which now includes a donation page. This has been an invaluable resource especially when we have been doing recruitment and advertising our summer work. We will continue to develop this valuable asset. We believe that by having staff and volunteers appropriately trained in their areas of expertise, we are providing our service users,

whether they are Adults requesting advice about Children's Play facilities or Children and Young People using Playschemes and Chill Out Zones, with a quality service.

Chill Out Zone Playworkers are supported in gaining either level 2 or 3 qualifications in Playwork, Paediatric First Aid, Child Protection Awareness, Behaviour Management and any other play related course where appropriate.

Prior to the summer Playschemes the seasonal Playworkers attended a 2 day Level 1 in Playwork course and 2 day Paediatric First Aid or emergency first aid. All our Playwork staff also completed the Basic Child Protection Course.

As part of our commitment to quality of people and the service we provide, staff and volunteers are encouraged to undertake appropriate training throughout their employment. The appropriate checks such as references and Criminal Record Bureau Checks are made initially on joining the organisation.

## **Fundraising**

We are very grateful to the following Grant Making Bodies and individuals for the financial support they have given us during the year: -

- City of York Council, including
  - The Better Play Grant
  - Ward Committee Fund
- North Yorkshire Learning Consortium
- Joseph Rowntree Foundation via York CVS
- Fenwick – Charity of the Year
- Feoffees
- Arlish and Chambers

We also have 2 of Charity boxes in a local newsagent and also in a local shop in York which individuals can place change in. Over the year we have received over £185 from this source of income.

We have also received almost £400 from individual donations.

We would like to thank all those who have supported us financially over the last year.



## Playschemes

During the year we facilitated the following Playschemes:-

- City of York – Mobile Playschemes – Summer only
- Ryedale Rangers – Summer only
- Ryedale Summer Fun – Venue base – Summer only
- City of York – Play Builder open space opening events

### Mobile Playschemes



**A mobile playscheme** team consists of 3 Playworkers, who travel to different rural villages and a few inner-city sites, in a van full of sports equipment, arts and crafts and play equipment. They have a large tent which provides shelter from either the sun or the rain. The Playworkers often endure high winds, torrential rain, and if they are lucky lovely hot sunny days. Regardless of the weather they still pitch their tent and interact with the Children that attend.

Each session is for two hours and we run two sessions per day; the morning session is from 10.30am – 12.30pm and the afternoon session is from 1.30 – 3.30pm. Each session is aimed at children aged 5 years to 13 years. However as the sessions are held in open public spaces, we do not exclude any children or young people from the sessions, even if they are younger or older than the target age range. Parents/carers are also welcome and are expected to stay where children are under 5 years old.

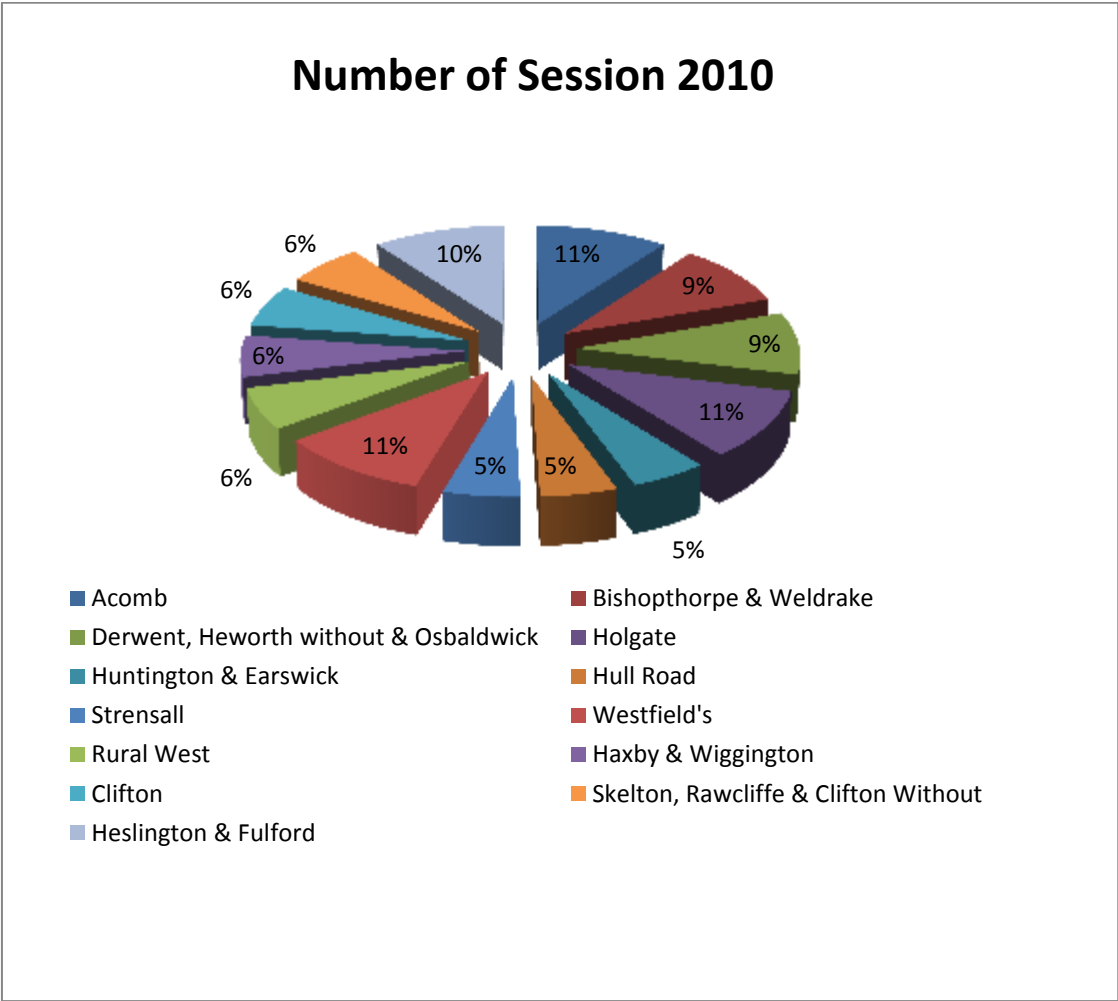
During each session we provide the children and young people with supervised activities, including many arts, crafts and sports activities. The Children and Young are also given a drink of juice and a biscuit, and this is all for FREE.

This year the mobile Playschemes have been funded through two different funding streams. The City of York Council's Play Grant funded one mobile Playschemes over a five week period and City of York Council Ward Committee's funded an additional two mobile Playschemes over a five week period.

**Ward Funded Mobiles**

Each year residents within the wards vote on how they would like to see the allocation of Ward Money spent within their ward. Playspace were asked to put applications in to the wards to run playschemes in their area. The residents vote on all the applications that have been submitted to decide what they want their ward money spent on and by how much. We were invited to the ward meetings to demonstrate what we do by showing them reports, photographs and scrap books from year before on what activities the children did as well as talking to them about what we do.

This year we were granted funds from 13 wards to run a total of 97 x two hour sessions over a five week period from 26<sup>th</sup> July to 27<sup>th</sup> August 2010 inclusive, this. This enabled us to have two teams running for five weeks.



### **Ward Funded Mobiles (2 teams)**

**Attendance by under eights: girls = 443, boys = 369**

**Attendance by over eights: girls = 286, boys = 352**

**Attendance Total: 1450**

This year we also received funding from the City of York Council's play grant to run one mobile playscheme for five weeks (**last year we had funding to run two mobiles for five weeks**). We also received ward funding to run two ward mobiles for five weeks. This funding enabled us to:-

- Attended 40 different sites; on at least two separate visits, some were attended more often.
- In total we ran over 149 x two hour play sessions and were able to visit lots of rural and inner city sites.
- This year with the ward funding we visited new sites in Clifton without, Heslington & Fulford, Rural west and Clifton Wards.- **These wards would not have been visited without the ward funding.**

### **City of York Funded Mobile (1 team)**

**Attendance by under eights: girls = 248, boys = 179**

**Attendance by over eights: girls = 143, boys = 145**







**Attendance Total: 715**

Thanks to both sets of funding this year we provided play experiences and opportunities for over 2,150 children and young people. (Last year we provided 2,282, this was with an extra team doing five weeks).

A variety of play activities were on offer to the children and young people, including arts and crafts, sports activities such as football and ball games, and other wide and co-operative games. Each session was well attended; some younger and older children also attended the sessions.



This year we asked the children and young people how they arrived at the Playscheme. The responses are as follows:-

<b>Came on my bike</b>		<b>47</b>	<b>Came on my own</b>		<b>24</b>
<b>Walked</b>		<b>134</b>	<b>Came with my friends</b>		<b>99</b>
<b>Came in the car</b>		<b>112</b>	<b>Came with an adult</b>		<b>158</b>

27% came with an adult and 17% came with their friends.

### Feedback and Evaluation

We are continually striving to improve all the services we offer to children, young people, parents and carers. As part of this commitment, we carry out a regular evaluation process. This often is done by asking children, young people, parents and carers to complete questionnaires about the particular service we have provided.

Throughout the summer we asked for feedback from Parents/Carers and Children/Young people. The overall impression from them was that the Mobiles are a must and they still want more.

Below are some of the comments and responses from the parent/carers and children/young people that attended the mobiles this year.

### Parent/Carers Evaluations and Comments

All parents and carers who completed evaluations said that they would send their child/children again to the Playschemes. Once again a large proportion of parents/carers

commented that the advance publicity was poor this year. In future years advance publicity must be a priority for us and we must take more control of this.

**Parent/carers 88 returned:**

	<b>Great</b>	<b>OK</b>	<b>Poor</b>
b) The Location	84	4	0
c) The Programme times	82	6	0
d) The activities/workshops	82	6	0
e) The Playworkers	88	0	0
f) Your child's enjoyment	86	2	0

100% of those asked said they “would like Playspace to come again”

The majority of parents/carers brought two or more children along to the schemes.

**Comments**

- Very well organised, children enjoyed the different activities. Very friendly enthusiastic staff
- Would be nice to have more times in the summer holidays
- great staff, children keen to return for next session
- Good range of activities. Friendly staff
- Really good scheme to keep children entertained!

**Children's Evaluations**

Out of the 297 evaluation forms that we received back from the children, asking them how they enjoyed the York Mobile Playschemes, below is the information that we obtained.

	<b>Great</b>	<b>OK</b>	<b>Not Good</b>
a) The mobile Playscheme is:	252	43	2
b) The things to do are:	249	46	2

54% of the children said that they had made new friends at the Playschemes.

75% of the children also said that they had come to the Playschemes to meet their friends and have fun.

**Things that the children enjoyed most at the Mobile Playscheme:**

- **Arts & Crafts and Making things** - Sea Scenes, Pirate Boat, puppets, book marks, stain glass windows, t- shirt painting , mosaics, Lanterns, Mirrors, , glass painting, etc. Painting, Drawing, rockets, masks, Lollipop Men, tiles etc.
- **Needle craft** – Sewing, Cushion's, Beads, bracelets & necklace's etc.
- **Sports** – The stilts, Cricket, Skipping, rounder's, football, tennis, badminton, basketball, Frisbee, etc.
- Dens, Spies, robots, connect 4, chess, draughts, scavenger hunts, atmosphere, etc.

The children were all very positive; they loved both the activities and the Playworkers. We ran a varied program with a good variety of new and multi-cultural activities, craft and sports activities. These were very popular with the children/young people; there was no negative

feedback from anyone about any of the activities on offer. The Children/Young people liked the fact that they had the choice of a quiet sit down activity and a physical activity.

During the summer the children from the projects put some of their work from the Playschemes into scrapbooks which we are able to use to show funders; current and future, parents and carers, residents, Trustees and members of staff and any other interested parties, the type of work and activities the we do with the children on the schemes. This has been a very useful tool.

### **Volunteers:**

This year thanks to a Community Grant from North Yorkshire Learning Consortium, which funded a Volunteers Co-ordinator to support volunteers/learners, we were able to have additional support on the Playschemes from over 15 volunteers. This support was invaluable and benefited the children in their activities. We would like to thank all the volunteers for their support.

### **Ryedale Rangers**

This is a project which is delivered using the same model as the York Mobiles playschemes, but is delivered in the Ryedale District of Yorkshire.

This is the third year of delivering this project in Ryedale.

This project is funded by  in partnership with Ryedale District Council and York Playspace.

This year was the third year that we ran the Ranger project; although we have run similar projects in the York area for some years. The Playschemes continue to be supported by local volunteers. The number of children and young people that attended the playschemes increased again this year and the summer saw 19% more children and young people than the previous summer.

**Attendance by under eights: 622** (244 being 4 years and under)

**Attendance by over eights: 460** (45 were 13 – 15 year olds)

**Attendance Total: 1,082 over 5 weeks**

Last year the total attendances were 935, an increase this year by 147.

We visited over eighteen different open spaces in different villages and towns in the Ryedale District. These included Norton, Wombleton, Gillamoor, Thixendale, Hovingham, and Kirkbymoorside.

Many of the open spaces in Ryedale had water in them and this enabled us to offer the Children the experience of fishing and pond dipping.

The children and young people of Ryedale benefited immensely from the Ranger project as it provided a good variety of entertainment with Physical, Social, Cultural, Learning and environmental benefits to all.

**Volunteers**

Part of the bid to the BIG Lottery was to encourage volunteers in the local areas to get involved with play. Ryedale District Council did a great deal of work leading up to the Playschemes to engage with local volunteers.

There were many helpful parents/carers at all of the sites who did not make themselves known to the Playworkers as volunteers, they all signed themselves in as parents and carers.

As a Charity we recognise and value the contribution that volunteers bring to all aspects of the organisation including the Playschemes.







We would like to thank all the volunteers for their support.

**Children’s Evaluations**

Out of the 199 evaluations that were received from the children and young people who attended the Rangers playscheme, over 40% of them were prepared to travel anything from 2 – 37 miles to attend. E.g. children and young people who attended Nawton playscheme came from Northallerton (26 miles away), Kirbymisperton playscheme – Scarborough (21 miles away), Helmsley playscheme - Harrogate (37 miles away).

	<b>Great</b>	<b>OK</b>	<b>Not Good</b>
a) The mobile Rangers Playscheme is:	151	31	3
b) The things to do are:	143	42	0

### How did you get to the Mobile Playscheme today:-

Came on my bike		26	Came on my own		10
Walked		86	Came with my friends		49
Came in the car		79	Came with an adult		93

The majority of the children either came in cars or walked and a further 14% of those asked came on bikes. It is interesting to see that only 10 of the children who completed an evaluation form came on their own. This may be because of the rural locations of the sites or it could be that the adults were coming with younger siblings, as over 25% of attendees at the schemes were under 5 years old.

63% of the children said that they made new friends on the playschemes whilst 87% also came to meet up with existing friends and have fun.

The children and young people also enjoyed a variety of activities including crafts, sports and group games.

### **Parents/carers Evaluations**

61 parents/carers including grandparents completed and returned evaluation forms. The results are as follows:-

	<b>Good</b>	<b>OK</b>	<b>Poor</b>
a) The advanced publicity	32	20	9
b) The Location	55	5	1
c) The Programme times	58	3	0
d) The activities/workshops	55	6	0
e) The Playworkers	58	3	0
f) Your child's enjoyment	58	2	0

### **Parent/carers Comments**

- Fantastic, but could do with more posters in local Villages & contact pre-schools before summer holidays
- Excellent staff and activities, badly publicised, heard by word of mouth
- really great idea, Enjoyed the activities, its great as all my 4 children of different ages
- Really good idea my children had great fun, very good lots to do, well run activities, with lots of variety of things to do.

# Ryedale Summer Fun

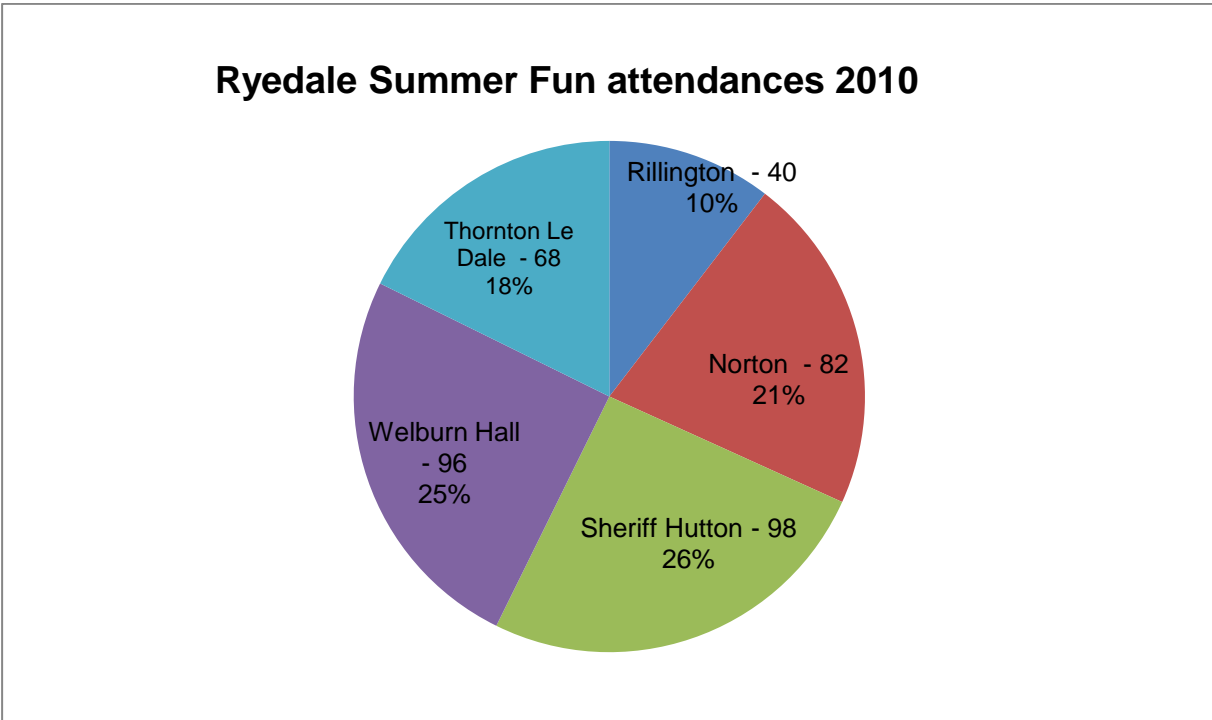
The Ryedale Playschemes were funded by Ryedale District Council. This year sees the fourth consecutive year that we have facilitated these Playschemes on behalf of Ryedale District Council.

The Ryedale Playschemes this year operated with one team of up to four playworkers offering play opportunities to children and young people aged 5 – 12 years. These ran over five weeks with us visiting five different venues; spending one full week at each venue. The Playschemes ran from 10am – 4pm each day where the children would bring a packed lunch with them and we provided them with a drink and biscuits during each day. In previous years funding had allowed us to provide two teams of playworkers, but due to funding cuts and discussions with Ryedale District Council it was decided to provide one team of playworkers but to extend the provision to five weeks and visit the following venues:-

- ❖ RILLINGTON - Primary School
- ❖ NORTON – Brooklyn Youth Centre
- ❖ SHERIFF HUTTON - Village Hall
- ❖ WELBURN HALL - School
- ❖ THORNTON LE DALE - Primary School

Parents are charged at a subsidised rate either for a full day or for a half day provision.

Numbers are limited to a maximum of 30 children this is due to National standard which sets ratios of children to adults and the size of the venue.



Children are offered a range of activities including crafts, sports and games both inside and outside, sometimes visiting the local park or open space.



## Evaluations

Once again parents/carers and children were asked to evaluate the playschemes. The results are as follows:-







### Parent/carers 60 returned:

	<b>Great</b>	<b>OK</b>	<b>Poor</b>
a) The advanced publicity	34	15	10
b) The Location	55	4	0
c) The Programme times	49	9	1
d) The activities/workshops	55	4	0
e) The Playworkers	60	0	0
f) Your child's enjoyment	57	3	0
g) The cost of the session	59	1	0

### Children

	<b>Great</b>	<b>OK</b>	<b>Not Good</b>
a) The summer Fun Playscheme is:	239	64	1
b) The things to do are:	248	53	1

We also asked the children how they travelled to the playscheme:-

Came on my bike		6	Came on my own		1
Walked		53	Came with my friends		49
Came in the car		237	Came with an adult		252

The majority of the children came in cars with adults. This may be because to the provision being more of a care than open access playscheme. Most of the parents sent the children due to work which is reflected in their comments that they would like it to be open more due to them working.

We were also interested to see how far the parents were willing to travel for such a provision as Ryedale covers very rural communities. Out of the 304 evaluations received 18% of the children travelled up to 3 miles, over 50% travelled from 3 – 6 miles and 32% travelled from 7 – 13 miles to attend the summer fun playschemes (with five children traveling 22 miles). This could be due to the lack of provision in the area, where the parent /carer work or where they live.

## **Other Play work**

Playspace has the ability to quickly respond to play needs within York and the surrounding area. We are often asked to deliver one-off playschemes for a variety of needs. Earlier in the year we were asked by City of York Council to facilitate play opening events at four of its “Play Builder” open spaces. We organised and delivered a two hour play session and open event with a team a three playworkers and lots of arts, crafts and games at four open spaces in the City.

In November 2010 the Trustees decided with the organisations sustainability in mind, to recruit a Capacity/Project Co-ordinator to develop and build the capacity of the organisation through promotion and development of its work.

In January Anne started work with Playspace in this role with the remit of talking to Wards, Schools, Residents Association etc. about the work of Playspace and how we can all work together for the benefit of children and young people.

During Easter of 2011 we were able to deliver additional playschemes at Sanderson Court in Westfield Ward and also in Haxby/ Wigginton Ward. Anne continues to build on her successes with ICT and Drama workshops delivered in schools in 2011.



## CHILL OUT ZONES

### WHAT IS A CHILL OUT ZONE?

Chill Out Zones provide open access “play” sessions for children and young people aged between 8 – 13 years in their local areas. They are a “model” which can be adapted to meet the needs of local communities.

The Chill Out Zone Projects’ objectives are linked to a number of Every Child Matters outcomes.

The primary objectives that the Zones are working towards with the Children and Young People towards are:-

- To choose not to offend, re-offend or engage in anti-social behaviour
- To develop self-confidence and enterprising behaviour
- To be safe from crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Zones have a number of secondary objectives as a consequence of the activities that they are engaged in which include amongst others:-

- To achieve personal development and enjoy recreation
- To keep mentally and emotionally healthy
- To lead a healthy lifestyle

We hope that we can help to make a difference to the children and young people’s lives, choices and experiences.

Children and young people in the Zones are involved in decision making about the activities and the ways in which the Zones are run. For example, the children and young people have put together the Zone rules and the subsequent punishments for breaking those rules. Each Zone can accommodate between 30 – 40 children and young people aged 8 – 13 years at any one time.

A short DVD showing what a difference the Zones make to the lives of the children can be seen by visiting [www.yorkplayspace.org.uk/fun\\_at\\_chillouts.php](http://www.yorkplayspace.org.uk/fun_at_chillouts.php)

Throughout the year York Playspace continued to facilitate three Zones; this is our seventh year of running the Zones and we are very proud of their continued success. The Zones are situated at Tang Hall Community Centre, Moor Lane Youth Centre, Dringhouses and 68 Centre Youth Centre, Heworth.

Heworth and Hull Road Ward continued to fund the Tang Hall Zone and together with funding from City of York Council and also Guildhall Ward we were able to continue to open the Zones every Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 4pm - 7pm only closing for two weeks in the summer and two weeks in at Christmas.

68 Centre and Moor Lane continued to be open one night per week 4pm to 7pm and closed two weeks at Easter, six weeks in summer and two weeks at Christmas. We are also very grateful to for the support that Heworth Ward Committee give the 68 Centre Chill Out Zone; and Dringhouses & Woodthorpe Ward Committee have given us this year. Without this support both financial and otherwise we would not be able to run the Zones. All the Zones have now been open for seven years or more.

We also encourage the children and young people to get involved with raising funds for the Zones and in June 2010 Moor Lane children and young people were supported by some of the Trustees and the playworkers to take part in bag packing at the Tesco store at Askham Bar. The children and young people raised over £200 towards the cost of a trip.

Once again the children and young people at the Zones took part in a competition to design the York Playspace 2010 Christmas card. All entries were voted on at the Annual General Meeting held in November. The winning entry was produced by Annabella aged 8 from Tang Hall.



Cards were produced and sent to all members, Trustees, staff, funders and other supporters during December 2010. We hope to run the same competition again next year as it was such a success.

Attendances at the Zones went up and down depending of the time of year. At Tang Hall Zone, 60% of the attenders were from the Traveller community. The children and young people at the Zones enjoyed a variety of activities including arts and crafts, sports and games. The Zones enjoyed trips to bowling, Dalby Forest and ice skating.

With support from the Rotary group the children and young people at Moor Lane and Tang Hall also planted over 500 crocuses at the Zones.

During the year the children and young people at Tang Hall produced a mural on the wall at the Tang Hall Community Centre.



A big investment has been made in the training of our staff not only in the statutory areas of First Aid, Child Protection and Level 2 and 3 in Playwork, but also in areas such as Developing Children's Self Esteem, Behaviour Management, drug awareness and much more. This investment has not only developed the playworkers personally and made them more positive but has benefited the children and young people in the way in which they deliver the service. All playworkers have had the appropriate checks carried out.

## **Financial Report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010– 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.**

The Chill Out Zones at Tang Hall, Moor Lane and 68 Centre continued to attract over 250 children and young people from across the city. They continue to be funded by the City of York Council and the Ward Committees and, thanks also to a donation of over £4700 from Fenwick York, will continue in 2011.

During the year we managed to secure a substantial grant from Central Government to support 14-16 year old volunteers. Shortly after the general election this funding was reversed and we were asked to return the majority of the funding and withdraw this support. However we were able to support a number of youth volunteers during the year.

In the summer we had four teams of playworkers delivering mobile playschemes in and around York. Ryedale District Council continued to contract with us to deliver both the Ryedale Summer Fun and Ryedale Rangers projects. The Ryedale Rangers was in its third year and built on its successes of previous years as more and more children got involved in the play opportunities.

We were able to also secure funding to enable us to recruit a volunteer co-ordinator to support adult volunteers in play. We exceeded our contracted numbers of volunteers engaged in training, with over 30 volunteers were being supported throughout the year. We hope to secure additional funding to build on this success.

In January 2011 the Trustees made the decision to invest some of the surplus free reserves to employ a Capacity/Project Co-ordinator to promote the work we do and obtain additional funded play activities and sessions. This project will continue into the next financial year when Trustees will assess the success of the project.

In this year we completed the arts project at the Zones with a mural at Tang Hall and a mosaic at Moor Lane which the children all enjoyed getting involved with.

### **Financial Review**

Note 8 to the financial statements shows the assets and liabilities attributable to the various funds by type and note 9 describes the various restricted funds of the charity and summarises the year's movement on each fund.

At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 York Playspace had £25,199 which could be defined as 'free reserves'. These are reserves which are not restricted or designated and are not funds which can only be realised by disposing of fixed assets held for charity use. (See note to the accounts – Analysis of Net Assets between Funds). The trustees consider that an appropriate level of reserves

should be a minimum equivalent to approximately six months expenditure and believe that this is sufficient to have the flexibility to meet on-going demands on its resources together with the ability to provide uninterrupted services. This will be achieved from operating surpluses.

The Annual Reports and Accounts were approved by the Trustees on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

Martin Cross

Fiona Pickering

Emilie Murphy

28.10.11