



Kilmarnock  
YMCA PLUS

Summer  
2016

## OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER

Welcome to Kilmarnock YMCA Plus's first newsletter. These will be sent out every quarter in the months of June, September, December and March to keep you up to date on what's happening in your local YMCA Plus.

### Official launch of the Community Garden

Last Autumn, Kilmarnock YMCA was successful in securing funding from the Renewable Energy Trust, the People's Postcode Lottery and Awards for All to finance the creation of a Community Garden in the grounds of the YMCA. The building and landscaping work is now complete and it look really good. Phase 1 and 2 of the planting is also complete with phase 3 well underway and due for completion by next week. We are looking for volunteers to come along and help

with the ongoing upkeep of the garden including cutting the grass, watering the hanging baskets and flower and vegetable beds. So, if you have 'green fingers', there are plenty of gardening jobs to be done. All of this is in preparation for the official opening of the Community Garden planned for the 12<sup>th</sup> August o fingers crossed for good weather.

Our young member are invited to come along on the day and have been given information on this. Keep an eye on our website for more information. [www.ymcaplus.co.uk](http://www.ymcaplus.co.uk)

Comic Relief has awarded Kilmarnock YMCA the sum of £1000 to pay for the cost of the opening of the Community Garden as well as activities for our Drop In service. A big thank you to Comic Relief.



### New Website

We are delighted to announce that our new website is now up and running. We have been working on the design of this for a wee while now and we are very pleased with the final result. A big thank you to Microtech of Kilmarnock for a great job! Please do tell everyone about our website to raise awareness of Kilmarnock YMCA Plus and what it offers children and the wider community. The members' programme of activities will also feature on our website, so you can see in advance what is on for members young and old.....er!

# New Programme

## August - October

All activities take place on a Wednesday evening:

**17<sup>th</sup> August**- "I Know What You Did This Summer". This is an opportunity for young members to share what they did during their summer break from school with their friend at the club.

**24<sup>th</sup> August**- Swimming at the Galleon Centre.

**1<sup>st</sup> September** – A lesson in how to make animated films – this was really popular with the kids last time, so make sure you don't miss out!

**8<sup>th</sup> September** – Art Attack! Painting the YMCA members' rules on the walls of the YMCA. Long overdue!

**16<sup>th</sup> September** – Sports Night – Enjoy a range of net sports at the Galleon Centre. Apply all the skills you learned at the College sessions.

**23<sup>rd</sup> September** – Multi Activities Evening including face painting and jewellery making. Arts & Crafts



Happy faces all round after receiving their certificates for participating in the Ayrshire College Sports Sessions. Well done everyone!

**30<sup>th</sup> September – 19<sup>th</sup> October**

Photography – this is the first of a number of 1 hour photography lessons for members. Learn how to take really good photographs. This will be followed by a photography competition for young members.

Halloween Party planning - Let's plan for a really great Halloween again this year. The second hour of the evening will be about planning and creating for Halloween.

**26<sup>th</sup> October**– Halloween Party (theme to be decided). Let's make it even better this year. Have you all seen the YouTube film from last year? You need to check it out!



# Volunteers

Our team of valued volunteers enjoyed their weekend stay at the Osprey Holiday Centre in Millport. This is the Board of management's way of saying thank you to our volunteers for all their hard work throughout the year and it also gives them time to develop their relationships as a team.

Volunteers also enjoyed a two, half day training session delivered by East Ayrshire Volunteer Centre. The training included a number of topics including the history of volunteering in the UK as well as the history of Kilmarnock YMCA, the benefits of volunteering and the contribution it makes to the local community and the lives of those they support. Later in the year volunteers will be undertaking additional training in managing Challenging Behaviour, Emergency First Aid, Committee Skills and Good Governance.



## Other Events

Top left – fun at the park now that summer has arrived! The volunteers went along to the park, arms full with loads of outdoor games. Good exercise and good fun!



The Y Kids absolutely loved their recent trip to the dry ski slope – you can tell from the photograph on the left. Skiing lessons are planned for the winter programme.

## Fundraising

We hope to do some bag packing at local supermarkets to raise funds for the Food Bank as well as asking our young members to donate food items. We hope to make a good contribution of food items for local families for Christmas. Members can start bringing food items after the school summer break.



A new Yoga class will be starting at the YMCA later this month. The start date has to be confirmed but it will be on a Monday evening. You can check out the details on our website.



Last night at the YMCA before the schools break up for the summer holidays and the YKids enjoyed a Treasure Hunt in the grounds of the Kay Park. Goodie bags for all and prizes for the winning team!

