

Trust update February 2013

Hot News

Thetford Academy Work Club launched

The first Norfolk based school work club for Year 11's was launched in early February. The Thetford Academy pilot builds on the success of Year 11 work clubs in four Suffolk schools.

Year 10 Work Club launched at Thurston Community College

Keystone's first Year 10 work club was launched in January at Thurston Community College's request. The aim is to start on 'next step' preparation as early as possible – a lesson learnt from pilot year 11 clubs over the last few years.

Neil Stott, Keystone's Chief Executive, earned his **Doctorate in Professional Studies by Public Works** from Middlesex University focusing on the Trust's attempts to deliver sustainable social innovation and impact. Neil was also appointed **Entrepreneur in Residence** at the Cambridge Judge Business School and Cambridge Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning at the University of Cambridge in November 2012

Keystone Community

Keystone School Work Clubs/ Works4Me Programme

The first term of the 2012-13 academic year focused on helping students to write their CVs and personal statements, while getting to know their School Work Club Leader. Almost 100 students have already attended the clubs within Samuel Ward Academy, Castle Manor Academy, Mildenhall College and Thurston Community College. Suffolk County Council has indicated that they are pleased with progress being made.

At Thurston Community College Keystone is delivering an extended Works4Me programme, funded by the school through Skills 2 WOW, which includes enhanced career sessions. Guest speakers include the NHS, Armed Forces, Suffolk Police, JTL and JHP (Apprenticeship providers) British School of Racing and Michael Hallam's Hairdressing. The students are also working towards two accredited qualifications (BSC Award & E4L Charter), whilst engaging in a Social Action Project at the end of March 2013.

So far 37 students have signed up to the sessions, with regular attendance and a good turn-out at the parent support evening. Before January 2013, the Work Club Leader

helped 20 students apply for either a College Course or an Apprenticeship programme, resulting in 6 students receiving interview letters for January 2nd 2013.

A*spire (9-15 Years)

A*spire now has over fifty members and is still growing. In December 2012, A*spire organised a Christmas celebration trip to the Odeon Cinema in Norwich, to watch a Christmas film. Twenty young people arrived, and for most of them this was the first time they had either been to a cinema or travelled via train.

KAVO

In December 2012 KAVO was awarded funding from Moving Thetford Forward to provide support and advice to Thetford community groups submitting grant applications.

KAVO is also grateful to the Suffolk Foundation for providing funding in early 2013 enabling delivery of events benefiting community groups in Brandon, Lakenheath and Mildenhall. A Fundraising Fair, a Big Society Day and a First Aid Training Course are planned for 2013.

META

META Drop-in

Mike Flavell is finalising the details of a partnership day to be held once a month with the Matthew Project (substance misuse charity). META has provided project worker support for The Matthew Project, Citizens Advice Bureau, local housing associations and Stonham Homestay for clients experiencing language barriers, further strengthening links with local organisations. The Drop-in Centre again participated in partnership work around homelessness during severe cold weather.

New META leaflets were produced in November and have been distributed to local agencies, cafes and shops frequented by the migrant communities.

Keystone Thetford Adult Work Club

Thetford Adult Work Club has supported 142 clients since the beginning of June 2012. The service continues to be busy and is providing Thetford Jobcentre with a clear signposting route for clients needing quick and efficient support to update their CVs. The Jobcentre is also stipulating attendance at the Keystone Work Club for some recipients of Jobseeker's Allowance.

Keystone Community Bank

Training from Norfolk Credit Union has taken place for the two new META staff. New Keystone Community Bank leaflets have been distributed to help promote the Bank. Interest in the Bank has increased due to a recent BBC television documentary on Norfolk Credit Union.

META ESOL

The total number of students who have registered for Keystone's ESOL classes in Brandon and Mildenhall since the start of the current project in August 2012 is now 87, with the target of 80 learners exceeded.

Keystone Buildings

St John's Community Centre, Mildenhall:

Planning permission for the new Centre design was obtained in December 2012. The Centre closed to the public on 23 December.

Keystone Enterprise

Green Ventures Bikes

There is a good range of bikes ready to ride away and the repair service is proving popular. Advertising continues in the Thetford and Brandon, Facebook and the website has been updated. The Thetford Academy voucher scheme is running and to 31 December 8 have been redeemed. The Cycle to Work Tax Free scheme that we joined has seen a number of employers join and gives their employees the opportunity to purchase a bike for work tax free.

Keystone Research and Consultancy

The Chief Executive has been commissioned to undertake 15 days consultancy for Eastbourne Borough Council on an potential asset transfer project through The Pool (Locality).