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Welcome...to the second edition of the NAYC newsletter for 2009 which showcases the great work taking place in centres all around the country. Over the last few months activities have included community, environmental, health, sports and music projects. Additionally, a range of awards have also been presented to the young people for work in art, engineering and general student awards. The essence of the work carried out in Youthreach was encapsulated in the national press, with an article in The Irish Times about a former Ballymun student. Finally, the NAYC itself hosted it's 15th annual conference in Athlone in February, marking 20 years of the Youthreach programme.

I hope you enjoy reading through it!

Dr Sandra Buchanan, NAYC Newsletter Editor

Transforum Alley Youthreach Student of the Year 2008

On Friday the 13th of February 2009 the Kerry Education Service (the VEC in Kerry) held their annual Student of the Year Awards in the Institute of Technology Tralee. Richard (Ricky) O'Brien was selected as Transforum Alley Student of the Year 2008.

One of the reasons Ricky was nominated by staff for this award was the huge commitment he showed toward achieving his Junior Certificate in 2008. When he joined Transforum Alley Youthreach on the 18th of February 2008 arrangements were made for Ricky to sit his Junior Certificate in his previous school, Mercy Mounthawk. Preparation for his exams sometimes involved a number of evenings staying on after all the other young people had gone home. Ricky joined the other students at Mercy Mounthawk to sit his Junior Certificate, which he passed with flying colours.

Ricky has always shown himself to be unassuming, although naturally gifted in sports, enthusiastic with regard to his studies, easy-going and always good-humoured in his relationships with both the staff and young people of Transforum Alley Youthreach.

Ricky was presented with a gold medal by Brian Lucey, Associate Professor of Finance at Trinity College, Dublin. Ricky's mother and grandmother along with two staff members were in attendance. It was a great night for acknowledging the achievement of all students nominated.



Pictured left:

Ricky O'Brien receiving his student of the year award from Brian Lucey

Pictured right:

Ricky with Tony Noctor, Resource person and Maaïke Verhuizen, Transforum Alley Youthreach Co-ordinator



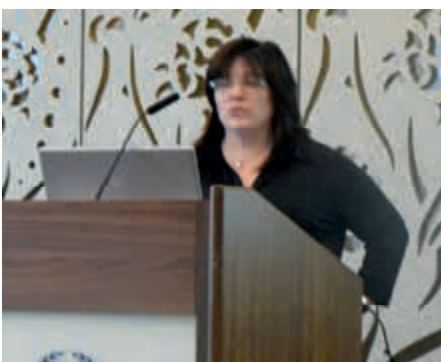
15th National Youthreach Conference Successfully Held in Athlone

The NAYC recently hosted the 2009 national conference for Youthreach Co-ordinators in Athlone from 25-27 February; the conference theme was *Vision 20/20* as this year marks the 20th anniversary of the Youthreach programme. It provided an excellent networking opportunity for Co-ordinators, representing the main annual opportunity for many to catch up with their national colleagues.

Conference delegates were welcomed on day one by Gearóid O'Brádaigh, CEO Westmeath VEC who chaired the first panel of speakers (*pictured right*). These included (l-r) Dr John Sweeney, National Economic and Social Council (NESC) who provided an overview of the current economic situation facing the country through his presentation on the Irish Economy in the 21st Century; Ms Cynthia Deane spoke about the bigger picture, looking at Youthreach in a European context; Prof. Gary Granville, professor of education at the National College of Art & Design spoke about teaching and learning in the future and Dr Dermot Stokes, National Youthreach Coordinator. In the afternoon delegates attended practical workshops covering a range of areas including anger management, integrating literacy, child protection and attendance strategies.



Excellent centre presentations were provided on day two by Letterfrack (Theresa McLoughlin), Lucan (Shay Brady), Delvin (Bridget Geagan) and the Subla Centre in Waterford City (Mark O'Sullivan). This was followed by a very informative questions and answers panel session (*pictured left*) with Dr Dermot Stokes; Paddy Lavelle, CEO, Co Waterford VEC (and CEOA Youthreach liaison); Shivaun O'Brien, national QFI Coordinator and Seamus Hemptenstall, Principal Officer, Further Education Section, DES. This session was chaired by Dr Maeve Martin who chaired the Task Force on Student Behaviour in Second-Level Schools. Many of the presentations are available at www.youthreach.ie/index.htm



Images from the Conference.

(clockwise from left):

Lorraine O'Leary (Hospital) NAYC Chairperson, introduces Theresa McLoughlin, Letterfrack before her centre presentation;

Bridget Geagan, Coordinator, Delvin, Co Westmeath, giving her centre presentation;

Art Competition entries on display at the Conference;

NAYC Chairperson Lorraine O'Leary (Hospital) speaking to delegates

Working in Crumlin: A View from Germany

Hi there. I am Johannes, student of Social Work at the Hochschule Bremen in Bremen, Germany. In our fifth semester we have to make one semester of work experience. We can choose ourselves where we want to do this. I wanted to go to Ireland since a couple of years and this was my chance not only to see the country, but also the social work, the life, the education system, and so on...



I picked up the yellow pages from Dublin in the internet and found something that was called Youthreach. Never heard of it...let's give it a try. I found the website easily and the email address of Dr. Dermot Stokes. I asked him about work experience in Ireland what is called "Praktikum" in German. He referred me to the different centres in Dublin and with this advice I wrote to several Youthreach centres in Dublin. Angelique Kelly was the first one who answered with the news, that it might be possible. Other Youthreach centres didn't answer or apologized because it wasn't possible at the moment. After a short period of time I got a positive request for my work experience from Angelique Kelly at Crumlin Youthreach. I was very happy about that!

I started on October 1st and stay there till the 21st of December. I NEVER expected such an amount of experience that I have made since my first day in the centre. Everyone from the staff is really helpful. They answered all my annoying questions with patience and I didn't expect either, that everyone is so friendly. It is a really great time for me to stay there and I have to thank all of them a thousand times, especially the Co-Ordinator, that they made it possible. In Germany we don't have this kind of second education, so maybe with my dissertation someone will wake up or I have to awake someone to start things like this. It will be hard day, when I go back to Germany to finish my study (one year to go), but who knows if I will come back to work here not for experience, but to give experience.

NAYC Art Competition Winners



'What Youthreach Means to Me' was the theme of the first national art competition promoted by the NAYC. The competition was organised on a regional basis with the three winning entries from each region going through to the national final at the annual conference.

The winners were Roscommon (first); Letterfrack, Co Galway (second) and a joint third prize was also awarded. Prizes were presented to centre Co-ordinators, at the national conference in Athlone in February.

Pictured on the right is Ciara Hade, Letterfrack Youthreach, with her 2nd prize entry.



Ballymun Youthreach Features in The Irish Times

The following article appeared in *An Irish Man's Diary* in The Irish Times last month (Wednesday 11 March 2009) and very much captures the essence of the programme. It describes the great success achieved by a former Ballymun Youthreach student Dean King in the world of rugby who is off to New Zealand on a rugby scholarship for six months. Dean ultimately aims to play professional rugby for Leinster. It is reproduced here with the kind permission of the author, Frank McNally and The Irish Times.

THE Ballymun flats have never been one of the heartlands of Leinster rugby, I think it's fair to say. The schools cup has rarely set pulses racing in those parts. The problem of how you might rock the 'Rock, in the unlikely event of such an opportunity arising, has not detained the locals unduly.

But bastions are falling everywhere these days. Not even Ballymun and Leinster rugby are mutually immune. A former GAA player from Louth – God help us – is currently holding down the full-back spot, not just for Leinster, but for Ireland too. And although Ballymun is a much more distant outpost than that, except in purely geographical terms, who's to say it couldn't be next? Enter Dean King. Or, in the short term, exit. The teenager is pure Ballymun: born 19 years ago into an eight-storey block of flats in a suburb synonymous with poverty and deprivation. But his unlikely love affair with rugby will take him to New Zealand at the end of this month, on an even more unlikely scholarship.

Courtesy of a link-up between his club, Unidare RFC, and the New Zealand Ireland Association (NZIA), the teenager will spend six months in the home of rugby, playing for an outfit in Waikato province, North Island. Unidare hopes exposure to the soil that grows All-Blacks might rub off on him too. He hopes it will further his long-term ambition: to play professionally for Leinster. At the very least, it promises to be another fruitful chapter in a life that could have been wasted. King had not yet been born when, in 1987, Bono sang: "I see seven towers but I only see one way out". Soon afterwards, however, he was getting a much closer view of the towers than Bono ever had, and of all the problems that went with them.

That he never knew his father wasn't the worse thing that happened to him. Aged 8, he watched his mother fall to her death from a second-storey balcony, leaving him effectively an orphan. From then on, he was raised by his extended family – grandparents, aunts, and uncles – whose commitment to him in bad times was one of his first lucky breaks.

Even so, he was a troubled kid. His mainstream education ended in first year at Ballymun Comprehensive, when he "threw a chair" at a teacher. "It was an accident – I didn't mean to," he says with a sheepish smile. But he admits he was "a bold boy". The school agreed and expelled him. There followed a period of exile in another of Leinster's remoter parts: Clonmellon, Co Westmeath, where his grandparents had gone to live. The city boy hated the countryside. But it was there that he discovered Youthreach, an organisation that attempts to rescue early school drop-outs for some kind of education. It certainly rescued him.

"Youthreach saved me," he admits. It was more informal there; you "didn't have to call teachers 'sir'"; and over the age of 16, you even got paid (a "training allowance", it's called, of €50 a week). When he moved back to Dublin, to live with aunts and uncles, he continued his second-chance schooling, this time in Youthreach Ballymun. There he completed his Junior Cert – "one of the best days of my life" – and then a course to prime him for that mezzanine level between secondary school and college: Post-Leaving Cert studies.

The discipline he chose was exploration – Coláiste Dhulaigh's "Shackleton course", as it's known, named after the great polar explorer. And it must have been a similar sense of adventure that helped King to discover a sport rarely found in Dublin at Ballymun's northerly latitudes. The opportunity came thanks to Unidare, a club that for half a century has flown a lonely flag for rugby in Dublin 11 – first in the old Unidare works in Finglas and now, after several periods of exile, at Dublin City University. This was another outreach project and again, in Dean King, it found a willing hand. He tried tag rugby first, which was all right. But his epiphany, if that's not too fancy a word, was the first time he played the full-contact version. "I fell in love with it," he says, with the same mischievous smile that must have made his former teachers nervous. "You were hitting people and getting away with it – I couldn't believe it! In between hits, he could run. His speed soon established him as a regular in the Unidare youth team, scoring frequent tries from full-back, wing, or – in the number 13 shirt made famous by Brian O'Driscoll – outside centre. So when Unidare and the NZIA got together to hatch a plan for a biennial scholarship for a young player from the club, King fitted the part. It wasn't just about the rugby, however. Candidates also had to write a short essay to argue why they should get the chance. But in this too, the Ballymun kid had the best argument.

His home for the next six months will be Matamata, home to 12,000 people and – in cinematic fiction at least – to J.R.R. Tolkien's hobbits: a local farm was the scene for Hobbiton in the film version of Lord of the Rings. Which suggests life may be even quieter there than he found it in Clonmellon: "But maybe that's what I need now." On his return, he remains contracted with Unidare for at least a year. Then the world will be his oyster, though a bigger club in Leinster would probably do for a start.

If the time comes, as Unidare chairman Kevin Furey explains, his nursery club will let him go with the pride of knowing they gave him a start: "Whatever team he's running out for, he'll always be ours."

Artist in the Community Awards 2008 for Bray & North Wicklow Youthreach Trainees

Bray and North Wicklow Youthreach Trainees were awarded the Artist in the Community Awards 2008 in collaboration with Signal Art's Centre and County Wicklow Art's Office.

The artists involved were Mr. Greg Murray and Mr. Denis Dunne together with Mr. Chris Burton of Bray Youthreach. The title of the project was past and present 'Stories Shared for Old to Young.'

This project involved bringing together nine Youthreach trainees and a group of elderly people from Bray (some of whom are featured in the photos) to facilitate social interaction between both groups; the aim being to compare the differences and similarities in the modern youth and the youth of yesterday, to record the stories from the past and to produce a visual representation of each of the stories. This process created an atmosphere of social interaction between the youth and older people and helped to create an environment whereby all parties felt comfortable and empowered them to create fantastic individual art pieces.

The exhibition was opened by the Chairman of County Wicklow Vocational Education Committee, Mr. Michael Lawlor and the Chief Executive Officer of Co. Wicklow Vocational Education Committee, Ms. Fiona Hartley on Friday 20th February 2009.

The learners involved were: Christina Gregory, Andrew Murphy, Patricia Teelan, Jason Duggan, Kevin McGrogan, Megan McGrath, Cara Duplessis, Aaron Brack and Lee Meaney.

I felt this project was a fantastic achievement for all concerned and a great showcase for Bray Youthreach and its students. I would like to thank all who participated in the project.

Paddy Robinson, Co-ordinator



Lucan Youthreach Participate in Co Dublin VEC Festival Of Music

Lucan Youthreach has been involved in Co. Dublin VEC's Festival of Music for 6 years. The secret of our success is the inclusion of music in our overall teaching programme which is delivered by a talented and versatile musician.

Colm is our music teacher and his specialist instrument is the Trombone on which he plays a lot of jazz. He studied at The Royal Conservatoire of Music, The Hague, Netherlands, where he graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Music. Colm also plays piano and most of the wind instruments. Many of our instruments were donated to us and these include: recorders, drums, glockenspiel, guitars, small percussive instruments, electronic keyboard and an upright piano. Without these instruments music wouldn't exist in its present form in our centre.



Most of our students get involved in playing instruments or singing when they are with us and some of them discover talents they didn't know they had! Very few of our students have had any prior musical education. An exception this year was Sabrina Dowling who studied violin as a child in Aras Cronan in Clondalkin. Colm wrote a violin part for her which she practised diligently and performed very well. Colm played the piano accompaniment on the night.

The voice itself can be a wonderful instrument and many of our students have lovely voices which they demonstrated clearly with pleasant harmonies on the stage of the National Concert Hall with their song *I Drove All Night* by Steinberg & Kelly.

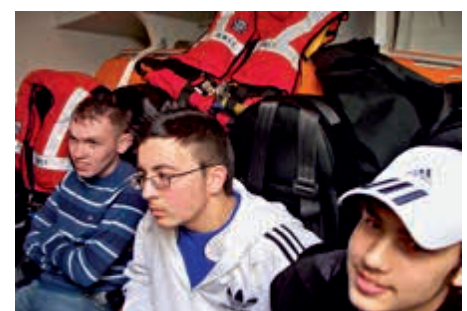
Back row from left: Colm O Hara (teacher) Elaine Byrne, Niamh Core, Natasha Byrne, Michelle Costello, Catriona Devitt, Aoife Core. Front row from left: Sabrina Dowling (violinist) Joanna Donnan, Lisa Walsh **Mary O Hara, Lucan Youthreach**

Charity Donation & Trip Around the Lifeboat in Macroom

Youthreach students in Macroom showed their generous side this March during a trip around the harbour and lifeboat in Courtmacsherry. Met by Coxswain Sean O'Farrell, a group of twenty students were shown around Courtmacsherry's seagoing lifeboat, a €4 million state-of-the-art craft with room for seven crew and eight rescued people. The students were also shown a history of the service in the harbour office, and talked with volunteer crew members John and Barry about recent rescues and the reasons why the lifeboat relies on the work of volunteer crews.

The students then made a donation of €100 to the lifeboat station as a contribution to its running costs. The funds were raised by students at their Tuesday market stall, which sells a variety of cakes, pens, flower tubs and jewellery made by students at a stall kindly donated by Macroom Town Council.

The photos show student Paddy O Driscoll handing their fund-raising cheque to Coxswain Sean O'Farrell of the lifeboat, and students Nigel, Ivor and Raoul sitting in the boat ready to go on a mission.



Laytown/Bettystown Youthreach Celebrates its 1st Birthday with Ministerial Visit

Laytown/Bettystown Youthreach recently celebrated its first birthday that coincided with a visit from Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Barry Andrews (*pictured below*). The Minister visited the Youthreach centre and spent sometime talking with students and staff. He was also joined by fellow councillors including Thomas Byrne T.D., Councillor Pat Boshell and Adult Education Officer of County Meath VEC Christy Duffy. Over the last year the Youthreach Centre has expanded to a 25 place centre, the first of its kind on the east coast of Meath. To add to their many achievements over the past year, students from Laytown/Bettystown Youthreach recently took part in a Musical Extravaganza, which was organised by Co. Meath VEC. They performed and sang 'Summer nights' from the musical 'Grease'. It was an excellent performance from the six students who took part in the extravaganza, which highlighted the fantastic talent among students of County Meath VEC.



If you require any further information or would like to make an application please contact Co-ordinator Vivienne Branigan on 0 8 7 9143862.

Kickboxing in Lifford

Recently learners at the Lifford Youthreach centre (*pictured below*) were put through their paces by current European and World Light Middle Weight Kickboxing Champion Tommy Mc Cafferty as part of the centre's Healthy Heart and Lifestyle campaign. They really enjoyed working with Tommy and learned a little more about a sport which is not all that common to them while also learning how getting and staying fit and healthy can be a fun and worthwhile experience.



Rush Youthreach: Raising Awareness of Oesophageal Cancer

As part of the FETAC Personal and Interpersonal skills course students in Rush Youthreach decided to and to promote Lollipop Day - Friday 27th of February. The students in the group researched Oesophageal Cancer, made information leaflets and posters which they displayed throughout the centre and sold lollipops in the centre. The students in the centre and their families were very supportive and the group raised €180.00 from the sale of the lollipops.

400 people a year are diagnosed with Oesophageal cancer in Ireland. If Oesophageal cancer is not detected early 90% of those diagnosed will die. Oesophageal cancer traditionally affected older males, but is increasingly seen in younger people and women. The symptoms to look out for are difficulty swallowing and sudden unexplained weight loss.

Rush Youthreach is also working on a short film to promote awareness of Oesophageal Cancer in their FETAC Drama module.



Co Donegal Youthreach Centres Participate in 3rd Level Road Safety Programme

There was high drama for Youthreach learners from all Co Donegal centres on the campus of Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT) on 10th March as the county's emergency services gathered to re-enact the gripping scenes in the aftermath of a mock road traffic collision (*pictured below*). The event, which was part of a week long series of Road Safety activities, saw actors being pulled from two crashed cars, by members of the ambulance and fire services.

Gillian Kennedy from Lifford Youthreach, who sat on the Road Safety Week organising committee explains, "The point of the mock road traffic collision is to show young people what they could expect in a similar situation. It shows just how hard our emergency services have to work in terms of triage, dealing with those involved in the accident and with possible family members or members of the public who may be affected by what has happened. What we have witnessed here today are the dramatic stages of an emergency rescue, following a serious road traffic accident, although thankfully in this instance, everyone gets to walk away unharmed."



Learners from all Youthreach centres who witnessed the mock collision seemed totally gripped by the drama of the incident, and evaluations of the event later concluded that the serious messages that were being put across were received. One learner recalls "it was awful when they pulled the body from the car and put it into a body bag—it makes you think about what could happen if you were speeding on the road."

As well as the mock road traffic collision learners also attended a variety of Road Safety related events throughout the week including a table quiz, a Garda presentation road show, the Sim2Learn driving simulators and the National Road Safety Authority's interactive shuttle bus. They also participated in a photography competition.

The week long activities were part of the National Road

Safety Authority's third level strategy on tackling road safety and it was the first time that Youthreach Centres in the country had been invited to attend these third level activities.



Success for Monaghan Football Team

Pictured below are the Monaghan and Drogheda 11-a-side soccer teams who met in a hotly contested friendly match in Monaghan Town recently. In what turned out to be a very competitive but sportsmanlike match Monaghan finished with a 2-1 lead to win. Well done to all the players and coaches Sean Manley (Drogheda) and Paul Smyth (Monaghan)

If there are any other centres from the North East Region interested in joining an 11-a-side league as part of the summer programme contact Sean or Paul ASAP.



*Top left: Monaghan Youthreach Team;
Top Right: Drogheda Youthreach Team;*

Left: Glenn Fitzgerald (Team Captain) receives trophy from Drogheda Coach Sean Manley

Ballinrobe Special Olympics Fundraising

Trainees from Youthreach Ballinrobe recently organised a car wash to raise funds for Special Olympics Ireland. They raised a total of €330.

They are pictured on the left presenting a cheque to John Shaughnessy of Special Olympics.



Dundalk Leaving Certificate Applied Engineering 1st Place

Gavin Campbell, a Dundalk Youthreach learner, recently won 1st place in Ireland for his 2008 Engineering Examination in the Leaving Certificate Applied.

Gavin is pictured here with Margaret Mc Donnell, Co-Ordinator Dundalk Youthreach and his Engineering teacher Noel Woods. Also in the picture is Gavin's brother Sean.

The awards ceremony, which was organised by the ETTA (Engineering and Technology Teachers Association), was held at The Mullingar Park Hotel, in Mullingar.



Pleasants Street Youthreach Participate in Irish Hairdressing Championships

On Sunday March 8th a group of students from Pleasants Street Youthreach arrived at the RDS in Dublin to take part in the 2009 Irish Hairdressing Championships. The group consisted of Amy O'Doherty (*pictured*), Erica Coleman, Robert Nicoletti, Danah Coleman, Advocate Una Mulqueen (*pictured*) and Hair Care Teacher Martina Broaders. They had to be there at 8.30 in the morning to register. The section of the competition the students took part in was Junior Blow Drying. The first thing the group did when they arrived was to grab something to eat and then they got down to the business of putting make up on the models. The models put on their high heels and the transformation was complete.



By this stage the hall had become quite crowded with hairdressers there from all over the country. Excitement was building but at least the students didn't have long to wait as they were first on.

They were called into the preparation area and after 10 minutes were lead out to the hall to take their place with all the other competitors. They had 23 minutes to blow dry their model's hair. Then the model had to stand for 20 minutes while judges went around looking at the finished job. The competitors did the Centre proud.

It was a busy but enjoyable day and it's good to pitch your skills against the whole of Ireland!

Food for Thought!

Congratulations to India Doran, Carlow, who completed the Trócaire 24 Hour Fast on Friday the 6th of March. She managed to raise €197.50 in total. A big thanks must go out to her fellow students, family and friends who supported her in her fundraising efforts. The money raised will support Trócaire in their life changing projects taking place in Eastern Africa, primarily in the countries of Somalia and Uganda. Youthreach students in the FETAC Level 3 group are currently learning and 'exploring' the difficulties that different countries within the continent of Africa face and they were delighted to support India in her efforts.



Peter Cleere (Resource Person), India Doran, Shauna Hendy

Letterkenny Win 1st Prize in St Patrick's Day Parade Road Safety Category

Pictured below are staff and learners from the Letterkenny Youthreach centre who entered a road safety themed float for the Letterkenny St. Patrick's Day Parade. The float won first prize in that category.



Letterfrack St Patrick's Day Entry

Letterfrack Youthreach won second prize in the Clifden Chamber of Commerce St. Patrick's Day parade competition with their themed entry of 'The Fat Banker', pictured below.



Gardening in Ballyshannon

In these difficult economic times, work experience is becoming increasingly difficult to arrange for learners, requiring creative approaches from staff. With this in mind, staff in the Ballyshannon Youthreach centre have recently offered learners two alternatives to work experience—an enterprise and an environmental experience. The environmental experience centres on learning to garden and is part of a school garden movement beginning to develop and grow around the country.

To get this started, centre Co-ordinator Antoinette Clayton and Catering Tutor Eithne O'Sullivan recently spent one of their Sunday's attending a day long gardening course at the Organic Centre in Rossinver, Co Leitrim. The Organic Centre promotes '*organic horticulture, gardening & sustainable living, through training, demonstration & community projects*'.



Along with some of the learners they have now set up five raised beds on the grounds of the centre and have planted a range of vegetables including cabbage, potatoes, pumpkins, lettuce, beans and herbs. All involved hope that these will be ready in early summer just in time for the centre's summer lunches!

Pictured left—catering tutor Eithne and some of the Ballyshannon Youthreach learners putting their raised beds together in preparation for planting.

New Executive & Regional Representatives Elected

Following its recent AGM at the 15th annual conference of the NAYC in Athlone in February, the incoming NAYC Executive are as follows:

Chairperson:	Lorraine O Leary	(Hospital, Co Limerick)	youthrh@eircom.net
Vice-Chairperson:	Larry Dorgan	(Bandon, Co Cork)	bandonadmin@youthreach.net
Secretary:	Angelique Kelly	(Crumlin, City of Dublin)	akelly@yrcrumlin@cdvec.ie
Treasurer:	Tracy Phillips	(Blanchardstown, Co Dublin)	tracy.phillips@edu.codubvec.ie
PRO:	Bev Cotton	(Macroom, Co Cork)	bevcotton@youthreachmacroom.com
Newsletter Editor:	Sandra Buchanan	(Co Donegal)	sandrabuchanan@donegalvec.ie

Regional Representatives for the year ahead are:

Dublin City:	Susan Kelleher (Cabra)
Dublin County:	Christine Hughes (Rush)
Eastern Region (Kildare, Wexford, Wicklow):	Sharon Hughes (Arklow)
Northern Region (Donegal):	Sandra Buchanan (Co Donegal)
North Eastern Region (Cavan, Louth, Meath, Monaghan):	Vivienne Branigan (Bettystown)
Midlands Region (Carlow, Kilkenny, Laois, Longford, Offaly, Westmeath):	Mary Fitzpatrick (Mountmellick)
Mid-West Region (Limerick City/Co, Clare, Tipperary North & South):	Helena McMahon (Shanagolden)
Southern Region (Cork City/Co, Kerry, Waterford City/Co):	Mark O'Sullivan (Subla, Waterford City)
Western Region (Galway City/Co, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo):	Ashley Whelan (Galway City)

Co-ordinators are encouraged to attend their regional meetings and feed their ideas and concerns to the NAYC through their regional representatives.