

The Duke
of
Edinburgh's
Award

Youth Forum 2003 Update

Volume 1, Issue 2

April 2003

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Fundraising events commence

On the 1st of February, our serious fundraising efforts commenced. Kyle Belshaw went to a great deal of effort to have our first Sausage Sizzle run smoothly. The events are turning out to be a bit of a fun social occasion, hard work, but it's all for the cause. The fact that people are willing to spend their Sunday's cooking sausages is a true tribute to the experience that was Youth Forum 2001. Obviously, people are expecting big things this time around!

Since then we have successfully run another Sausage Sizzle at Donna Chenoweth's Thomastown Repco store and a Trivia night (see back page.)

Organising a Sausage sizzle really doesn't take that much. Despite the fact that it may look overwhelming to start off with, in actual fact, when you've done it once, it's easy.

You must, by law, obtain a local council permit to run any sort of food stall and carefully adhere to the food safety regulations. However, despite what some people might tell you, you are NOT required to have a person holding a food handling certificate present, in the case of charity fundraisers. Apart from this it's simply a matter of organising location, food, transport, petty cash and people to help out!



*The hard working team at our 1st Sausage Sizzle.
Ballarat Coles, 1 Feb 2003
From left: Tegan, Nikki, Aaron, Lisa, Chris & Kyle*



Special points of interest:

- ? A youth event, for young people, by young people
- ? Hero's on board
- ? More Sponsorship needed urgently
- ? Exclusive Matrix II Premiere screening!
- ? Contributions to this newsletter gratefully received. Particularly Hot Pooh!

Matrix II Premiere– 18th May 2003– BE THERE!



As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, Panayiota Samartzis is organising an exclusive screening of the new Matrix II movie for you, your friends, family, enemies, pets, the lot. We are keen to fill the cinema with up to 500 people. So this means YOU! Rope in everyone you know. Tickets will be approximately \$12 (cheaper than a normal adult) and profits will go directly to the Forum. Its an ideal opportunity to meet and greet the amazing people involved in making Youth Forum 2003 happen. It will be held at The Rivoli Village Cinema in Camberwell Junction. Be there or miss out on the sexy Keanu Reeves... .. (woops, sorry, got distracted by the picture!)

For further details or bookings, contact:

Panayiota Samartzis
Mobile: 0407 319 305
Email: jiot@hotmail.com
or
gc.dukesvic@infoxchange.net.au



Duke of Ed Hero's

Our Youth Forum 2003 First Aid team appears to be made up of Hero's!

Nicci Papastamos has been heavily involved with the organising committee since it's inception over a year ago. A skilled first aider, she has been involved with St Johns Ambulance for as many years as she can remember and continues her commitment there.

On the way up to Ballarat for our first Sausage sizzle we came across a pedestrian who'd been knocked over in the middle of Ballarat Rd by a driving speeding through a red light. It appeared that a number of people were helping, but in actual fact they were hindering efforts. We stopped, she jumped out and pretty much saved they day. The ambulance arrived and we continued on our



Nikki Papastamos, Melbourne Red Grouper in 2001, with Jay Standerwick (Red 2001)

way. Later I learned how Nicci has saved several lives before and realised just how valuable skills in first aid are.

Not long after this event, I heard through the Youth Forum 2001 grapevine that Brad Wishart, who works as a nurse in Mildura, had been busily fighting the horrendous bushfires in Victoria's east throughout the summer. (He is a CFA fire fighter.) Every weekend he had spare he'd drive hundreds of kilometers at his own expense and fight fires. I understand that he even collapsed from heat exhaustion at one stage.



Brad Wishart, Mildura Camp Nurse & Green Grouper in 2001 Hopefully Camp Nurse in 2003

Now that's commitment for you!

I guess we can all feel safe with such wonderful people in charge of our first aid team!

I'd love to hear any more stories of heroic deeds by Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants, volunteers or Award Holders.

MSN Community– if you are going to YF 2003 JOIN NOW!

After Youth Forum 2001 a Yahoo Community Groups was set up. It has become a particularly effective way of communicating with everyone who was there instantly, storing photos from the event that was and even chatting live on the internet.

This time we are going to try using MSN. Log on now, set up your profile and get communicating! A great way to get to know everybody before you meet, especially the internationals.



Go to:

<http://groups.msn.com/YouthForum2003>

» What should I do next?

Add content!
Post a message on the Message Board
Add some photos to the Photo Album
Personalize your Member Profile

» How can I communicate with members of this group?

Send e-mail to:

YouthFoum2003@groups.msn.com

Profile of a Staff member– Graham Palmer (United Kingdom)

I know that Graham is going to kill me for using this photo, but he's gotta remember that I have at least a dozen VERY incriminating photos of him from Youth Forum 2001!

Graham is a gorgeous Pommy man who works for Suffolk County Council in the UK, running The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. He is heavily involved with international exchange links, especially to Belgium.

Apart from an unhealthy obsession with "The Time Warp" and "I love the nightlife" Graham has a well balanced lifestyle with his loving wife. He grows and collects some strange fruit I can't remember the name



of and has a beautiful white Scottish Terrier.

Graham came to Youth Forum 2001 as the International contingent leader and as Games/Activities coordinator. He performed exceptionally well and everyone has particularly stark and pleasant memories of him. (No doubt his unique charm will also have all at the 2003 forum enchanted.)

Graham must have enjoyed the 2001 experience so much that he has decided to invest a lot of money in coming again, this time as Camp Dad and International Contingent leader. A very approachable, lovably guy!

Fundraising calendar for 2003

Day	Date	What	Organiser	Where
Sun	27-Apr-03	Sausage Sizzle	Adam	Repcos Thomastown
Sun	25-May-03	Sausage Sizzle	Jo	Repcos Thomastown
Sun	18-May-03	Matrix II Premier	Pan	Rivoli Camberwell
Sun	22-Jun-03	Car Wash/Sausage Sizzle	Xanthe	Repcos Thomastown
Sun	6-Jul-03	Night Club Night	Pan & Jo	Debeirs?
Sun	27-Jul-03	Sausage Sizzle	Kylie	Repcos Thomastown
Sun	3-Aug-03	Sausage Sizzle	Elena	Repcos Thomastown
Sun	24-Aug-03	Car Wash/Sausage Sizzle	Donna	Repcos Thomastown
Wed	17-Sep-03	Pre Camp Dinner (Staff only)	Maxine	East Melb. Mc Donald's Party room
Wed	24-Sep-03	Staff Training at Camp	Georgia	Mt Evelyn Recreation Camp
Wed	24-Sep-03	Youth Forum commences	Georgia	Mt Evelyn Recreation Camp
Fri	3-Oct-03	Youth Forum ends	Georgia	Mt Evelyn Recreation Camp
Sat	8-Nov-03	Youth Forum 2003 Reunion Party	TBA	TBA
Sun	12-Oct-03	Post Camp BBQ (All, welcome including friends & Family)	Maxine	Werribee RSL Park?

Fundraising events in 2003, Get involved!

Above is a calendar of what of the Organising committee has programmed to raise funds for Youth Forum 2003. It is somewhat different to what was in the last edition of the newsletter. It is particularly important to note the change from Saturday to Sunday for the Sausage sizzles.

We are still a long way from the \$30,000 we need to raise, despite a \$5000 donation from the National Charter for Business.

So please, I am begging ALL OF YOU, get involved!

If you are free to help, just drop me an email ASAP.

*"The friendships I have made are priceless and the time I had was the best ever had. I want to stay forever."
(Youth Forum 2001 Participant Quote)*

Also, if you happen to live in regional areas, interstate or overseas and therefore cannot attend the fundraising events in Melbourne there are still ways in which you can help out.

For example, organise a casual clothes day and collect a gold coin of everyone, organise your own sausage sizzle or hot dog stand, approach philanthropists you know, you know, use your imagination! Donations over \$2 can be tax deductible, just ask about the procedure.

It's a lot of effort to raise this amount of money through traditional fundraising methods. So if you have any creative ideas, they would also be welcome. The more people we have involved, even if it's only to turn sausages, the easier it gets.

Profile of a Staff member – Panayiota Samartzis (Victoria)

Panayiota, AKA Pan, is a lovely young lady, currently working very hard managing the Camberwell Rivoli Cinema's food bar and studying Marketing at university.

Pan was lucky enough to be chosen (along with Sophie Sandaver), to represent Victoria at the Canadian Rendez-Vous held in September 2002.

This experience was a great opportunity for her to do some more traveling, so she is a very well traveled gal. The Canadian Rendez-Vous was the 2nd International Gold Encounter. Every three years, an IGE is held where Gold Awardees from around the world have the opportunity to meet, train as award leaders and



present their views on the future of The Award to the International Council, chaired by HRH Prince Edward. Our very own Youth Forum is simply a shorter version of this.

Recently Pan had her 21st birthday (which I was most disappointed to miss) and had the opportunity to meet up again with several friends from overseas. Just goes to show how much of an international community we have going with The Award!

Pan could probably travel to 35 or so countries and crash at people's places for free!



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award
Ground Floor, 232 Victoria Parade
East Melbourne, 3002
Victoria, Australia

Camp Leader– Georgia Cheal

Phone: 03 9412 6685
Fax: 03 9412 6680
Mobile: 0405 127 459
Email: gc.dukesvic@infoxchange.net.au
MSN Messenger: g_cheal@hotmail.com
ICQ: 115850858
Yahoo Messenger ID: g_cheal

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Hot Pooh!

Welcome to the new Hot Pooh! Section of the Youth Forum 2003 newsletter. We are interested in collecting any juicy bits of information on anyone involved with both Forum 2001 and Forum 2003.

We decided that we needed some light heartedness and fun, plus is a good motivator for people to stay in touch! It certainly isn't aimed at ridiculing or making fun of anyone. Please note, everything said here may or may not be the whole truth.

(If you're in here and offended, please let me know, I shall publish an apology next edition.)

☺ *What's this we hear about Jo Leach and Jamie Christopherson (both participants 2001) holding hands at a Prince Edward function in 2002? What is the "God's gift to women" doing hanging around with the beautiful and the ever busy Jo?*

☺ *Lisa Stanchinotti (staff 2003) has now been going out with a lovely boy named Greg since the last forum. Are there wedding bells in the air?*

☺ *Xanthe Smith (staff 2003) has openly declared her love for her new boy toy. (Don't worry ,it's a brand new Toyota Echo, straight off the ocean container!)*

☺ *Neriley Meyer (participant 2003) is currently gallivanting all over the world and is coming back in September just for the Youth Forum. Now what's this about 4 boys in 4 nights girl?*

☺ *Rumour has it that there is a love interest in the air for our own Greg Andrews (staff 2003). Can this be confirmed or denied? No one knows... ..*

☺ *A recent visitor to Graham Palmer's house in England (Paddy Bellis, staff 2003) caught a suspicious glimpse of a leotard. Don't worry Paddy, it's quite normal!*

The Trivia Night was great fun



Amy Caughey, Xanthe Smith and Rachel Pyta have been busy over the last few months organising our first major fundraiser.

The Trivia Night was held on Saturday 29th of March at 1st West Waverly Scout Hall.

Xanthe & Amy outside the Scout hall

Our MC for the night was our very own CEO, Graeme Kent. I'm not sure whether it was the multi coloured pants and shirt or the big white beard that made him so

amenable, but seriously, he's fabulous and made the experience one to remember for everyone.

The ladies went to a lot of effort to obtain give aways and auction items as well as do everything else necessary to make it happen.

Unfortunately, the show up wasn't as good as it could have been. We had about 35 people there, but we could have had up to 100! Considering the low number of people present, we were very happy with the \$400 profit. However, we are still in need of at least \$20,000 in hard cash to make this thing happen.



"The womens team" competing to see who can pop the balloon first by blowing it up

Certainly it was very dissapointing not to have many from 2001 there, and no one bar Rachel and Amy from 2003.

However, much fun was had by all and Amy, Rachel and Xanthe should be very pleased with their efforts.

Thanks guys!

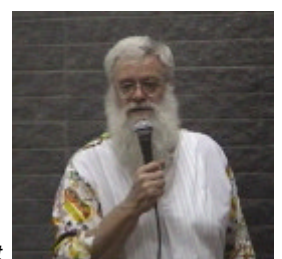
So peoples, we have big ambitions for our one other major fundraiser expected to happen on or around Sunday the **18th of May 2003**. We need 500 people to fill the cinema. If we do, we could raise up to \$1500.

Panayiota Samartzis is organising for us to have an entire cinema at the Camberwell Rivoli to see **Matrix II**. We had intended the screening to be on the opening night, however because of cinema regulations, we have to have it two days after. It's also a great opportunity to see some Youth Forum 2001 photos. So, put that date in your diary NOW and rope in your friends, family, enemies, people you meet on the street... ..

Get the message?

We intend to host a night club night for over 18's in July, however this is a reasonably large job to organise. Anyone out there wanna tackle it? Email me!

gc.dukesvic@infoxchange.net.au



Our crazy MC, CEO Graeme Kent