

## Penshaw Youth Club Update — February 2011

*The Youth Club on a Friday evening remains extremely popular with young people in the area the attendance has been as follows;*

*04.02.11—47 young people*

*11.02.11 —52 young people*

*18.02.11—50 young people*

*25.02.11 —51 young people*

*This is currently our busiest youth project in the whole of the Coalfields area and we are very pleased with the impact that it has had. The young people really enjoy their session on a Friday and the atmosphere is very lively. Young people enjoy Di music, XBOX, soft football and access to a laptop with remote Internet, which they use, for a variety of things including face book and YouTube.*

*More recently a number the young people have taken part in keyfund projects. Keyfund provides young people with the opportunity to develop the skills, confidence and self-awareness needed to better reach their potential and play a positive role in their community; it encourages young people to work together on a project or activity of their choosing. Once all of the arrangements have been made the young people then present their idea to a panel of professionals who then agree/or not to fund the project. The groups of young people who have taken part in the Keyfund projects have decided to work towards attending a concert at the Newcastle Arena and are half way through the process.*

*In a recent meeting with a member of staff from Gentoo, there was a suggestion that there might be some funds available for youth work in the Shiney Row ward so it is our intention to apply for these funds and direct them toward the project, as a means of increasing the activities available.*

*The funding application discussed in previous meetings should be complete within the next week and with the funds we are hoping to acquire, we intend to consider how the provision offered on a Friday evening could also be delivered at other times during the week, subject to the availability of the hall.*

*The youth project continues to receive good feedback from the Police who have identified the project as a great method for reducing anti-social behaviour (ASB). Friday evenings in Penshaw had been a hotspot for ASB prior to the project starting, as yet ASB continues to be considerably lower than this point last year and calls to the police are very rare.*