

The John Boste Youth Centre



known locally as the
“Bostey”



“Went here as a kid and the fact this place is still running and probs one of the only original youth clubs still going shows how amazing and passionate you are at your job, best in the North East, keep up the good work and keep this place going for the community”

Quote from parent of young person: Facebook April 2018

Our History.....

- The John Boste Youth Centre has been providing services for young people in Walker and the surrounding area since the 1960's.
- We originally operated from the Catholic Church hall, which was substantially developed providing a purpose built youth centre which continued to serve our young people for 60 years.
- In 1986, the St Anthony of Padua Community Association was established as a registered charity and limited company. The Association was committed to supporting our young people and the continuation of the John Boste Youth Centre became a core part of the work of the Association.
- Over the years the “Bostey”, as it is known locally, has worked with a range of partners in the delivery of services for young people including the Prince's Trust, local schools and other local and national training and youth providers. The Bostey also benefited from funding from Newcastle City Council's youth service however, this support ended in the early 90's due to budget reductions.
- To ensure the future of the service and to increase opportunities for fund raising, in May 2009 the “St Anthony's Youth Education and Support Service” (the Bostey) registered as a standalone company and charity taking on the direct responsibility for the future delivery of the service.
- The Community Association however continues to provide an annual grant to the Bostey to contribute to the work of the charity and provides in-kind support for the service.

“Many thanks to Jodie, Steven and Stacey for holding a super night for us, I hope the new centre will prove to be a continuation of the John Boste spirit and that local young people can enjoy themselves for another 60 years plus”

Facebook User – 24.09.18

“Thank you... had a great night. Thank you to the John Boste team for organising it. Good luck to the new John Boste. Many happy memories for next generations to come”

Facebook User – 23.09.18

.....and today

The Bostey

- We are a registered charity and limited company
- We have a committed Board of Trustees
- We have 3 p/t staff
- We have dedicated volunteers and very supportive parents
- We currently open 3 nights a week
- We provide services for children and young people aged 8-13yrs
- We run regular community and family fun days
- We fund raise all year round to provide our services



What do we do?

We work with our children and young people to identify new and stimulating opportunities and experiences that help to build confidence and develop new interests. We also provide additional support for vulnerable young people and their families.

Over the last 12 months our children and young people have;

- Been part of an intergenerational arts project and were involved in making and performing in a film shown at a gallery in town
- Been on camping trips to Wooler
- Got first aid qualifications as part of our skate marshalling project
- Enjoyed a mad hatters afternoon tea party
- Bell boated up the River Tyne.....these are just a few of the things we have been doing.

What we want to do

The Bostey has served our community well, however it is time for our young people and future generations to have a new space to enjoy for the next 60 years. The St Anthony of Padua Community Association are developing new extra care housing on the Bostey site and we will be moving to a new building in the Presbytery garden as part of this development.



Building on our existing and valued service, responding to local need **we want to...**

- Reach more young people extending both our opening hours and age range
- Increase levels of support to our most vulnerable young people and their families
- Increase the opportunities available for local young people
- Develop a more secure long-term future for the Bostey, which reduces reliance on grant funding by maximising local support for a diverse range of regular giving.
- See the "Bostey" deliver services for and with our young people and their families into the next 60 years.

To do all this we need support

What we are already doing.....

- The Community Association will continue to provide an annual grant, but this is not enough to run our service.
- We continue to make grant applications and we are currently applying for Big Lottery Funding.
- We will continue to develop our **#Jars4kids campaign**.....but more is needed as securing grants from charities is getting more difficult.



And we are so grateful to Holy Name Parish in Jesmond, who have nominated the Bostey as a charity they wish to fund raise for over the coming year.

How can you help?

Bostey Jars- Our #Jars4kids campaign has gone from strength to strength over the last 2 years and we have approximately 40 members of the community generously filling them with loose change. Could you take a jar or do you know a shop or business who would take one for us?

Individual giving –If we got lots of people to give a little regularly this would really help with supporting our running costs. If you are interested, you could set up a standing order to give a little each month and if you are a UK taxpayer, we get an extra 25p for every £1.00 received. Example – if 10 people committed to £10 per month this would create an annual income of £1,500.

Special events – Are you taking part in a sponsored activity? Would you like to make the “Bostey” your nominated charity? Are you holding a local fundraising event? Would you like to donate any funds raised to the “Bostey”?

Volunteer opportunities – do you have a few spare hours a week or a month? Do you have a particular skill that you think would benefit the “Bostey”? If so, we would love to hear from you.

Networking opportunities - Can you provide professional assistance to support our work? Can you introduce us to your networks and help raise the profile of our work? Would your workplace be interested in offering payroll giving? We have lots of ideas. If you think you can help develop these ideas with us please get in touch

BT MyDonate – make a one-off donation at

mydonate.bt.com/charities/thebostey



Stacey (Youth Worker), Father Michael Conaty MBE and Steven (Youth Worker) at a past Bostey reunion

How to contact us

Pop into our office at:

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 **John Boste**
bostey timeline (past members)



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