

hyzone



Hyzone

Annual Report 2010 - 2011

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Report from the Chair...



This annual report, for 2010, marks our 4th year as a youth charity in the town centre of Hamilton, South Lanarkshire. We are a relational Youth work charity concerned with reaching out to our wider community and encouraging young people to grow in potential. This covers a wide area of activity. We have a Sunday Drop-in, based at the South Lanarkshire

Youth Services Universal Connections Centre, running every week with the help of a dozen volunteers drawn from five town centre churches. I am pleased to report some of the young people who have grown with us are volunteering. This has thrilled all of us, and is proof that we are making a difference.

Our skilled staff - Anne Marie McKinnon, Alan McWilliams, Stephen Morel and Conor Maxwell led by Manager Kenneth Johnstone have developed a programme or “Zones” that allow young people to create relationships, express themselves and learn from their experiences. The Creative zone involves art, music, and song writing. Some of our young people have made great strides and their future may lie in expressing these talents more fully. There is now a two-piece band called “Eyes Own!!” The Movie zone allows discussion and questioning via film and media. Street Zone enables us to meet young people through detached street work. A residential weekend this year created the zone for some valuable inter faith work to take place. With the help of the national agency, Young Scot young people of the Islamic faith were able to discover routes to accessing services and encouraging fruitful participation in our community.

We are grateful to our funders some of whom are new to us, especially the Robertson Trust, BBC Children in Need and Faiths in Scotland Community Action Fund. Other funders have continued their essential support especially Hamilton’s five town centre churches, and the Parish Development Fund of the Church

of Scotland. The Big Lottery completed their three-year initial funding to initiate the programme and our final report to them was accepted in September.

The Board of Directors has again offered their time and commitment to good governance and the wise use of resources. South Lanarkshire Youth Services have been excellent partners to our work and it has been excellent to see Hyzone offering its time and staff to collaborative pieces of work in return for the use of a well equipped youth centre.

In the coming year of 2011 we will be engaging with our clients, our volunteers and staff to assess our values and purposes, again creating a new business plan that will develop work from 2012. Everyone is part of our development, growth and potential. Our strength lies in this inclusivity respecting diversity of background. Hyzone has a commitment to developing the Youth Work sector which is a specialist resource for others in the community, especially the faith communities.

Faith is an important journey for it develops each person's relationships and builds community. Without consistent faithfulness to each other we cannot hope to find the spirituality that shapes humanity and civic life into finding the basis for compassionate and forgiving living. Without such a basis we would not know the "fullness of life". Hyzone seeks to share this fullness with young people through our daily work and experiences with them. There's something special about a group of people, young and older, who want to make this journey together. The joy is finding out that creativity, expression, discussion and fun are all involved and each is essential for young people and Hyzone. We are richly blessed.

Ian Barcroft, (*Chair Of Hyzone Board of Directors*)



Partnerships



The partnership between Hamilton Universal Connections and Hyzone has delivered a wide variety of youth provision for the young people of the Hamilton Area during 2010/11. This year has seen the partnership between Hyzone and Youth Learning Services go from strength to strength. There have been many fantastic pieces of work delivered, which has improved the learning experiences and outcomes for the young people.

Kenneth has enhanced the collaborative partnership by introducing some interesting music and arts projects including “Junk Drumming” and “Splat Art” to the youth provision already being delivered by Youth Learning Services. Through continuous consultation with young people, positive learning opportunities have been developed and delivered to the young people both in the Hamilton facility and at the area based centres in Fairhill, Burnbank, Hillhouse and Uddingston.

The highlight of the year was the Senior Citizen’s Dinner celebrating “Burns Day”. The event catered for 30 senior citizens from the five churches that support Hyzone, and was prepared and served by the young people. The senior citizens were also treated to recitals of Burns Poetry, the highlight being the “Address to the Haggis”. The additional support provided by the Hyzone staff and volunteers assists Youth Learning Services to meet the needs and aspirations of young people who are marginalised and in need within central Hamilton and the surrounding communities.



Roz Gallacher
(Youth Learning Service Manager)

Youth Work ...



This last year has seen Hyzone develop in its youth service provision and has had some big changes in staff. Throughout this time Hyzone continued to engage and build positive relationships with the young people of Hamilton. With the strengthening of our youth team and development in our youth provision we are achieving our aims in positive youth engagement and look forward to the future.

The Hyzone 'Sunday Drop-In' is a key focus for our youth engagement and very much a rarity in South Lanarkshire in that this drop-in facility opens on a Sunday evening. We are able to do this through our strong partnership with Hamilton Universal Connections (UC) allowing us to share the building and the facilities within. This year saw the appointment of Robert Burgess as Coordinator with Hamilton UC. He has been greatly supportive of Hyzone and has brought with him exciting new possibilities to develop partnership work that promote opportunities to develop youth engagement.

Our youth service provision has seen itself develop extensively through the work achieved in 'Detached Street-Work', which currently is headed by our new youth worker Anne Marie McKinnon and sessional worker Allan McWilliams. We have also developed our youth work services through 'Outreach Programmes', which have enabled us to connect with many other youth groups and agencies bringing opportunities of active engagement directly to the young people of Hamilton and, importantly, within their own community spaces.

In 2010 Hyzone implemented a variety of Easter and summer programmes, which proved to be very successful for Hyzone in developing positive relationships with young people. This was achieved utilising the creative side of Hyzone which has resulted in continued development of dynamic Creative Arts Zones, Song Writing Zones, Movie Zones, Music Zones and Inter-Faith Zones. These 'Zones' facilitate activities and workshops complement the partnership work with Universal Connections and have continued to do so throughout 2010 and into 2011. Hyzone has continued to promote our aims of positive relationship-building through active participation and engagement with young people, basically getting young people involved. We

have successfully worked with the Bridges Project (early school leavers and referrals), Princes Trust, Young and Senior Carer groups, Primary School groups and several other outreach youth based agencies and projects connected to and with local schools and community centres in Hamilton

Our 'Song Writing Sessions' continues to facilitate a powerful tool through which young people can express themselves freely and openly. There is great scope to address a wealth of youth concerns and issues through music-making, not forgetting that it provides dynamic opportunities to develop and explore youth literacy. Several young people have now had opportunities to perform at a high level at prestigious live events and venues as others gain confidence and find their voice and both musically and as a young person on their journey through life.

Hyzone offers young people many opportunities to become involved with music, be it through DJ'ing, setting up equipment on stages, learning the technical side of music making, performing, song writing and a myriad of other music related opportunities that facilitate the forming of relationships, friends and positive outcomes. Our new young Hyzone sessional worker, Stephen Morel, has taken a positive role in the music technology area having an excellent grounding in music technologies, events management and advertising. He has assisted in mentoring many young people, offering advice and practical opportunities to get involved in music.

Movie Zone provides opportunities to explore the meanings and stories in the cinematic experience. Young people can share a meal together before the film and later discuss narratives and stories from the film, which may have significance on its impact on young people. New sessional worker Conor Maxwell has taken the task of organisation of Movie Zone and who for several years participated in Hyzone activities becoming an accomplished and popular musician and active in volunteering. Conor is mentored in his new role by our new youth worker, Anne Marie McKinnon, who began in November 2010 and brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge from many years in youth work that is of great benefit to Hyzone.

For over two years Hyzone engaged with an Islamic young person group as part of our Interfaith work culminating in a terrific outdoor residential weekend in August last year. There was tremendous support for the work we achieved from both the young people themselves and local faith organisations that were willing to create interfaith opportunities (churches, mosques etc...). There was also great support from South Lanarkshire youth based

agencies recognising the tremendous value in attempting to contribute to breaking down the taboos of economic, social and cultural barriers that can affect young people from any faith or background. It is our aim to continue to develop Inter-faith work and engage with young people who may or may not have a faith but who express an interest to find out more and explore the subject of faith in their community.

Several successful Hyzone and UC partnership events took place such as the 'Burns Supper' and 'U Got It Talent Night', these events enabled members of the community to come together, both young and old, to share in what young people are capable of achieving. These events provided great examples of youth agency partnership cooperation that facilitated intergenerational opportunities for young people. These events were greatly applauded by of the parents and older members of the local community who had been present, many of whom returned very high praise for the input, enthusiasm and interaction of the young people involved.

This coming year sees the introduction of the Hyzone 'Andrew Plummer Award' after several months of planning. This award is aimed at young people who can submit an application relating to youth initiatives which may have been completed or being currently undertaking. The submissions should demonstrate that they have positive benefits for the local community. This award will be presented in November as part of the Youth Awards Ceremony

Hyzone looks to the future and aims to develop these "Youth -Zones"

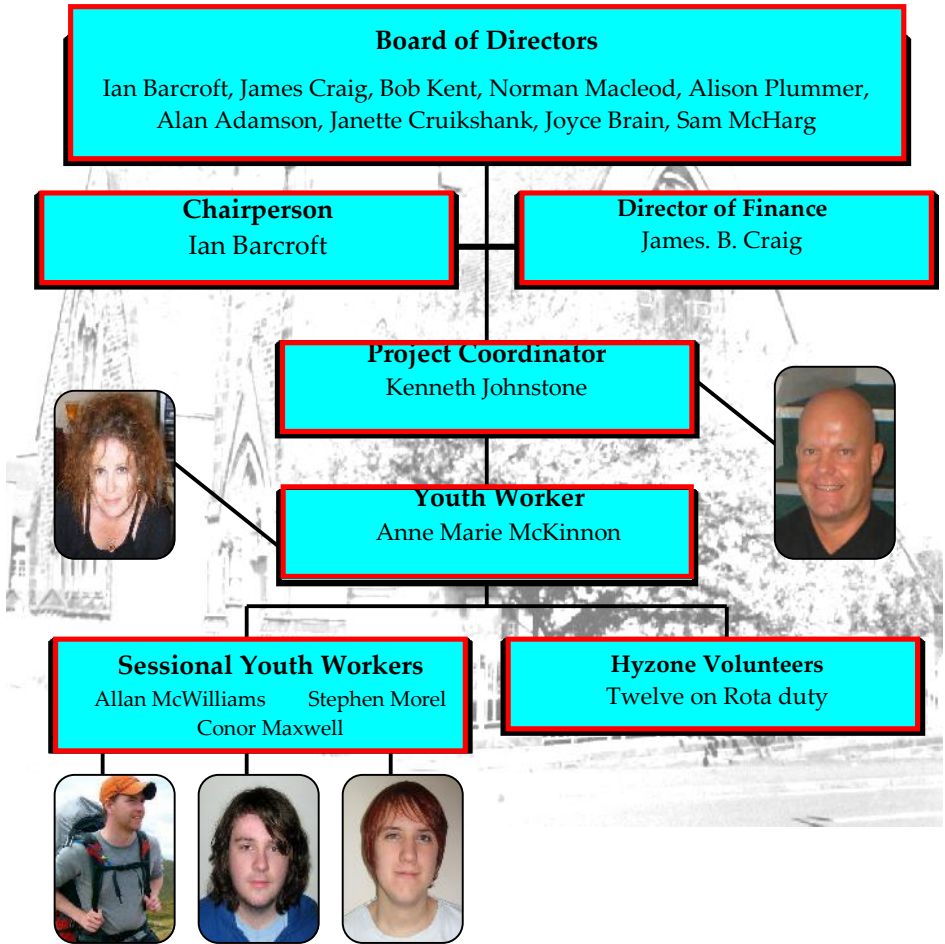
- *Sunday Night Zone*
- *Song-Writing Zone*
- *Movie Zone*
- *Street-Work Zone*
- *Creative Zone*
- *Outreach Zone*
- *Interfaith Zone*



These 'Zones' enable Hyzone to reach out and potentially create positive relationships-building, confidence and trust with the young people of Hamilton, whilst helping and encouraging them on their journey through life. It is our sincere hope that we at Hyzone continue to journey forward together and develop this youth work into the future.



Hyzone Staff 2011



Hyzone 'Management Team 2010'

Ian Barcroft

Hyzone Chairperson

Kenneth Johnstone

Hyzone Project Coordinator

Alison Plummer

Hyzone Board of Directors

Alan Adamson

Hyzone Board of Directors

Conor Maxwell

Young Person



A right bunch!!!...



“Hyzone is a well-organised group for young people. I have been taking part in the song-writing group for several months which is a fun and social way of educating young people and how to interpret language to engage with music which I find to be a very useful everyday thing as it shows how language can be seen in different broader views”.
Grant (Young Person)”



“It is delightful to be part of the Hyzone Project, learning so much from the team as they strive to deliver the kind of service our young people deserve. Best of all is the privilege of being allowed to listen to their views on life and their dreams for their future. Hopefully Hyzone can help them to fulfil these ambitions. Just wish someone would show a bit of respect for age and let me win at table tennis (You know who you are!)”.
Joyce (Volunteer)



“Hyzone is a home from home for me. I always feel welcome and I like the staff who are happy to see me. It is the best part of my Sunday night”.
Beth (Young Person)



“As a volunteer with Hyzone I enjoy interacting with the young people who regularly attend on a Sunday evening. Joining in playing a game of pool, table tennis or even just having a chat with them not only keeps me up-to-date with what’s new on the scene but also to lend an ear if needed. I think Hyzone offers young people a safe environment to meet with one another, make new friends and an opportunity to establish positive relationships. There is great talent amongst some of the young people and it’s encouraging to see them grow in confidence”.



Elaine (*Volunteer*)



“I started song writing two and half years ago. I started out as a guitarist then I moved 2 keyboards and now I have finally settled down to singer and tech guy. Song writing has helped me realise what I can do with a small bit of encouragement from the workers and volunteers. I hope that I can continue my work with Hyzone and with song writing to become a better young person in myself and to also get rid of my stage fright”.

Jordan (*Young Person*)



“The Song Writing group has expanded over the past year to include a genuinely talented group of singers, rappers, guitarists and lyricists. We explore the various aspects of the craft, focusing on wordplay, melody, instrumental technique and performance skills. The diversity of the group allows us to work in a variety of styles and genres, from reggae to hard rock, creating various moods in the compositions, which reflect the emotional lives of the young people. In terms of subject matter, the group is freethinking, bold, and committed to the concerns of our society. We are able to air and work through all the pressures and anxieties of being a young person, as well as expressing some of the

joys and liberties of youth. Some of our time is devoted to word exercises, which is particularly interesting to me as a poet. This can be challenging, but opens up creative pathways, which are genuinely inspiring. Part of our process is to get the young people working together in pairings or groups, so that ideas are swapped and brought to light in a collaborative context. Again, this is motivating and inspiring and produces some truly outstanding results. Although we focus primarily on the process of the art, and aren't particularly goal-oriented, we are at a place now where it would be nice to produce something tangible, perhaps a recording or a group performance, which would express the dedication, hard work, and sheer talent of the young people involved. We hope to deepen our commitment to song writing and inspire the participants to go off and work together in bands or as solo artists, where who knows what opportunities lie in wait”.

Stephen (*Volunteer and Song-Writing assistant*)



“As a volunteer at Hyzone on Sunday nights I have gained valuable insight into the problems of young people and found listening to their voices has helped me understand more about young people. I really enjoy the experience and in building trusted relationships with the young people who attend Hyzone”.

Janette (*Volunteer*)

“Hyzone has a fun and relaxed atmosphere where young people can come and meet. Staff are easily approachable and are just as much fun as young people, this is what makes Hyzone enjoyable”.



Rachael (*Young Person*)



“Hyzone is especially good as it has given me something encouraging and fun to do. It is important to me because I have now found out that I am talented at table tennis and thanks to this, wish to pursue it further. With Hyzone this talent is supported through workers either with them playing me or teaching me how to get better. To me Hyzone is amazing”.

Mandy (*Young Person*)



“Hyzone for me is something important. It has given me a chance to express myself musically within the song-writing club. If that wasn’t in place there’s nowhere offering the same sort of opportunity. It also gives you the chance to meet new people and have fun in a safe environment”.

Jamie (*Young Person*)



Finances...



Balance at the start of the year	£62880
Income	£39202
Expenditure	£43896
Personnel Costs	£35922
Closing Balance	£58187
Reserve	£43005

Income:

The first three years of our Funding had come to an end at February 2010. One of our key funders for the launch of Hyzone, The Big Lottery Fund, concluded their participation and therefore a big element in our funding had ended. The five Hamilton Churches, namely, St John's, St Andrew's, Cadzow, Hamilton Old and St Mary's continued to support Hyzone with contributions of £3000 each. New or continuing funding was successfully sought for this next period. The Church of Scotland Parish Development Fund has committed to £4000 for the current and subsequent year. The Robertson Trust and Faiths in Scotland Community Action Fund are supporting us for the same period for £10000 and £5000 respectively. Also, we achieved a grant of £9350 for the BBC Children in Need, part of which was received in this financial year and the remainder will be in 2011,

Expenditure:

Our "business" is predominantly the interaction of our staff members with the young people and, as such, the major proportion of our expenditure will always be personnel cost. This year the personnel cost was 82% of our total expenditure. We acknowledge the great deal of work done by our volunteers, who have freely given of their time. This year one of our staff, Derek Scott, left the company to pursue other career options and after a short time Anne Marie McKinnon replaced the gap.

Future:

We have prepared our budget and Cash Flow figures for the coming year, which has demonstrated that we are financially secure. During the year we will be seeking further funds from potential donors to continue our work into 2012 and 2013.

James B. Craig (*Financial Director*)

Co-ordinator's Report...



Having been in post over one year I have seen Hyzone go through considerable change and take positive steps forward in the development of its Youth Provision Service and partnership work. Part of these changes saw Hyzone employ Anne Marie McKinnon as our new youth worker in November 2010 and also the inclusion of two new sessional staff, Stephen Morel and Conor Maxwell, who will work together with Allan McWilliams who has been with Hyzone for several years. This new and energised youth team bring to Hyzone a wealth of skills, experience, vitality and enthusiasm for youth work. The benefits of this new staff structure combined with the dedication of our volunteers have given Hyzone the strength, stability and motivation to maintain and develop its youth work initiatives in Hamilton.

In 2010 Hyzone continued to strengthen and develop partnerships both with Hamilton Universal Connections, South Lanarkshire Youth Learning Services and several other youth based agencies operating in Hamilton. These partnerships enable Hyzone to reach out and create networks enabling Hyzone to develop greater opportunities to make contact and engage with young people. This ultimately raises the profile of Hyzone and its partnership network and the potential opportunities to benefit young people. As mentioned previously in 'Youth Work' we strive to create new 'Zones' through which young people can actively participate and engage in activities, workshops and events facilitating positive experiences.

Hyzone maintains strong links with the five churches that support us as without them we would not be able to achieve much of the work we do. They have been invaluable both financially and in their willingness to assist Hyzone in its project delivery from providing outreach venues and resources to offering assistance and shelter freely. The church input is highlighted by the fact that most of our current volunteers come from the various church congregations who bring with them life experience, knowledge and many transferable skills. This openness and welcoming ethos from our supporting churches inspires and helps demonstrate the way in which a local community can become bonded through partnership and friendship to help those with recognised needs, specifically our children and young people.

Hyzone has been successful in sourcing new funding but continues to work tirelessly to secure new funding for the future. As part of future planning Hyzone hosted a 'Vision Day' on February 27th inviting young people, staff, management and persons with an interest in Hyzone, the aim being to explore new ideas and concepts to shape a new business plan for a successful future for Hyzone. Through dedication and hard work Hyzone continues to strive to encourage and support young people on their journey through life and to hopefully fulfil their potential.

Kenneth Johnstone
(Project Coordinator)



Zoned-In



hyzone  is supported by:

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church
St John's Church of Scotland
Hamilton Old Parish Church
Cadzow Parish Church
St Andrews Parish Church
Church of Scotland Parish Development Fund
Faiths In Scotland Community Action Fund
Robertson Trust
BBC Children In Need**

Hyzone works in partnership with South Lanarkshire's Youth Learning Services (YLS) specifically through 'Hamilton Universal Connections'. Hyzone recognises the valuable contributions given by the many agencies and other bodies for the support given in-kind over the last year and to whom we are extremely grateful.



**Hyzone is recognised by the Inland Revenue as a Scottish Charity SC032663
Company Number SC227515
www.hyzone.co.uk**