



Get set for an action-packed holiday

Skimming through the water on a giant inflatable and wakeboarding on the crest of a wave are just two of the activities youngsters can enjoy at this year's Action Holiday.

The Action Holiday programme, which is organised by Surrey Heath Borough Council's Leisure Services, will run from Monday, August 6, to Friday, August 24, and offers a mix of activities for four to 16 year olds.

Scheme Organiser Derek Truman said: "The programme gives young people the chance to experience sports and activities which they may not usually have the opportunity to take part in at home or school, such as watersports. For those who attended the archery, canoeing and air rifle shooting sessions last year and achieved the first levels of competence, they will be able to return this year and work towards the next stage."

Five hundred young people took part in last year's scheme with 80 per cent of the courses being fully booked. Other activities available include a dance workshop, football, fishing, skateboarding and golf. The Jungle Adventure takes place on August 5 and Jungle Safari on August 3, 4 and 5.

Scheme Co-ordinator Wendy Gibson said: "The programme of activities are unique because the Council works in partnership with outside organisations in addition to running its own activities. This year we particularly want to encourage those aged 13 to 16 years old to attend the sessions. We have put together activities specially targeted to this group, where they will participate alongside their peers rather than with the younger children."

The Borough Council's Leisure Services works in partnership with Lightwater Sports Centre, Basingstoke Canal Canoe Centre, the Arena Leisure Centre, Deepcut Village Centre and the Royal Military Academy to provide the activities.

Jenny Phillips whose son Marcus has attended fishing, archery and canoeing sessions, as well as the Jungle Adventure, praised the scheme for its organisation and mix of sessions. She said: "The activities are so well run, I have been particularly pleased with the way the children are motivated and their participation rewarded with prizes and certificates. Marcus has really enjoyed the activities and found them exciting, interesting and simulating."



Photo: courtesy of Peter Blackman.

An Action Holiday programme also ran for the first time during the October half-term in 2006 and "Have a Go" Action Holiday activities will be held through the Easter Holidays, from April 9 – 13.

The Easter events will see the first family activity day being held on April 9. This will enable parents to take part in activities alongside their children. Further family days are planned for the summer.

Bookings are now being taken for the Easter Action Holiday programme. Please call 01276 707543 Monday to Friday 8.30am – 5pm.

A brochure containing information about all the summer activities with dates, times and prices will be available from schools, libraries, leisure and community centres in the Borough and at the Council Offices in May. Also visit www.surreyheath.gov.uk/leisure and click on Action Holiday for more information.



Surrey Heath girls' rugby team from last year's youth games with their Manager Jamie Duffield.

With London preparing to host the Olympic Games in 2012, young athletes in Surrey Heath can take part in Surrey's own Olympic-style event this summer.

The 11th Surrey Youth Games will see around 2,000 youngsters from the county's 11 local authorities gather over two weekends to compete in a variety of sports.

Following on from the success of last year's Surrey Heath squad, who bagged third place, training and selection for this year's games will begin shortly, with Surrey Heath planning to enter all events.

On your marks for the 2007 Surrey Youth Games

The following events will be included:

- Athletics (mixed), Year 5 & 6
- Badminton (mixed), Year 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9
- Boccia – a game similar to bowls for people with disabilities (mixed), Year 6 and under, Year 11 & under
- Basketball (boys & girls), Year (7), 8 & 9
- Football (girls), Year 3 & 4 and Year 5 & 6
- Hockey (boys & girls), Year 5 & 6 and 7 & 8
- Judo (boys & girls), Year 4 – 6 and 6 – 10
- Netball (girls), Year 7 & 8 and 9 & 10
- Rugby (mixed), Year 3 & 4
- Squash (mixed), Year 5, 6 & 7
- Tennis (boys & girls), Year 6 & 7 and Year 8 & 9

Year (7) = Year 7 eligible if teams are struggling for numbers

The games will be held on June 23 and 24 in Guildford. To be eligible to represent Surrey Heath participants must either live or go to school in the Borough.

The Surrey Heath squad will be sponsored by **Toshiba, Servon, Prontaprint** and the **Arena Leisure Centre**.

Further details about the games are available from schools and leisure centres across the Borough, alternatively please call Borough Council Leisure Development Officer Kelly Carvey on 01276 707272. For more information about last year's games visit www.surreyheath.gov.uk/leisure.