

BYZ NEWS



The official newsletter of Blackburn Youth Zone: April 2019 | Edition 2

Welcome

After being on maternity leave, I am excited to be returning to BYZ formally from the 1st May. Raz and the team have done a fantastic job, our membership remains at 2,900 and our weekly visits are over 1,000. We have seen several new businesses that have joined our strong patron network including Star Academies Trust, Hippo Motor Group, Vision Support Services, Silicone Engineering, AMS Accountants Group and Reel Cinemas.

Over the past few months we have been working closely with the Council and Blackburn Rovers Community Trust to form a Strategic Youth Alliance. The aim is to utilize our resources to benefit young people at BYZ and across the neighbourhood, this is an exciting time as it will increase our reach and impact to young people.

After 7 years of young people having fun in the building, our flooring was in desperate need of a refurbishment, we are so grateful to Peter Street for kindly donating funds to enable to do this - thank you!

I look forward to catching up with everyone in the next few months.



BYZ Supporters Lunch

Siddiq Musa a partner from KPMG was the keynote speaker at a special lunch for Blackburn Youth Zone hosted by Ebrahim Sidat at the charity's central Blackburn facilities. Siddiq gave the audience a great insight in to his inclusive and collaborative culture - his words inspired the audience.

The event was attended by over 100 representatives from companies and individuals who support the Youth Zone to raise £1.2 million every year to keep the Youth Zone open; including

Forbes Solicitors, Cardboard Box Company, Graham and Brown, Blackburn Council, Vision Support Services, Cummins Mellor Recruitment, Napthens Solicitors, Blackburn College, PM+M Accountants and other supporters.



5 STAR REVIEW

"I don't think you will ever understand how much impact you have on the youth of the community and also the families. THANK YOU"

VOLUNTEER SUPERSTAR SAMEERAH

Congratulations to Sameerah for all her hard work and commitment to Blackburn Youth Zone. Sameerah has volunteered 48 hours in March.

Rose Morgan, Volunteer and Mentoring Coordinator at Blackburn Youth Zone said:

"Sameerah since day one has been part of the team, she is highly motivated and works incredibly hard every session.

Sameerah's passion shines through; this can be seen in the work she does with young people.

Blackburn Youth Zone is supported by over 58 volunteers who have volunteered 1,026 hours throughout March - Wow!

You can volunteer and support young people in so many ways at Blackburn Youth Zone. For more information please contact rose.morgan@blackburnyz.org or call 01254 292000.



"The team at BYZ are so welcoming. I have developed skills and have led activities. I am so happy to receive this recognition because it shows I have made a positive impact for the young people" **Sameerah, Volunteer at BYZ**

WORKING TOGETHER

- Join BYZ this Easter Monday for the free Family Fun Day 12pm-3pm. Bring the whole family and take part in a whole range of activities.
- Alpha Digital Day hosted their Alpha Innov8 Day at BYZ in partnership with Jak Spedding photography and Big Tank Video Productions and raised £210 for BYZ through their raffle.
- BYZ members pitched their enterprise ideas to BYZ supporters - at the Soup on the go event which has empowered the members by

gaining them valuable skills to become business leaders of the next generation - thank you to the community for the support.

- Thank you to Senator and Crown Paints for donating resources to support the refurbishment.
- BYZ worked in partnership One Voice WEGS group to deliver a Zumbathon for International womens day and was attended by 150 people.

Book on BYZ Holiday Club every half term for £10

Blackburn Youth Zone runs a holiday club every half term for 8 - 11 years. This Easter 8th - 19th April you can board the BYZ cruise ship as we take an exciting trip around the 7 continents of the world, with activities inspired by different continents each day. Book your space now for £10 a day or £40 for the week with breakfast, snacks and lunch all included.



Patron Spotlight

A big thank you to Napthens Solicitors for all their hard work and effort in arranging fantastic fundraising events. As well as being Patrons, Napthens have arranged a Clay Shoot and Wine and Cheese Evening and in total raised over £8,000 for BYZ.

This June Oliver McCann will also be taking on a challenge of

swimming the Great North Swim.

“The Youth Zone is at the heart of the community bringing businesses and young people together with the aim of improving the prospects of young people in the area. We see our relationship with the Youth Zone as a partnership. We believe we get back a great deal from our investment and involvement with the Youth

Zone - knowing we are making a difference to our community, inspiring young people here in Blackburn with Darwen to be the best they can be, and making new business connections with similar ethos and values.”

- Oliver McCann, Employment Partner and Head of East Lancs Office

Hippo's £10,000 pledge to Blackburn Youth Zone

The charity's chairman, Rt Hon Jack Straw, visited Hippo's Trident Park showroom to collect the cheque and find out more about the business which employs 160 people.

Tom Preston, Hippo's managing director, said: “We're privileged to become a patron of a local cause which does so much for the young people of our community.

“We have a few charity events on the cards to raise even more money for the Youth Zone and we hope that our involvement will also help raise further awareness about the fantastic things they do for the young people in the town.”

Interested in joining the patron network? Call the fundraising team on 01254 292000.



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PART OF THE **SLIDE** NETWORK