

The Coggeshall Prentice Youth Work Trust.



The role of the Youth Worker in Coggeshall is an important post within the community supported by the Churches Together in Coggeshall, The current post holder is leaving at the end of May 2012, having been in post for six years. It is hoped that the successful candidate will be able to take up the post during May spending some time with the current post holder.

A number of groups/clubs are in existence for children and young people, both secular and faith based, and meet regularly during term time.

- "Gateway" on Tuesday nights (6-8pm) for people aged 14-18, meets each week at St. Peter's Church.
- "Xite" on Tuesdays for children in Years 5 & 6, meets from 4.30 - 6.00pm each week at St Peter's Church.
- "Anim8z" on Thursdays for young people in Years 7, 8 & 9, meets from 4.00 - 5.30pm at Christ Church.
- "L8rz" on Thursdays for young people in Years 10+, meets from 5.30 – 7.00pm at Christ Church.
- "PowerHouse" on Fridays for young people in years 3 – 6 from 5.30pm - 7.00pm. at St. Peter's Church.

The youth worker leads primary school assemblies on a regular basis and attends services at all three churches.

There is an established pattern of outings, children's holiday clubs and activity days and an annual visit to a Christian Youth Camp.

Coggeshall Profile.



Coggeshall is an historic town with a population around 5,000, located in North Essex, just a few miles from the Suffolk border and Constable Country.

London is a 50 minute train journey from nearby Kelvedon Station (3 miles) and if your destination is further afield, then the expanding Airport at Stansted is only 25 miles away. Cambridge is 50 miles, while the East Coast is 30 miles. Coggeshall is centrally situated for all of the major 2012 Olympic venues which are within a one hour journey.

Although Coggeshall developed along the Roman Road, known as Stane Street, (the current A120 running east to west across Essex,) the framework of present day Coggeshall grew up in Medieval times, as became a wealthy centre of the wool trade and the location of a Cistercian Abbey. Many buildings in the centre of Coggeshall date from this period and Church Street, in particular, is lined with a number of magnificent timber-framed houses.



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Between the 1950's and the 1980's there was extensive growth within the village of both social and private housing development, mainly to the north and east. In the early 1980's the Coggeshall by-pass was completed, taking the A120 through traffic out of the medieval centre of Coggeshall.

The Churches.

There are three churches in Coggeshall.

The 15th Century Parish Church of St. Peter-ad-Vincula is one of the largest churches in Essex. Approximately 150 parishioners worship here on a regular basis and 30 children are registered with the "10 o'clock club" (Sunday School), all of whom are primary school age. The Church is also frequently used for concerts and other cultural and educational events, as well as the Annual Flower Festival.

The Church of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, serves the Roman Catholic Community and Christ Church, which is a local and ecumenical partnership of Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed traditions. The congregation is small and mainly elderly, but the multi-purpose building is busy with a wide range of community activities for young and old throughout the week.



The three churches enjoy close links through “Churches Together in Coggeshall” with joint events such as twice yearly Children’s Activity Club ,a Children’s Holiday Club, Lent Lectures, Palm Sunday and Holy Week Services, including Seder Supper, distribution of Christmas and Easter Cards, Christian Aid and United Services and other study courses.

The Schools.

Coggeshall has two schools.

St. Peter’s Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School currently has 320 pupils, ranging from 4-11 years. The Youth Worker has close relationships with the staff, visiting and taking assemblies

The Honywood Community School is a co-educational, comprehensive and community school for approximately 940 pupils in the 11-16 age range. The pupils come not only from Coggeshall, but also surrounding villages. Honywood has recently become an Academy, holds Leading Edge status and is designated an outstanding school by OFSTED. The schools are supportive and encouraging of the Trust and the Youth Worker.

The Community.

Coggeshall is a friendly community, with a range of shops, including super-markets, independent food retailers, several takeaway food outlets, restaurants, a number of pubs, clothing and gift shops. There are also health and dental services, a library and a number of recreation, leisure and sporting facilities. Coggeshall has both football and cricket teams and a badminton club, based at the Honywood School, which also boasts a gym circuit.



The Royal Market Charter of Coggeshall, having lapsed at some unknown date, was revived by the Parish Council in the 1980’s. This is a thriving market, held on Thursday mornings, in the town centre and has attracted a variety of popular stalls.



Ten miles away is Colchester, Britain’s oldest recorded town. This is home to the University of Essex and is well known for its links with the army, which has a large garrison in town. Colchester Borough is the estimated home to over 150,000 people, while the population of the town itself is 100,000. Here there are further food establishments and pubs, a greater variety of shops, clubs, theatres, cinemas, museums and there are a number of out of town retail parks.

Government demographic surveys indicate that the Coggeshall of today is a wealthy area, although there are some pockets of deprivation. House prices have soared since the 1980’s, and there is some evidence that they are beyond the reach of some young people, born in Coggeshall, who would wish to remain in the community. Coggeshall faces other

common problems found in rural communities, not least that of bored youngsters, complaining that there is nothing to do in the village, with the accompanying issues of petty crime and vandalism.

Scouting and Guiding flourish in Cogglesall. There are currently 90 boys scouting and 125 girls guiding. Both have waiting lists. Basketball and football facilities exist in the Recreation Ground.

The Village Hall was refurbished by the Parish Council in 2003 and has been renovated to Disability Act standards, with various rooms available for hire, and is now licenced as a wedding venue. Children's activities held in the Village Hall include a Parent and Child Playgroup, a Dance School and Music for Little People. For the grown-ups there are Adult Education Classes, a Bridge Club, Carpet Bowls and Slimmer's World. A variety of other Adult Education Classes take place at the Honeywood School and in surrounding villages.

Web Site.

If you have not already done so, please visit our web site at www.cpywt.org.uk