



YFA TRAVEL DOCUMENT

Seeing the world with the YFC Discovery Programme

NAME: Alex MacKellar

CLUB: Stone YFC

DESTINATION: Wales

TYPE OF TRIP: Summer Seminar

DURATION: 1 week

DATES OF TRAVEL: October 2006



DESCRIPTION OF TRIP:

"Breaking The Barriers"

"All Different, All Equal"

My experience began at the National Selection Day at Stoneleigh in December 2005 when I was selected to represent England at the Autumn Seminar in Cardiff. As well as myself, Rebecca Davies from Shropshire was selected.

When arriving in the capital of Wales, Cardiff. I found out that the week involved seminars about "Breaking the Barriers" between languages, disabilities, racial issues, city life, rural life and human rights.

During the week, an International Buffet was held. This was a chance for the countries to taste food and drink from other countries and learn a bit about their own cultures. I unfortunately found out that Austrian Schnapps is a very strong drink. The Staffordshire Oatcakes were a hit with most of the other countries.

Each day I was taken on trips, I visited a youth project, which is helping young children in urban areas. The group also had a tour around Cardiff to see what urban life is like. During this I got to see the affects of drug abuse, homelessness, and alcohol abuse, which touched a nerve with most of the delegates.

The group had the opportunity to visit the Welsh Parliament Assembly Building which cost £60 million to build and is made from all Welsh materials. During the visit I had the chance to sit in the Welsh Prime Ministers Chair.

On the last night I had the chance to learn Welsh singing and folk dancing, which was hard to learn but very fun.

The seminar was a chance to meet people from 14 other European countries who take part in their rural youth organisations and learn new skills.

I found the seminar very informational. I made many new friends and learnt many new skills. I will never forget this experience.

Alexandra MacKellar