

Awards in Wakefield area go towards youth support and education

Two groups from the Wakefield area received Pride In Your Community grant awards recently for their commitment and service to segments of their community.

LINEHAM FARM based in North Leeds, is a residential centre open to child visitors from the greater Leeds area. The centre largely caters for youngsters who are nominated by their schools as candidates and offers the youngsters a chance to have a week's break and experience hands on activities such as art and crafts, archery, animal husbandry and general outdoor lifestyles. Each week, 24 children aged 8 to 12 visit with their school for a residential holiday with a difference.

Whilst staff wages are council funded, the centre largely relies upon donations and fundraising for the upkeep of the farm itself, the feeding of the animals and supply of equipment for activities.

The group were unable to attend the grant giving ceremony at Barnsley's Head Office at Permanent Building, as they had a visit from the Countess of Wessex who took time out to have a good look around their facilities.

ST JOHN S PRE—SCHOOL GROUP is a childcare organisation based, as the name suggests, in the St John's area of Wakefield. Their original application was for grant funding for a gardening project which the children, all aged between two and four, would become involved with.

However in the space of time between application and the Pride In Your Community panel meeting, the group were able to secure a 'free' allotment close by. Their application then developed into a requirement for gardening tools for 'reduced height' users, to allow the club members to dig



Sherice Gelder from the Wakefield Branch and Lineham Farm Fundraiser Lisa Barnes and two 'residents' from the south Leeds area.



Children who attend St John's Pre School Group and co-ordinator, Zoe Booth (left), who applied on behalf of the organisation

and plant vegetables in their own patch.

Their ultimate aim is to get the children growing their own 'organic style' vegetables which will both get club members out in the fresh air and educate them at an early age into the benefits of healthy eating and how the food their parents buy from the supermarket, is produced.

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