

Country park's big day arrives

FAMILIES can enjoy a range of activities at Daventry Country Park's annual Countryside Day this weekend.

The event is designed to showcase the best in traditional countryside events and is one of the biggest days of the year at the park.

J.R.C.S Falconry will provide static and flying displays of their birds of prey, while the popular Logs on Draught horse loggers will provide demonstrations for people to watch and ask questions.

Working gun dogs will also be used in a training session and there will be a chance for visitors to have their dog's health checked with the PDSA Pet check service or get advice on caring for your dog from Dogs Trust, the largest dog welfare charity in the UK.

Other entertainment and activities include children's rides, information and advice stands and the Friends of Daventry Country Park plant stall.

Ian Vincent, Daventry District Council's chief executive, said: "The Countryside Day is always a very popular and enjoyable event for visitors

"This year promises to be no different with a range of interesting and diverse traditional countryside activities."

The Countryside Day is being held on Sunday, from noon to 4pm, at Daventry Country Park.

For more information about the event, call Gemma Cooper on 01327 871100 or go to www.daventrydc.gov.uk/countryside.

Fund-raising included helping feed 700 schoolchildren in The Gambia

Diana award for school

By Callum Jones
Chronicle Reporter

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A SECONDARY school in Northampton has been given the Diana Award for fund-raising after pupils raised enough money to feed a school of 770 students in The Gambia for a year.

The fund-raising activities at the school, co-ordinated by The Duston School Young Chamber, has raised thousands of pounds for the Kwinella School over the past few years and recently donated more than £3,500 to the Always a Chance charity, set up in memory of James Kouzaris and James Cooper, two friends who were murdered while on holiday in Florida.

The school has been given The Diana Award, which was established in 1999 as a lasting legacy to Diana, Princess of Wales' belief that 'young people have the power to change the world'.

Julie Ricketts from The Duston School, who co-ordinated the activities of the Young Chamber, said: "We are extremely proud that our students have received this prestigious award.

"The Diana Award will help to encourage the continuation of our fund-raising efforts, especially as we are preparing for our annual charity week at the beginning of July.

"The whole school comes together and students and staff use their enterprise skills to raise funds for our charities."

This year's charity week at The Duston School will involve the introduction of an Enterprise Zone, where students will run their own 'busi-



Pupils, staff and fund-raisers at The Duston School have been celebrating being given the coveted Diana Award

Submitted picture

nesses' for the benefit of the school's chosen charities.

Maggie Turner OBE, chief executive of The Diana Award, said the school deserved recognition for its commitment to fund-raising.

She said: "We are delighted to recognise young fund-raisers who give their time to raise money for causes they are passionate about.

"We know that the Diana Award will inspire others to make a real dif-

ference to their communities".

In one day last November, pupils at The Duston School managed to raise more than £3,500 for Always a Chance.

A total of more than £2,000 was raised from a range of activities, including a multi-day, a raffle, a cake sale, a football tournament and a 'guess the number of sweets in a jar' competition. Mr Kouzaris's father, Pete, is a history teacher at the school.

Summit looks at brain injury rehabilitation

A SUMMIT about the latest advances in rehabilitation for people with a brain injury is to take place in Northamptonshire.

Experts will gather at Kettering Conference Centre next week to talk about latest research in the field.

The county is an acknowledged centre for high-quality private brain

injury units.

A spokeswoman for the Christchurch Court unit in Abington, Northampton, who organised the event, said: "The Northamptonshire Acquired Brain Injury Forum Conference will be of interest to all professionals and families working or living with individuals with an acquired

brain injury." Day one, Friday, May 18, will be aimed at professionals and day two, May 19, will be of particular interest to families, service users and carers.

A full conference programme is available at www.abinorthants.co.uk. To book a place contact Julie Mallard at julie.mallard@oakleafcare.com

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The Diana Award gives recognition to young people aged between 12 and 18, who both make outstanding and selfless contributions to their communities and also demonstrate the qualities associated with Diana Princess of Wales - compassion and a commitment to improving the lives of others.

Dear Julie,

I have great pleasure in informing you that your nomination for the Diana Champion Fundraiser category has been successful.

Each member of the group will get a named certificate, and your organisation will receive a certificate with the name of the group displayed. Please see below for the names that will be displayed on each certificate:

Names of young people:

Adam Saunderson, Kaan Uyduran, Hayley Brown, Jack Boddington, Robbie Brown, James Bennett, Georgina Dixon, Matthew Little, Amy Brooks, Leanne Rowley, Daniel Clark, Kaan Uyduran

Name of group: The Duston School Young Chamber

Organisation: The Duston School

We were delighted to receive this nomination, thank you so much for taking the time to send it in. The assessors were really impressed and particularly thought that the nominee was an excellent role model and that the nomination really did have that "Wow" factor that we were looking for.

We are planning to send out all certificates and within 3 weeks of our deadline - which is the 18th May 2012, we will let you know as soon as they have been sent out to you.

Congratulations once again and thank you for your participation.

Very Best Wishes,

Miss Frankie Spivey
Project Officer
Diana Award
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The Duston School receives a National Diana Award for Fundraising

At an award ceremony in Canary Wharf on 24th September, students from Year 10 and 11, representing The Duston School Young Chamber and The Duston School, collected a National Diana Award for Fundraising. This prestigious award is only presented to a small number of individuals and groups each year and this year the awards were given out by Sinatta, more popularly known as Simon Cowell's sidekick on the X-Factor. The Duston School received it for the fundraising that has been completed for the Kwinella School in The Gambia over the last 3 years. To date students have raised over £8,000 which has been used to provide meals for the 770 students at the school. The money has been raised during mufti days and charity week's events.

The charities that are supported by The Duston School each year are decided by the student Cadre. They should be making their decision over the new few weeks and we will let you know the outcome in the next newsflash!



The Duston School Young Chamber Group

has been awarded a Diana Champion Fundraiser Award

We have been raising money for the Fresh Start Foundation since June 2010 with the money providing meals for children at The Kwinella School.

As a result of the Charity fundraising The Duston School has to date raised over £8000 for The Kwinella School. This buys a staggering 400,000 meals which would feed the entire Kwinella School of 770 students for nearly a year and a half.

With support from The Young Chamber, every tutor group within the school, supported by staff were tasked with coming up with an enterprising way to raise funds for our link school in The Gambia. The array of different activities was very impressive

- The ever popular cake sales went down a storm!
- Soak the Teacher
- Tin Can Alley
- Beat The Goalie
- Car Washing
- Shave the Balloon
- Sumo Wrestling Teachers
- Art Auction and the
- Human Fruit Machine
- Ice-cream sales
- Sweet tombola.
- With over 50 fundraising activities taking place across the week, held at break and lunch, there are too many to mention but needless to say a huge amount of fun was had whilst raising money for such a worthwhile charity.

The Young Chamber continues to play a key role within The Duston School for raising awareness of enterprise and social enterprise activities. They are due to hold 'The Duston Den' during Global Entrepreneurship Week which will allow students to pitch their business ideas to The Young Chamber to try and secure funding to make their new business ideas a reality.

Students attending today;

Jack Boddington Y11 – With help from the Young Chamber Jack set up an in-school business called 'Tropical Splash' making fruit drinks. All of the profits from this business were donated to the Kwinella School.

Kaan Uyduran – Y10 – As a key member of the Young Chamber, Kaan helped set-up some of the charity week events supporting students across the school.

From: Salina Gendoo-Smith [<mailto:Salina.Gendoo-Smith@northants-chamber.co.uk>]

Sent: 08 November 2011 14:30

To: awards-info@diana-award.org.uk

Subject: Testimonial evidence in relation to nomination reference 1111-7637

Dear Sirs,

I write with reference to the following Nomination reference 1111-7637 for the Diana Award. I represent Northampton Chamber of Commerce and have been working with The Duston School since June 2009 working collaboratively on a student led enterprise programme called Young Chamber.

During Charity week in the school year 2010/2011 the students came up with fundraising ideas for their nominated charity, Kwinella School. The Young Chamber Council and their fellow students worked tirelessly running many successful activities, from events such as Soak the Teacher, Tin Can Alley, Beat The Goalie, Car Washing, Shave the Balloon, Sumo Teachers, an Art Auction and the Human Fruit Machine ran alongside the more traditional cake sales, ice-cream sales and sweet tombola. With over 50 fundraising activities taking place across the week, held at break and lunch. As a result of all the fundraising the school have to date raised over £5800 for The Kwinella School. This equates to 290,000 meals which would feed the entire Kwinella School of 770 students for over one whole year, an astounding achievement. The Young Chamber Council have been working together as a team now for nearly three years and have been fundraising for Kwinella School since June 2010. In this time, they have grown into a very efficient, proactive group of students who work so well as a team, each bring different skillsets and strengths to the group. They have worked with such dedication and commitment to this project, the results of which are clear for all to see! We are very pleased to celebrate this achievement with the school and to have worked with them.

I would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this email. Many thanks.

Kind regards

Salina Gendoo-Smith

Young Chamber Manager

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