

PRESS RELEASE

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New website launched to celebrate young people's filmmaking

Budding young filmmakers in Herefordshire can now see their work online with the launch of a new website which celebrates and showcases their achievements.

Shoot Out, a Rural Media Company project, offers young people aged between 13 - 19 the opportunity to receive media training and make films that support their communities. Through partnerships with local charities and groups, the project is specifically aimed at engaging more young people with the activities and aims of local organisations.

"Now that the project is into its third and final year we wanted to develop a platform where we could share the young peoples' films with a wider audience," said Nathan Williams, Shoot Out filmmaker. "We feel strongly about connecting young people with their community through filmmaking. The website is perfect to celebrate the impact Shoot Out has made over the last two years."

Since its launch in 2009, over 300 young people from across the county have created over 40 films. Some of the groups to have benefited from the talents of these young filmmakers include Hope Support Services, Yam Jams - a music club for disabled people and international development charity, Concern Universal.

"We were quite overwhelmed at how much time and thought the young people put into the film," said Sammy Jay Powell, Youth Development Officer at Hope Support Services in Ross on Wye. "The end result is a powerful tool that we can use to give new service users, professional, schools and college as understanding of what we do."

Dorstone Youth Club is also making use of their film, recently screening it at their local Flicks in the Sticks event and using it in support of a grant application for an outdoor adventure play area and community space.

The project also runs an annual Summer School which this year created three short films, written, directed and edited by the seventeen young participants. These were screened in Hereford as part of h.Art and at the Young Filmmakers SCREEN DREAMS in Oswestry, and also appear on the new site.

If you think your community group would benefit from working with our Shoot Out team then please contact Karen Miller on 01432 344039 or karenm@ruralmedia.co.uk

Release ends

Note to Editors

- Shoot Out is a Big Lottery funded project
- **The Rural Media Company** is a Charity and company limited by guarantee and is supported by ScreenWM, Elmley Foundation and Herefordshire Council.
- www.shootout.org.uk