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Dear Colleague,

History of Youth and Community Conference 14th -16th October 2011

We are delighted to report that the History of Youth and Community Work Conference, re-arranged due to the sudden and unforeseen closure of Ushaw College, has now acquired both a new date and venue. The conference will now take place at the Northern College during mid-October. Therefore we would like to take this opportunity to renew our invitation for you to join at the sixth History of Youth and Community Work Study Conference organized by the editorial board of *Youth and Policy*. This like the others is run on a non-profit basis and despite higher residential costs we have managed to avoid any increase in costs this year.

As with the earlier gatherings it will include a mix of plenary sessions, workshops and 'surprise' events. Amongst the plenary speakers will be Gillian Darley, the historian and author of the standard biography of Octavia Hill and the recently re-published *Villages of Vision*, on historical attempts to develop planned community; and the historian, author and adult educator Nigel Todd on the first 100 years of the Workers' Education Association. To mark the 100th Centenary of the National Association of Girls' Clubs (now UKYouth) there will be a symposium on the history of youth work with girls and young women.

At the heart of each conference are the workshops. At the last conference we had nearly 30. The breadth is always impressive covering an enormous range of topics linked to the history of youth work, adult education and community work. As before some of these will focus on the historical

development of practice in countries outside the UK. A feature of this conference is that around a third of those attending volunteer to deliver a workshop. This will we hope be once again a relaxed gathering of enthusiasts keen to talk to and learn from each other. Amongst the topics for which workshops have already been offered are pioneering girls' clubs; village colleges and community schooling; Scouting; community education; Sunday Schools; the education and training of youth workers; the origins of the current crisis in youth work; Amelia Earhart; the Cutteslowe Wall, Oxford; and the history of the National Association of Girls' Clubs.

If you are planning to attend we do hope you will consider offering a workshop. If this is not feasible simply come along and enjoy the wide variety that will inevitably be provided by participants.

As in the past we will be organizing a bookstall. If you would like to bring new or old books for sale please feel free to do so.

All delegates will receive a complimentary copy of the forthcoming volume *Essays on the History of Community and Youth Work* which is being published by Russell House in 2011, priced £24.99.

The conference will take place at Northern College which is to be found near Barnsley in South Yorkshire. Located in a magnificent stately home set amongst beautiful parkland and gardens this modern higher education college offers excellent conference facilities. If you would like more details please write or e.mail Tracey Hodgson at the above address.

Please feel free to circulate the attached booking form and letter throughout your networks.

Yours sincerely,

Tracey Hodgson and Tony Jeffs

