

All the latest news from St Basils; the largest charity in the West Midlands helping young people find and keep a home.

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# St Basils



Working to prevent youth homelessness



Tonight is our **BIG SleepOut** event; 460 St Basils supporters will be sleeping 'rough' for 1 night, in a cardboard box, as a sponsored challenge. If you aren't taking part you can still help prevent youth homelessness by texting a donation: Text ZZZZ11 £5 to 70070.



## New North Worcs scheme seeks hosts in local community

St Basils has been awarded a contract from Worcestershire County Council to provide a 'Supported Lodgings' scheme for homeless young people in North Worcestershire. This scheme aims to provide



## St Martins to hold Christmas Carol Concert in Aid of Charities including St Basils

On **Monday 19th December 2011** St Martin's in the Bullring will be holding a lunchtime Carol Concert from **12.30-1.30pm** for local people and busy passers-by who may not otherwise get the chance to attend a Christmas service. The Christmas concert will feature performances from the Bournville Strings and the Sutton Coldfield Chamber Choir including an extract from Handel's Messiah as well as giving the audience a chance to join



## Steve Bull visits St Basils to present £6000 share of Charity Auction

Wolves legend Steve Bull visited St Basils on 23rd November with his wife and Jacky Billingham, both Directors of Steve Bull Events, in order to present a cheque for £6000. The Steve Bull foundation which works to support

a stepping stone to independent living for young people aged 16 to 21. The scheme recruits 'hosts'; caring people from all walks of life who have a spare room and want to make a difference to vulnerable young people by providing accommodation and support to a young person within their home for an agreed amount of time.

The young people involved in the scheme are generally people who are leaving care or due to other issues, don't yet have the necessary knowledge and skills to live on their own successfully.

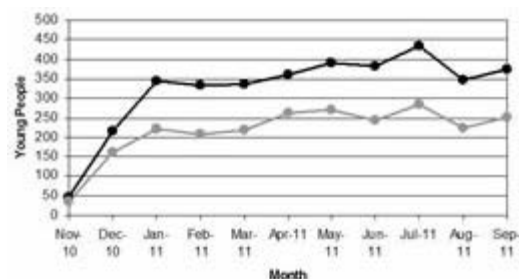
[Read More.](#)



## New pilot scheme brings

in with old favourites 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' and 'O Come All Ye Faithful' accompanied by organ, strings and brass. Admission to this event is free but it will include a collection which will be split equally between two local charities: St Martin's Arts programme working with vulnerable people and St Basils who work with homeless young people across Birmingham.

[Read More.](#)



## St Basils Youth Hub sees rise in young people presenting as homeless

The St Basils Youth Hub opened a year ago in November 2010. The Youth Hub is an assessment centre run by St Basils in partnership with Birmingham City Council's Homeless Service and Children, Young People and Families directorate, and is a central point where young people who are actually homeless or at risk can go for advice and to have their needs assessed to then be matched with the most appropriate housing options and services.

In the last year the youth hub has had 3568 referrals for young people

young disadvantaged and homeless people across Birmingham and the Black Country celebrated its first birthday back in August with a Corporate celebratory event at the ICC in Birmingham. As part of the event they organised a charity auction, for several local causes including St Basils. [Read More.](#)



## St Basils North Worcs Schools Project Commended in Awards

The St Basils North Worcestershire service recently received a nomination from Bromsgrove District Council in the Worcestershire Compact Awards. Several young people from St Basils attended the Awards along with Staff and

## Family Mediation service to Sandwell schools

St Basils has had a Family Mediation service in the Borough of Sandwell for the last 5 years.

This service aims to work with young people aged 16 – 25 and their families.

This month, in partnership with Sandwell Homes, St Basils is launching a pilot to take the Family Mediation service into Secondary schools in Sandwell, to engage with the slightly younger age group of 14 and 15 year olds.

[Read More.](#)



## Youth Advisory Board

aged 16-25 in housing need. In December 2010 the hub had 217 referrals, the following month this jumped to 344, in May 2011 this rose to 390 referrals and in July 435. On average the hub has had around 400 referrals per month. In October 2011, referrals rose by 9.2% on the previous month, 106 of those referred last month were 16 and 17 year olds.

The overwhelming reason why young people referred to the Youth Hub cited they were homeless or at risk of homelessness was due to family conflict. In the last 3 months, 85 cited financial issues, 70 were leaving care and 45 cited Domestic Violence. [Read More.](#)



## St Basils enjoys support from local Corporate community

St Basils has been greatly assisted by members of the local Corporate community recently, either by taking part in sponsored challenges to raise funds for St Basils or by visiting and revamping some of our Supported Accommodation projects.

although, they weren't the eventual winner, St Basils was commended for the homelessness prevention work they had undertaken in local schools.

Bromsgrove District Council nominated St Basils and The Basement for working in partnership with Bromsgrove District Council in a project to pilot the St Basils Schools Training and Mentoring Programme (STAMP) in North Worcestershire schools. The aim of STAMP is to raise awareness of the issues of homelessness with students of school age and provide information to young people on where they can seek help.

[Read More.](#)



## Zombie Ball raises £1400 to support

## Recruits New Members

St Basils has a Youth Advisory Board, made up of young people from St Basils who assist and advise Senior Managers, providing them with the young person's perspective on policy and other issues.

Last month the Youth Advisory Board instigated a recruitment drive, interviewing prospective candidates and we can now announce the successful appointment of five new board members.

[Read More.](#)

Health Insurers [BHSE](#) presented St Basils with a cheque for a staggering £4,400 this month, which they raised by taking part in our 28 mile walk back in the summer. Four members of staff from regeneration specialists [Frank Haslam Milan](#) have raised at least £700 for St Basils by running in the Birmingham Half Marathon. [Ecclesiastical Insurance](#) bought plants and equipment and then gave the garden at Trentham House, our Mother and Baby Supported Accommodation project, a much needed makeover. [Kraft Foods](#) have helped St Basils with a Fundraising strategy brainstorming session and also gave our newest project's garden a makeover. [Britvic Soft Drinks](#) bought paint and re-decorated our Solihull project's offices. We are very grateful to all these companies and the many more that have supported us. If your business can help St Basils there are lots of ideas for how you can get involved on our website:

[www.stbasils.org.uk/support\\_us](http://www.stbasils.org.uk/support_us)

## St Basils

The 'Dance of the Dead Zombie Ball' which took place on the Saturday closest to Halloween last month in aid of St Basils has raised over £1,400 to help homeless young people in Birmingham.

The event, which was held in the newly-revamped Birmingham Ballroom was a massive success with over 750 revellers taking to the dance floor dressed up as zombies, ghouls and goblins.

[Read More.](#)

## About St Basils

St Basils has 27 accommodation projects across Birmingham and North Worcestershire, providing supported accommodation for young people aged 16 to 25. We have up to 400 flats or bedsits to meet various needs from emergency and fully supported accommodation on to semi-independent accommodation. In addition to this, around 4000 young people a year access our range of Support services which include prevention services; housing aid and advice; family mediation and mediators; peer educators; key workers, learning skills and work; advice and guidance on education employment and training; resettlement and

## floating support

You don't have to be homeless to ask for our help. If you are aged 16 to 25 and experiencing problems at school, college or at home, get in touch now. [Contact Us](#) or alternatively if you are living in Birmingham you can call our '[Youthline](#)' 0300 30 30 099 to access our support helpline. For North Worcestershire referrals call 01527 872 157.

*For our archive of monthly e-newsletters or to sign-up please visit our website:*  
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