

Contents

<i>About the Authors</i>	vi
<i>Preface</i>	viii
Chapter 1 Why History? <i>Mark K. Smith</i>	1
Chapter 2 'The Playground of Today is the Republic of Tomorrow': Social Reform and Organised Recreation, 1890–1930s <i>Linnea M. Anderson</i>	24
Chapter 3 From Knowledge of the World to Knowledge of Self: Perspectives on the Professional Training of Youth Leaders, 1942–1948 <i>Simon Bradford</i>	39
Chapter 4 Chartism, Education and Community <i>Barry Burke</i>	56
Chapter 5 The Transition from Girls Clubs to Girls Clubs and Mixed Clubs: UK Youth, 1934–1944 <i>Michael Butterfield and Jean Spence</i>	69
Chapter 6 'Why Did They Take That Game Away From Us?' The Rise and Fall of Girls' Basketball in the US <i>Dan Conrad</i>	93
Chapter 7 Cardijn Versus Baden-Powell: The Methodical Turn in Youth Work History <i>Filip Coussée</i>	116
Chapter 8 The Rise and Fall of Community and Youth Work Courses at Westhill College <i>John Holmes</i>	133

Chapter 9	Starting Out: Origins of Newcastle YMCA <i>Tony Jeffs</i>	152
Chapter 10	Familiar Rooms in Foreign Fields: Placing the 'BB Atmosphere' in The Boys' Brigade's Recreation Hut, Rouen, France, 1915–1919 <i>Richard G. Kyle</i>	176
Chapter 11	T.R. Batten's Life and Work <i>George Lovell</i>	192
Chapter 12	Long Walk From the Door: A History of Work with Girls and Young Women in Northern Ireland from 1969 <i>Susan Morgan and Eliz McArdle</i>	220
Chapter 13	The Counter-Cultural Revolution and the OZ School Kids Issue: The Establishment Versus the Underground Press <i>Keith Popple</i>	243
Chapter 14	Withywood Youth Club <i>Sue Robertson</i>	259
Chapter 15	Club, Class and Clothes: The Origins of Scouting in Sunderland <i>Jean Spence</i>	275
Chapter 16	'Forgotten Corners': A Reflection on Radical Youth Work in Britain, 1940–1990 <i>Tania de St Croix</i>	302
Chapter 17	Youth Work and Class: The Struggle That Dare Not Speak Its Name <i>Tony Taylor</i>	316
Chapter 18	The Origins and Development of the National Youth Agency <i>Tom Wylie</i>	336

*In memory of Bert Jones,
1935–2006*

About the Authors

Linnea A. Anderson, *University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Assistant Archivist, Social Welfare History Archives.*

Simon Bradford, *Brunel University, School of Sport and Education.*

Barry Burke, *YMCA George Williams College London.*

Michael Butterfield, *National Association of Youth Clubs Chief Executive 1975–1986.*

Dan Conrad, *retired high school and college teacher, the latter with the Center for Youth Development and Research, University of Minneapolis. Two of his aunts, Ruth and Ruby Johnson, were captains of Cokako High School girls' basketball team in the early 1920s.*

Filip Coussée, *Ghent University, Department of Social Welfare Studies.*

Tania de St Croix, *detached youth worker in London; has spent the last 15 years attempting to combine youth and play work with Anarchist and environmental activism.*

Ruth Gilchrist, *UK Youth, Education, Training and Development Officer.*

John Holmes, *Newman University College, Birmingham, Community and Youth Work Department.*

Tony Jeffs, *Durham University, School of Applied Social Sciences and visiting Tutor Ruskin College, Oxford.*

Richard G. Kyle, *Lancaster University, Institute of Health Research.*

George Lovell, *contributing author to 'The Church and Community Development Work Trust, Avec'.*

Eliz McArdle, *team leader of the Gender Equality Unit within Youth Action, Northern Ireland.*

Susan Morgan, *University of Ulster, School of Sociology and Applied Social Studies. Young Women's Development Worker in Youth Action, Northern Ireland, 1997–2003.*

Keith Popple, *London South Bank University, Department of Social Work; and a founder member of the 'Youth and Policy' editorial board.*

Sue Robertson, *Chichester University College, Community and Youth Work Studies.*

Mark K. Smith, *YMCA George Williams College London, Rank Research Fellow and Tutor.*

Jean Spence, *Durham University, School of Applied Social Sciences.*

Tony Taylor, *writes and researches on youth policy and youth work. Co-ordinator of the 'Critically Chatting' website.*

Joyce Walker, *University of Minnesota, Extension Center for Youth Development.*

Tom Wylie, *National Youth Agency Director, 1996–2000.*



Withywood Centre

Preface

We can draw from a deep well. Community and youth workers are fortunate in being able to learn from and relate to a long history that stretches back unbroken to the very beginnings of industrialisation and the birth of the modern state. Both youth workers and community workers, operating in ways we would recognise and understand, have been around for over two hundred years. They were not only functioning before the emergence of mass schooling and the birth of universal welfare but importantly many leading youth and community work practitioners helped create contemporary welfare structures in Europe and the United States. In particular they did much to shape the social movements which played an essential part in driving forward ideas that eventually influenced and moulded the social policies which gave us our contemporary welfare structures. Yet the contributions of many of those individuals and agencies has been forgotten or overlooked.

Although a rich vein of history lies beneath our feet youth and community workers have tended to be rather negligent when it comes to mining it. As a consequence, contemporary practitioners, and most of the preceding generations have been unable to learn from both the successes and failures of the past. Each generation has tended to believe that they are creating new approaches and methods when in fact these have a long history. The arrogance of the assumption of present superiority has hindered the development of theory and made youth and community work prey to fashion and short-termism in relation to policy. Moreover, it has meant that we have failed to claim the rightful stature which our calling deserves: by overlooking the enormous achievements of those who went before, community and youth work has lost an opportunity to claim its place alongside related welfare professions – notably social work and teaching. Historical self-awareness is a pre-requisite for the long term survival of a profession and a discipline. For that reason it is important to invest time and resources upon the study of our history.

The prime purpose of this collection of essays is to help recover the history of youth and community work and lay it before a new generation of

practitioners. We hope to encourage colleagues to cast a backward glance towards those who went before as they set about the task of creating practice appropriate to the contemporary environment. This is the fourth volume of such essays and like the earlier collections, it is an eclectic mix, drawing on research into youth and community work as well as aspects of adult education, play work and social history that relate closely to our central area of interest. Previous editions have overwhelmingly focused on the historical development of youth and community work in England and Wales. We are therefore delighted to include in this edition material on Belgian youth work, girls' work in Northern Ireland and two chapters specifically drawing on the American experience. A topic overlooked in the past has been the professional training of practitioners, but this volume begins to address that gap with two contributions which deal with aspects of this particular history.

In order to encourage and foster the study of the history of youth and community work, during the last decade the British journal *Youth and Policy* has sponsored five bi-annual conferences on the topic, each held at Ushaw College Durham. Since 2006 the Extension Center for Youth Development at the University of Minneapolis has hosted a similar initiative in the United States. Most of the essays in this volume first emerged as papers given at the two most recent conferences organised by the Extension Center for Youth Development and *Youth and Policy*. The growth in the number of delegates attending these conferences and the sales of earlier collections of essays, point to a growing interest in this area of study.

Given the close relationship between this publishing venture and the conferences that preceded its appearance, the editors would like to acknowledge the contributions made by Tracey Hodgson and Colleen Byrne. Colleen, in Minneapolis, and Tracey, in Durham, were responsible for the administration of the last two conferences held in those cities. We suspect that without their efficient administration neither conference would not have produced the range of papers that provide the bedrock upon which this book rests. Two new members of the *Youth and Policy* editorial group, Aylssa Cowell and Naomi Stanton have made significant contributions to the ongoing work of the journal which has allowed us more space to complete the book.

Observant readers will note that for the first time we do not include an essay by Bert Jones on the history of Welsh youth work. Sadly Bert died suddenly just before the last Durham conference. We missed his enthusiasm and intellect at that gathering and will continue to do so in the future.

Ruth Gilchrist, Tony Jeffs, Jean Spence and Joyce Walker



1897 Basketball Team



Basil Yeaxley



*Mary Burnie 1933,
Warden of Westhill College*



Withywood