



April 1999 saw the start of YMCA Cornwall, a new company set up to develop both existing and new work in all areas of the county. An appointment of a chief Executive was made to oversee the management and development of YMCA Cornwall.

YMCA Cornwall (Penzance) operates an ambitious programme of activities and service including:

**Youth Programme** ~ All the activities are open to both members and non-members. Programme activities include:

**Penzance YMCA** ~ All the activities are open to both members and non-members of the YMCA. Programme activities include the Tweenagers Club for 9-13 years olds, Sports and Fitness classes and sessions, 'Cyber Y' café for those who want to learn more about computers and a coffee bar / lounge area for an informal place to meet and have fun.

During the course of each week YMCA Cornwall programme staff work with around 150 – 200 different young people.

**Accommodation** ~ The YMCA in Penzance operates an 48-bed hostel, which accommodates some homeless young people referred to the YMCA, asylum seekers, visiting schools, colleges, from home and abroad, backpackers from all over the world, offering education, adventure and an "international" experience.

**Housing** ~ The YMCA also operates a Youth Housing Support Team which offers;

- housing advice,
- resettlement, and
- support

for young people that are experiencing homelessness. This includes support and advice to those young people accommodated on an emergency basis at the YMCA having been referred by the local District Council. The work of the housing

team also includes preventative work in schools and colleges within the District of Penwith.

The Housing Support Team also runs **Appletree House**, a purpose-built accommodation, offering supported housing for twelve young people.

Opened in March 2004, **Cherrytree House** is another purpose built supported housing project that accommodates 10 young people. This project has been developed in partnership with Penwith Housing association.

**Redruth YMCA** ~ In partnership with Redruth Methodist Church, YMCA Cornwall is developing a youth and community centre for the town which will provide services such as:

- Youth advice service (including housing advice)
- General youth activities
- Sports activities
- Rooms available for training seminars and conferences
- Rooms available for letting by various local agencies
- Special functions and events

This work will serve a community which is recognised through its poverty and deprivation due to the decline of local industries such as mining.

For more information visit [www.cornwall.ymca.org.uk](http://www.cornwall.ymca.org.uk)