

to up to £250,000 in interest pay

# Sponsorship deal gives young people something to shout about

# A generation starts to find its voice

cp2/0/A

YOUNG people are being given the opportunity to make their voice heard in the community.

The Big Shout has been developing in Fife for a few years now with the aim of giving young people the skills and opportunities to influence decisions about the services provided for them, and by doing so, improving the quality of life of everyone.

A few months ago, some young people involved in the Big Shout gave an inspiring presentation to the Rotary Club of Leven, describing how they were involved, and what they got out of it.

Speaking after the meeting, Club president Al Fleming said: "Rotarians were impressed by the attitude of the young people, which struck a chord with our own motto of 'Service before self', so the club was keen to do something to further the good work.

"The result was that we decided to join Fife Council to sponsor four young people from the Levenmouth area for the Young Quality Scot Awards, which would give them access to leadership training co-ordinated by the Quality Scotland Foundation".

The aim of the awards is to recognise and reward young people who are involved in voluntary work in their local communities.

The award winners will receive training in communications, teamwork and total quality management, provided by organisations including Standard Life and Scottish Power and will receive a certificate recognising their achievements.

Following local training, all award winners will be invited to a national recognition event, to be held in Huntly, Aberdeenshire in March 2009.

Leven's Sammy Boyle (16) is one young person who has been involved in the training.

She described her experience to



Sammy (second from left, front row) and other winners being presented with their certificates at the awards dinner.

the East Fife Mail: "I was asked by a youth worker in the area if I would be interested in this training. Of course I was!

"I've always been interested in having my voice heard as a young person since I feel that young people can be blamed for minor things that are then blown out of all proportion.

"This always leads to further discrimination.

"During the training I learned how to keep a cool head during presentations and I gained more confidence during this. As the training day was sponsored by Scottish Water, we had the opportunity to visit a "poo factory" - in other words sewage water treatment facility and yes - it smelled! - that was an experience I will never ever forget.

*'I feel that young people can be blamed for minor things that are then blown out of all proportion. This always leads to further discrimination.'*

"After training we were invited to a celebratory dinner with friends and staff of Fife Council and Quality Scotland and to present our masterpiece. I felt anxious and very scared - I have done presentations on other

occasions but this was something else!

"I would recommend this training to any young person as it is a big confidence boost, it looks great on your CV, is something to feel proud of and helps change how young people are seen".

Tracy Cunniffe, one of Levenmouth's youth workers, said: "We hope young people aged 16 - 19 from Levenmouth will want to apply to take up this opportunity. I can give further details and offer support to potential applicants if they contact me at the Savoy Centre, Methil or email me on [tracy.cunniffe@fife.gov.uk](mailto:tracy.cunniffe@fife.gov.uk)

Want to comment? E-mail [efmeditor@fifetoday.co.uk](mailto:efmeditor@fifetoday.co.uk)

**NHS FIFE  
PRIMARY CARE  
DEPARTMENT  
CHEMISTS**

The following pharmacies will be open

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>  
December 2008**

**Alliance  
Pharmacy**  
Merlin Crescent  
Buckhaven  
5pm-6pm

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup>  
December 2008**

**C Buchanan Ltd**  
345 Methilhaven  
Road  
Methil  
5pm-6pm

**NHS FIFE  
PRIMARY  
CARE  
DEPARTMENT**