

## 50 young people complete the Snow-Camp Graduate Programme

“A fantastic and beneficial project that just keeps getting better”  
Martin Bell (British Olympic Skier)

Youth charity Snow-Camp have successfully supported 50 young people through their Graduate Programme, run over 6 weekends at Hemel Hempstead SnowCentre during October and November 2011. The participating young people, from youth projects located across London, worked hard with the centres instructors and staff to improve their skiing and snowboarding technique and learn more about the ski industry.

The Graduate programme aims to be a more vocational course and speakers from the ski and snowboard industry are invited to talk to the young people each week about their roles and how they got started in the business. This year we were excited to welcome Jim Duncombe from Natives who came to talk about working a ski season; Maggie Halpin, a Hemel ski instructor who talked about ski instructing qualifications and how to achieve them; FBBB's Aly McMorland and Mikee Cee did a talk on how they started out and ran freestyle slope sessions with the young people and Snow and Rock ran an equipment maintenance session - all enjoyed by everyone!



*The Graduate Programme, Sunday group.*

Emma Martin, Snow-Camp's Project Manager said 'The course has been a fantastic opportunity for the young people to understand the different types of jobs and experiences that are on offer within the ski and snowboard industry, and to realise that these opportunities are available to them. We are excited about continuing to work with the group on future programmes and enabling them to develop their skills and knowledge further!'



*The Graduate Programme, Saturday group during a waxing session.*

The 50 young people who completed the Graduate Programme were first introduced to skiing and snowboarding during the summer when they attended Snow-Camp London, a two day taster course which supported over 350 young people.

The next step for these young people will be the residential week to the Cairngorms in Scotland taking place in February 2012 – their first experience of real mountains! The snow looks good and the young people are all looking forward to the experience. Watch this space for more information!

For more information on the Snow-Camp programmes, please contact Emma Martin on 07545 431 824. To support Snow-Camp or for more information about the charity, please see [www.snow-camp.org.uk](http://www.snow-camp.org.uk)

### **Quotes from young people who are attending Snow-Camp Excel programme:**

Snow-Camp has instilled so much confidence in me! I have come so far with something I first knew nothing about. Snow Camp inspires me to pursue my dreams and constantly reminds me I am capable of doing anything I want!  
(Thea, 16, Brixton)

Snow-Camp 64a Blatchington Road Hove East Sussex BN3 3YH

T 01273 241 383 F 01273 204 609 E [info@snow-camp.co.uk](mailto:info@snow-camp.co.uk) W [www.snow-camp.co.uk](http://www.snow-camp.co.uk)

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Snow-Camp has influenced me a lot because it has giving me a once in a life time opportunity to do something that I would have never thought of doing, also by helping me gain self confidence to meet new people and make new friends. It has also helped me to find something that I am good at and that I would like to have a career in. *(Kirbie, 17, Tulse Hill)*

Snow-Camp has encouraged me to go after what I want and given me more confidence to do it. It has also made me want to do for another young person what Snow-Camp has done for me and many others. *(Loyal, 18, Victoria)*

#### Quotes from sponsors and supporters:



**Westbeach**

'Westbeach is proud to help kit out the young people on Snow-Camp. It's a fantastic project and we wish them well for the future'



'A fantastic initiative for young people – The Ski Club of Great Britain completely supports the Snow-Camp project.'



'Ellis Brigham are proud to be able to support Snow-Camp and enable more young individuals to enjoy skiing and snowboarding.'



'A great opportunity for those who wouldn't otherwise be able to enjoy mountain sports. We are pleased to be working in partnership with Snow-Camp'



**SPORT  
ENGLAND**

"Despite the fact that we have some fantastic indoor and outdoor skiing facilities across the country, taking to the slopes is still something not everyone gets the opportunity to do. That's why Snow-Camp's Excel programme is such an important and exciting opportunity for young people to learn to ski. We at Sport England hope that our

support for this programme will mean more young people can get involved in, and stay part of, an exciting sport."