



On 25<sup>th</sup> July 2009, Ludlow Mayor Martin Taylor-Smith opened the first Marches Youth Festival at Ludlow Town Council's Wheeler Road Skate Park.

The one day free festival was a great success, which as youth festival co-ordinator, Jaelith Mahoney said, "pressed the fun buttons of tots to 20s."

Two thousand young people enjoyed an exciting programme that included a spectacular inflatable whale guarded by a noisy fishwife, who led brave landlubbers into the belly of the whale to hear the fishy tales of a shipwrecked pirate and treasure-hoarding mermaid. There was a very popular skater competition and walkabout street performers helped the festival lived up to its promise as a superb event - the first of its kind in South Shropshire. In the huge igloo, festivities continued into the evening with bands playing surrounded by 360° projected animations.

During the day, younger tots were entertained with various activities in the craft tent and there was even a community project reenactment of the Battle of Trafalgar! The Youth Forum Talk Bus was a strong presence with the goodies on offer as well as advice and youth leaders from the Ludlow Youth Centre. The event was sponsored by the Ludlow Assembly Rooms and Ludlow Town Council, along with many other Ludlow based businesses. Decorations were borrowed from Sheep Music Festival and Giant Puppets from Bishops Castle workshops.

## Youth Festival 2010

24<sup>th</sup> JULY 2010

Building on the success of 2009 – Ludlow Assembly Rooms and Ludlow Town Council are making plans for the second Youth Festival on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at Wheeler Road Skate Park. There will be a skate competition, live music, face painting and plenty of fun!

Watch [www.ludlow.gov.uk](http://www.ludlow.gov.uk) and local press for more details

