

**Crepe Training, Brest**  
**17-21 June 2013**



Hannah H, aged 19 yrs from Suffolk joined young people from England and France on a Crepe Training course. Hannah has recently been awarded funding to open her own cafe in Suffolk and is keen to develop her skills in this industry. Hannah was the only young person attending the course from Suffolk due to the other participant from Suffolk being unable to attend due to sickness.

Hannah was very nervous about attending this course on her own without anyone she knows. She was introduced to 3 trainee youth workers from Medway at London City Airport who were also attending the course. She was made to feel welcome with their group which was a real support for her.

Hannah said it was slightly intimidating on the first day, as she had expected more participants to speak English. She said the French young people would speak in their language and snigger, which made her feel like they were talking about her. She found it slightly overwhelming that the course tutor and staff members also didn't speak English. There was a translator who would only spend a short amount of time with her and the other English young people, when she thought he would be available all day. The course was delivered in French and she felt that an hour's worth of teaching, would be crammed into 10 minutes by the translator so she felt like she was missing out on learning.

Hannah felt like the English young people made an effort to integrate with the French young people however this was not reciprocated. There was a huge miscommunication that the young people would gain a training qualification from this course in crepe making; however on arrival to France they were told they do not gain a qualification out of it, only a certificate of attendance as the course is actually 6 months long. They found this disheartening as they had been told one thing by Suffolk and a different thing by Brest.

**Summery**

Hannah enjoyed the experience and is glad she participated despite the above issues. She agreed that the experience increased her confidence and self esteem. She made new friends and learnt new skills, which is the essence of the CYC Project. She said she would have preferred a translator at all times to support the young people and to accurately translate regularly throughout the course, rather than condensing the content. Hannah learnt how to make crepes, and custard, and will use these skills in her cafe when she opens it.