



LATEST NEWS

@BGC WALES

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

- NOT THE USUAL SUSPECTS 3
- YOUTH WORK EXCELLENCE AWARDS 4
- NORTH WALES 4
- RESIDENTIALS (VAUNIERES, BRATHAY)..... 6
- HERITAGE PROJECT 8
- US GIRLS 11



NOT THE USUAL HUSTINGS

As part of our "Not The Usual Suspects" project which aims to involve young people in learning about politics and to illustrate to them the importance of their participation in political questions, we organised a "Not The Usual Hustings" event.

The hustings event took place on Thursday, 7 April at the Infinity Trampoline Park in Cardiff with more than 100 young people and leaders participating and six politicians representing their parties at the debate. The event was hosted by BBC Newsbeat's Steffan Powell and took place prior to the Welsh Assembly Government elections. Please turn to page 3 to find out more about the event and its Excellence Awards success.



CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

I am thoroughly enjoying my role as Chair of Boys' and Girls' Clubs and feel really proud of the Organisation's recent achievements. We were awarded Youth Work in Wales Excellence Awards for our 'Not the Usual Suspects' political project and 'Youth Worker of the Year' was awarded to Jonathan 'Paz' Price.

While Grant and most of the staff team attended the awards, Joff and myself were at the Nations Cup football tournament in Kilmarnock which also proved to be successful with BGCWales retaining the trophy. I am also delighted with our other sporting successes this year, results of which are recorded in this newsletter.

All at BGCWales were sad to hear of the sudden passing of Dave Powe, our Athletics Co-ordinator and Executive member. Dave and his wife, Linda, gave many years of support to the Organisation and he will be sadly missed.

I am pleased our North Wales Officers have settled in well and wish to thank all our staff at BGCWales for their efforts. Keep up the good work!

RICHARD BENNETT
Chairman



CHIEF EXECUTIVE JOFF CARROLL OBE

We continue to have a busy, innovative and productive year. We have now moved to our new headquarters at Crane House and have settled in well. We still have some sorting out to do and old archives to file etc but we are operating well and everyone seems happy with the move.

We have also relocated in North Wales to an office in Trinity Square, Llandudno, and Kevin and Heather seem happy with their new surroundings. We were delighted to be awarded two awards at the recent Youth Work in Wales Excellence Awards winning "Best Youth Rights Project" for our "Not The Usual Suspects" project and "Youth Worker of the Year" was won by Paz. Well done everyone – that is some achievement!

We have a new history project "Our Founders and the First World War" and have recently submitted 22 entries to an S4C filming competition "Young, Welsh and ..."

We are in the final period of our funding for "Get Sussed" and have applied to Big Lottery for funding to extend the programme.

We continue to work in successful partnership with Welsh Government, CWVYS, YMCA Wales Community College, StreetGames, Sported, Vale of Glamorgan Youth Service, Conwy Youth Service, Denbigh Youth Services and Sports Leaders UK and are grateful to WCVA for support from Gwirvol and MV Volunteering in Wales.

I was personally very sad at the news of Dave Powe's sudden death. Dave was an old friend and great supporter of the Organisation's work.

We are looking forward to another successful youth exchange with "Albi" Niessner and his group from the Leonberg area of Germany and hope they will again enjoy their experience of Wales. Hopefully the decision to leave the European Union will not affect this and other relationships we have developed over many years.

Thanks to all our sports sections who have had another great year and a lot of success to celebrate.

Thank you all.

JOFF CARROLL OBE
Chief Executive

CWVYS UPDATE

Keith Towler – Radical Action required on the future of youth services in Wales.

We would like to draw people's attention to an excellent article which was recently written by Keith Towler, Chair of CWVYS about the future of the youth service in Wales. The article discusses the future of the Youth Service in Wales.

The article can be accessed from the Education Workforce Council's website here:
<http://www.ewc.wales/site/index.php/en/son-ewc-s-blog>

NTUS RESIDENTIALS

During the past few months our Erasmus + funded “Not The Usual Suspects” project has been taking place. The aim of the project is to involve young people in learning about politics and to illustrate the importance of politics in their daily lives.

A group of up to 30 leaders and young people between 13 and 18 years took part in three residentials which were organised at the Maes y Lade Centre in the Brecon Beacons. As part of the project, we visited the National Assembly for Wales and the Senedd and organised various workshops about politics. The workshops included topics such as learning about the different political parties in UK, the different governmental bodies and their duties and even what the young people would change if they could be politicians themselves. Additionally, the participants had the chance to get involved in the preparations for our Hustings event which was organised in April. During the residential, we also organised various outdoor activities. The young people got the opportunity to try out caving, rock climbing and archery, explored an old abandoned railway tunnel, went hiking and canoeing and more. The final residential of this project will take place in October where a group will go to London to find out more about politics in the UK and to visit the Houses of Parliament.



HUSTINGS

The highlight of our “Not The Usual Suspects” project was the “Not The Usual Hustings” event which was organised on Thursday, 7 April at the Infinity Trampoline Park in Cardiff. More than 100 young people and leaders participated in the event and six politicians came to represent their parties at the debate: Bethan Jenkins from Plaid Cymru, Amelia Womack from the Green Party of England and Wales, Eluned Parrott from the Liberal Democrats, Liz Wilkes from UKIP, Vaughan Gething from Welsh Labour and David Melding from the Welsh Conservatives.

Starting at 6pm, visitors had the opportunity to visit a market place with stalls from different parties and youth organisations. After the launch of the “Politically Correct” App which was developed by Candlhat Studios and aims to outline who is responsible for political decisions in our everyday life, the debate began at 7pm. The hustings was hosted by BBC Newsbeat’s Steffan Powell who confronted the politicians with questions asked by the young people at the event. Every politician had only one minute to answer questions such as “How would you fight homelessness?”. Other topics included the treatment of mental illnesses, legalisation of cannabis, future financial cuts and if 16 and 17 year olds should be able to vote. Good news for the young people, almost all parties agreed to implement a younger voting age! After an hour of interesting discussions, participants and the politicians had the opportunity to try out the trampolines.



STAFF FOCUS: JONATHAN "PAZ" PRICE

Role: Get Skilled Project Coordinator

Time at BGCWales: I have been in my current post for almost a year and a half. However, I have been involved with BGC Wales projects for almost 10 years. Yes, I'm that old!

In 10 words: Creative and committed to making a difference to young people.

Office drink of choice: Coffee.

Responsible for: Providing opportunities to our BGC Wales Young Leaders, Youth Exchanges, plus a host of other projects. That's the great thing about working for BGC Wales... Everyone just gets stuck in to help make projects a success..

Favourite thing so far working at BGCWales office: I have been so lucky to have been part of so many amazing projects, trips and exchanges. I always find myself leaning towards the international opportunities BGC Wales can offer its members. There is something quite amazing about travel and how it can catalyse the personal development of an individual.

NORTH WALES

During the past months, we have successfully settled down in our new office in Llandudno spreading the work of Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales in North Wales. We increased the number of youth clubs we are working with and our newest affiliated club is Mold Clubhouse Youth Club which is specifically for young disabled people.

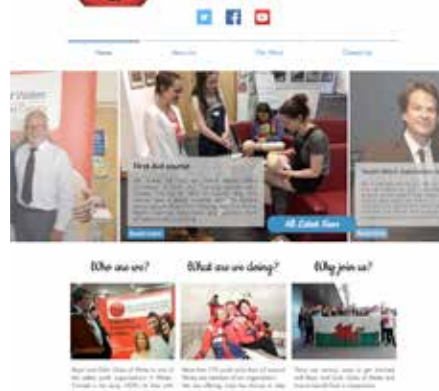
We are incredibly grateful that we have received funding from both Children In Need and the Postcode Community Trust of £10,000 each to deliver training and sports courses in some of the most deprived areas of North Wales and we would like to thank them for their support. Additionally, we were successful in our application to StreetGames to host a full time volunteer for 22 weeks. Josh Evans started with us on July 4th and will gain hands on youth work experience, as well as a raft of Level 2 qualifications, over the coming months. We look forward to working with him over this time.



YOUTH WORK EXCELLENCE AWARDS

We are delighted that our "Not The Usual Suspects" project won an award for the "Outstanding Rights Youth Work Project" at this year's Youth Work Excellence Awards! The awards took place on Friday, 24 June at Venue Cymru in Llandudno and we attended the event with a group of staff members and young people who participated in the project.

Additionally, we are pleased that our staff member, Jonathan Price "Paz", received an award as the "Youth Worker of the Year" and Jonathan Evans, who is volunteering in our member club, Ton & Gelli Community Centre, an award for his "Outstanding Contribution to Youth Work". We would like to congratulate Paz, Jonathan and everyone who made our "Not The Usual Suspects" project possible for this amazing achievement and thank Welsh Government for organising this great event!



NEW WEBSITE

We are delighted to announce that we have recently launched our new website! The website is accessible via the old web address "bgc.wales" and will contain up to date information about our latest news and upcoming events and further information about the work we are doing and how to get involved in it.

Our EVS volunteer, Lioba from Germany, has created the website during her 11 month placement at our headquarters in Cardiff.



ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI
LOTTERY FUNDED

“GET SUSSED” PROJECT

We are now in the final stages of our Big Lottery funded ‘Get Sussed’ project. The aim of the project is to support member clubs in their efforts to develop a sustainable future. Many of our clubs have premises which have not been utilised during the day time. When empty these buildings are valuable, wasted space and we have worked with thirty of our clubs to tap into additional income and opportunities by encouraging other local agencies to use the buildings at competitive rates during the daytime hours, thereby creating valuable community assets.

We have brokered together key players from other agencies who have helped the club committees develop business plans and have supplied ‘models’ of similar successful developments. We have engaged and trained a total of 84 disengaged young people providing them with new opportunities and skills in the building trades which have supported them in ‘fixing up’ club premises and enhanced their employability prospects. Some of our clubs have opened crèches and nurseries. Others have hired out their facilities during the day for sports activities, training, social enterprise, food co-operatives, housing associations, slimming clubs, Samaritan clubs and other similar community groups.

Clubs such as Ystrad Mynach BGC, Treharris BGC, Nantymoel BGC, Troedyrhiw BGC and the recently reopened and refurbished Ton & Gelli BGC and Llwynypia BGC have set great examples of how to develop the potential that exists on their doorsteps to create employment, training and volunteering opportunities.

BGCWales Chief Executive, Joff Carroll, said “We are sincerely grateful to Big Lottery for the support for ‘Get Sussed’ and have been really pleased with the outcomes achieved by the programme. I have applied to Big Lottery to extend the programme geographically as I strongly feel the support and opportunities the programme offers is vital to add quality and value to our service to young people throughout Wales”.



S4C PROJECT

This year we were given the opportunity to work in partnership with S4C. It was an opportunity for our clubs to enter into a filming competition in order to win £500 for their club.

There were two categories, young people aged 8-15 and young people aged 16-25. The theme was ‘Young, Welsh and...’ and the Welsh language had to be used within the film. Clubs had to upload their films online to S4C in order for three judges to choose which ones should be shortlisted. The judges were Sioned Wyn Roberts, Children and Learners Commissioner for S4C, Kieran Roberts, one of our BGCWales Young Volunteers, and Nathan Wyburn, an Artist famously known for using food instead of paint when creating his celebrity portraits. CONGRATULATIONS to Wyndham BGC and Ton & Gelli BGC for winning the competition. Thank you all who entered the competition.

Blwyddyn yma rydym wedi cael y cyfle i weithio mewn partneriaeth a S4C. Roedd yn gyfle i aelodau Clybiau Bechgyn a Merched Cymru gymryd rhan mewn cystadleuaeth i ennill £500 i’w clwb wrth greu ffilm fer am unrhywbeth sydd yn bwysig iddynt.

Roedd dau gategori pobl ifanc 8-15 oed a phobl ifanc 16-25 oed. Y thema oedd ‘Ifanc, Cymreig a...’ ac roedd rhaid cael elfen o’r iaith Gymraeg o fewn y ffilm. Uwchlwythwyd y ffilmiau i S4C er mwyn iddynt gael ei feirniadu gan 3 beirniad, Sioned Wyn Roberts, Comisiynydd Plant a Phobl Ifanc S4C, Keiran Roberts, Gwirfoddolwr ifanc BGCWales a Nathan Wyburn, Arlunydd sydd yn enwog am greu darluniau wrth ddefnyddio bwyd yn lle paent. LLONGYFARCHIADAU i Wyndham BGC a Ton & Gelli BGC am ennill y gystadleuaeth. Diolch i bawb am gymryd rhan yn y gystadleuaeth.



NEW OFFICE (CARDIFF AND NORTH WALES)

During the past months our Headquarters in Cardiff as well as our office in North Wales have moved.

We were pleased that our local MP, Stephen Doughty, attended an open day for everybody to see our new offices in Cardiff. It was pleasing to see Stephen bring along his parents who have had a long association with the Organisation since Barry worked

with us as the Training and Development Officer from 1984 to 1986. Pictured above are Barry Doughty, Joff Carroll, Stephen Doughty and Richard Bennett.

Our new address in Cardiff is: Crane House, Rover Way, Cardiff, CF10 4US. You can find our office in North Wales now at the following address: 16 Trinity Square, Llandudno, Conwy LL30 2RB



Disclosure &
Barring Service

DBS CHANGES

From September 2016 there will be some changes to DBS checks (Criminal Record Checks) which clubs need to be aware of. Previously most member clubs would process their volunteers' DBS through the Criminal Record Unit of the WCVA (Wales Council for Voluntary Action).

From September this service will come to an end and clubs will have to undertake their checks through a different body. There is likely to be a cost for this service. We are awaiting further details from WCVA of the options available and will provide this information in future E-newsletters.

<http://www.wcva-cru.org.uk/News>

CHILD CARE REGULATION CHANGES

From April 2016 the Welsh Government has made some changes to the way Childcare facilities are regulated and inspected. Until recently only Childcare establishments were inspected if they worked with children aged 8 years and under for a period of over 2 hours per day.

This has been changed to include children up to the age of 12. This could have some implications for member clubs. However, there are some exemptions and in most cases clubs may not need to register: Clubs whose main purpose is sports are not required to register, clubs who work with young people aged 11+ as 'Youth Work' Clubs do not need to register and clubs who work with young people for less than 2 hours per night are not required to register. More information here: <http://cssiw.org.uk/>

FUNDS TO APPLY TO!

1 All Wales Grant Scheme - Keep Wales Tidy:

Looking after and improving the quality of your local environment can be expensive. To help support groups across Wales to undertake practical environmental projects small grants are now available.

How much can you apply for?

Eligible applicants can apply for a maximum amount of £500. You cannot apply for more than one grant in any 12 month period. When does the money have to be spent? All grant monies will need to be spent and evidenced 6 months after grant approval. Who cannot apply for a grant? Individuals and private sector organisations. Find out more at www.keepwalestidy.org/grants/information. Keep Wales Tidy has other grants, too. Visit their website to find out more.

2 Sport Wales grants

On the Sport Wales website you will find details of the following: Community Chest, Development Grant, Coach Cymru and Calls 4 Action. Visit the Sport Wales website to find out more: <http://sport.wales/funding--support.aspx?tab=1>

3 UnLtd Spark Awards, supported by Santander:

Apply for an award of up to £500 to facilitate peer support. UnLtd, the Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs is supporting a national movement of people who can pass on their own skills and experience gained from establishing a social venture. They've teamed up with Santander to offer support, advice and resources to help make this happen. Find out more on the UnLtd website: <https://unltd.org.uk/spark/>

4 Biffa Award

Biffa Award currently provides funding through two grant schemes within their four specific themes: the Small Grants Scheme (SGS) offers grants between £250 and £10,000; the Main Grant Scheme (MGS) offers grants between £10,000 and £50,000. On the website (www.biffa-award.org/apply-for-funding) you can find all of the tools you will need to assist you as you research your eligibility and apply for Biffa Award funding. You are encouraged to make use of the application guidance notes and factsheets, which have been provided to ensure you create a strong application.

5 Awards for All Wales:

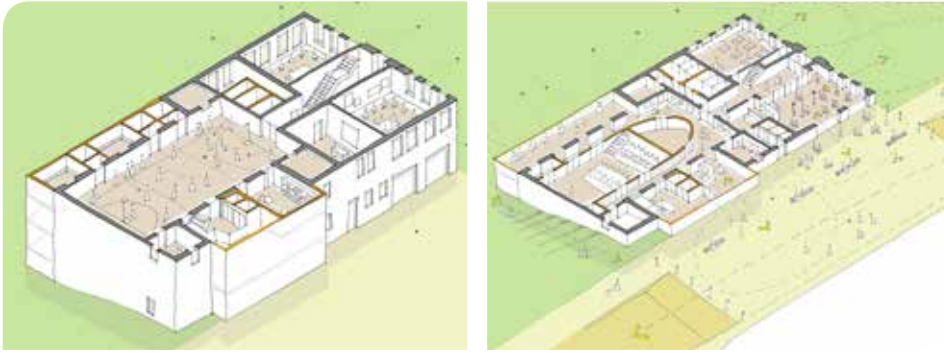
Big Lottery Fund's Awards for All provides voluntary and community groups with a quick and easy way to get small National Lottery grants of between £500 and £5,000 for projects which aim to help improve local communities and the lives of people most in need. The programme encourages a wide range of community, health, educational and environmental projects. Application deadline: ongoing. <https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/wales/awards-for-all-wales>

6 Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards:

Grants of between £500 and £2,500 are available to registered charities and not for profit organisations that are based in areas in the UK where Tesco has stores. Funding is available to provide practical benefits, such as equipment and resources for projects that directly benefit health, sustainability or opportunities for young people. Projects that may receive support include the following: Improving diets and encouraging healthy eating; Involvement in sport and physical activity; Education and training programmes; Support to vulnerable and disengaged groups; Learning programmes for young people with disabilities; Reducing food waste; Local eco initiatives that contribute to global environmental impact, such as energy reduction, reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, water conservation; Projects that encourage sustainable living, such as reducing environmental impact and promoting social benefits. Find out more on the Tesco PLC website. https://www.tescopl.com/tesco-and-society/supporting-local-communities/supporting-at-a-local-store-level/#ref_index.asp?pageid=121

7 Greggs Foundation:

The Greggs Foundation donates around £1.3million per year to disadvantaged people in the heart of Greggs' local communities. The following two grant programmes operate in Wales: Regional Grants - The regional grants programme makes grants of up to £2,000 to support charitable organisations in England, Scotland and Wales. Regional grants are administered by charity committees based in the bakeries around the country. The programme prioritises project costs including activities and equipment. (?)



SWANSEA BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB AND COMMUNITY HUB

The Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales has a vision to create a multimillion pound centre developing into one of the finest community facilities in the country. Our aim is to redevelop the old Swansea Boys' Club site situated at the top of Mayhill and develop a centre dedicated to serving the needs of all aspects of the community, both locally and across the city, supporting equality and the fight against poverty. This centre will house a comprehensive range of facilities to complement the needs of people of all ages and abilities and fit for the twenty first century.

The centre will house a full-size multi-purpose sports hall, a "fit for purpose" youth work facility, a 150-seat theatre, community café, community rooms, community cinema facility, rented offices and workspace for other community and third sector agencies and will be the national headquarters of Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales and headquarters of the Swansea Group of Boys' and Girls' Clubs. We have recently held a public meeting involving members of the local community and we are currently undertaking a feasibility study to take the project forward.

The Community Hub will be a home for working in the community with Sports, the Arts, Education and Training, Community Advice and Guidance, Health and Wellbeing and Childcare Facilities, situated conveniently for residents of Mayhill, Waun Wen and Townhill. The facility will be designed to be fully accessible and suitable for use by people with disabilities. The Hub will encourage volunteering in the community and will depend upon local support to guarantee its long-term sustainability.

The large indoor multi-purpose Sports Hall will accommodate 5-a-side Football, Netball, Gymnastics, Badminton, Wheelchair Sports, Mini Cricket, Indoor Bowls and Keep Fit Sessions. It is planned to have a viewing gallery and full changing facilities.

The 150-seat theatre area will have full access for the public and will be the Arts Hub of the Centre. It will incorporate a dance studio and possible recording studio with DJ facilities, creating a mecca for performing arts. Community rooms will accommodate arts and crafts workshops and film and camera clubs.

Huw Griffiths Architects have now submitted a pre planning enquiry to the local authority and we await developments.

STREETGAMES RESIDENTIAL BRATHAY

BGC Wales staff members and volunteers from North and South Wales headed north to the Lake District to take part in a StreetGames residential at Brathay.

It was the second time we have attended this event and participants experienced a variety of different activities including Ghyll Scrambling, the "High V" and our personal favourite... the aptly named 'Pamper' Pole. During the residential, the young people also had the chance to interact with other young volunteers from across the StreetGames network, make new friends and push themselves, both physically and emotionally.

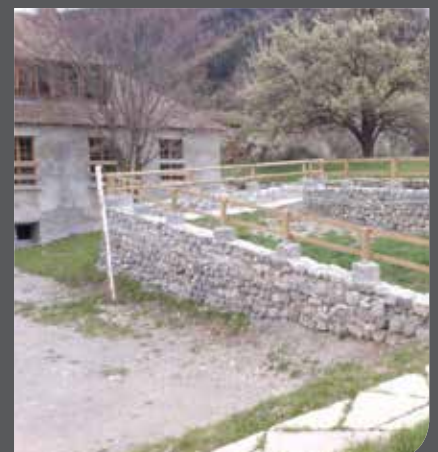


WORKCAMP VAUNIÈRES



We have organised a youth exchange to Vaunières, a small hamlet in the Alps region of South East France as part of the UNA Exchange Step By Step programme. This European funded exchange saw eight young people travel to the area with staff member, Kevin Roberts, for two weeks.

During this time, they worked with volunteers from all four corners of the globe, as well as local staff members, to make the hamlet a better place for young volunteers to live and work. One of the young people's key achievements during their time there was to help build a path through the hamlet that was wheelchair friendly. This involved extensive masonry work, which the young people had never experienced before, which makes their achievements even more incredible. Away from the stones and cement, the young people took part in a huge range of cultural and international youth work activities, teaching others about Wales, whilst learning a huge amount about the culture and history of other nations represented in Vaunières. The exchange was a huge success, which is tantamount to the enthusiasm and dedication of the young people involved, as well as the support of the UNA, and all the staff and volunteers at Vaunières. Nobody wanted to leave at the end of the two weeks, and we will hopefully return at some point in the future!



DID YOU KNOW THAT BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS OF WALES NOW HAS A JUST GIVING PAGE?

Our young volunteer Jolie Davies took part in the 2016 London Virgin Money Marathon which took place on Sunday, 24 April to raise money for Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales. Jolie has supported BGC Wales as a volunteer on many recent projects. "Over the past year, I have been volunteering with BGC as a Young Advisor, working with various clubs and young people on numerous events and projects such as Youth Exchanges and the UsGirls programme. The experiences and opportunities that BGC has given me this past year have been truly invaluable which is why I'd love to raise as much money as possible for BGC so they can continue to do more awesome things!" For completing the 26-mile route, she raised the great amount of over £2500 for our organisation.

On Saturday, 30 April Gemma Farrell, Rachel Cook, Llinos Davies and Sophie Hall undertook the Tough Mudder event in London and we would like to thank them for raising a total of £293. The three, all from Llandudno Hockey Club, raised funds to support the North Wales Us Girls programme. Gemma and Rachel also volunteer weekly at the UsGirls Llandudno sessions and events. Additionally, we would like to wish Leigh Griffiths "good luck" - she is running the Cardiff Half Marathon and aiming to raise £500 to pay for repairs to Ystrad BGC. Best of luck! We are delighted that people are raising funds for us. If you would like to raise funds for us please check out the just giving page. <https://www.justgiving.com/bgc-wales>



GRANT SWIMMING

On 24th September 2016 staff member Grant Poiner and ex staff member Daniel King took part in the newly launched Swim Serpentine Event. Swim Serpentine was held in the Serpentine, Hyde Park, which was the venue for London 2012's open water swimming competition. Grant has been raising funds for BGC Wales. To find out more about Grant's fundraising challenge please look at the just giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/SwimGrantSwim>



SPORTS LEADERS COURSE (NORTH WALES, YNYSHIR & WATTSTOWN BGC)



During the past few months we have run two Sports Leaders UK Courses in North and South Wales which are designed for young people who are interested in becoming a youth work volunteer or sports coaching assistant. The courses entail theoretical sessions and a lot of practical exercises and the participants had to plan a whole training session and present it to the group as their final assessment.

14 young people took part in the course in South Wales which was organised at Ynyshir & Wattstown Boys' and Girls' Club in partnership with the People and Work Unit. Former BGC Wales staff member, Daniel King, and Mark Hutton, the Dynamic Communities Project Leader for Rhondda, delivered the course. The Sports Leaders UK course in North Wales was completed with our member club, TAPE Backstage Youth Club, in Old Colwyn and ran over a period of three months. This saw eight young people achieve the Level 2 Award in Sports Leadership after their final assessment day which was taking place on the 2nd June. Kevin Roberts delivered the course with



assistance from Heather Robertshaw. The participants are now able to assist in the delivery of sporting sessions in their youth club and other venues across the region.

YOUTH WORK COURSE

Recently, through our partnership with YMCA Wales Community College, many of our club leaders undertook the Level 2 Award in Youth Work course which was held at Llwynypia BGC. The course provides the leaders with a national recognised qualification in Youth Work. Luke Goodwin, who is a volunteer at Llwynypia BGC, attended the course and said "I really enjoyed taking part in the Youth Work course. I feel it has really benefitted the way I support young people and I now fully understand how youth work can change people's lives. It was great to undertake the course with likeminded volunteers and I was grateful for the support from the YMCA Wales Community College."

HERITAGE PAGE

The #CLUBFOCUS project ended the beginning of this year. It was a fantastic experience, full of learning and fun activities from film making to archive visits. The positive feedback from young people, leaders and outside observers is testament to this project's achievement. Here are a few of my favourite images from the project from start to finish. Thank you for taking part.

Ffe ddaeth y prosiect #CLUBFOCUS i ddiwedd ar gychwyn y flwyddyn. Mae wedi bod yn brofiad anhygoel, rydym wedi dysgu lot, cynnal gweithgareddau hwylus fel creu ffilmau neu ymweld ag amgueddfa'u ac archifau. Mae'r adborth positif rydym wedi ei gael gan y bobl ifanc ddaru gymryd rhan, arweinwyr a phobl eraill yn dyst i ba mor llwyddiannus oedd y prosiect. Dyma gwpl o fy hoff luniau o'r prosiect o'r cychwyn i ddiwedd. Diolch am gymryd rhan.



NEW HERITAGE PROJECT

We've recently received a Heritage Lottery Fund Grant and a donation from the Gwendoline and Margaret Davies Charity to start a new BGCWales heritage project called 'Our Founders and the First World War'. The project promises to be full of fun and activity. Step back in time and relive the life of a soldier in the trenches, visit fun and fascinating museums, research the connection between your village and the First World War and much more.

As part of youth work week, we had a fantastic opportunity for our young members to take part in setting up a First World War heritage exhibit at the Temple of Peace in Cardiff. We helped Cymru Dros Heddwch / Wales for Peace set up their exhibit about the history of the Temple of Peace and the Book of Remembrance. This was a great opportunity for us to learn more about a building which our founder, Lord David Davies, Llandinam, commissioned after the war and opened in 1938.

Penysarn Youth Club, Anglesey has been very prominent when it comes to heritage projects regarding the First World War. They've been doing their own project about their local soldiers who lost their lives in the First World War, which fits in quite nicely to this project. So far they've taken part in transcribing the Book of Remembrance at the National Library of Wales and they went to the Mametz Wood commemorative event at the Royal Welsh Fusilier Museum in Caernarfon, where they learnt about the day to day lives of soldiers at the front line during the First World War.

There are plenty more activities lined up, one being our Teen Twitter Takeover event on August 12th. If anyone would like to get involved please contact me via e-mail cathryn@bgcwales.org.uk or call the office on 02920 575705. This is a fantastic project to get stuck into, you definitely won't regret it.





FOOTBALL

It has been a very successful year for our Boys' and Girls' Football sections! Our BGC Wales Boys' teams took part in different international tournaments during the past months. We were pleased to host Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Scotland at Afan Lido FC in May. The representative squads played in the three age groups Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18 and Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales won all three games. The U14 team won with 2:1, U16 won 3:0 and U18 won 3:0

The BGC Wales U14 team had a successful Germany tour in June beating SPV Rommelshausen 4-0 with goals from Azeem Ashad (2), Charlie Hamer and Evan Jones. In a hard fought game against NSU Neckarsulm Wales won 1-0. The goal was scored by Jamie Austin.



Our U16s representative Football squad had a successful trip to the 4 Nations tournament in Scotland where they played three games against the representative squads of CYP Scotland and CYP Northern Ireland and the Kilwinning SC who hosted the event. The team had a draw against CYP Scotland with 2-2, won against CYP Northern Ireland 10-2 and Kilwinning SC 5-0 and finished the tournament as the Nation Cup and the Gaelic Cup winner. Liam Snowdon was "Player of the Tournament".

The U18 team went to Germany to take part in the annual TSV Eltingen tournament and did well to come third. BGC Wales player, Josh Webber, won the "Player of the Tournament" award.

During the past months we also organised our annual Federation Cup in which our affiliated clubs competed against each other in the age groups Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16. Congratulations to Goytre Utd who won the U12 Cup, Afan Lido FC and Mumbles Rangers who are sharing the U14 Cup and Waunlwyd who won the U16 Cup!

NABGC TABLE TENNIS

On Saturday, 9 July Wyndham Boys' and Girls' Club took part in the annual NABGC Table Tennis Championships at Deans Sports and Leisure College in Lincoln. Competitions were held in the four age groups Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 and Under 19.

After a full day's play the six young people from Wyndham finished a successful championship. Cerys James won in the age group Under 19 Girls and Sian James came second. In the age group Under 12 Boys, Leon Rayner and Ethan Williams achieved the third place while Matthew Davies and Alex George received the fourth place.



NABGC POOL



On the weekend over the 7 and 8 May, Nantymoel Boys' and Girls' Club and Wyndham Boys' and Girls' Club took part in the annual British Pool Championship. The competition was organised by the National Association of Boys' and Girls' Clubs (NABGC) and took place in Staffordshire. With four winners and five runner ups it was a very successful weekend for the Welsh representatives.

Winner: William Conway – Under 12 Boys, Karys Raynor – Under 12 Girls, Hannah John – Under 14 Girls, Megahn Raynor – Under 16 Girls

Runner ups: Liam Gumms – Under 14 Boys, Jack Thomas – Under 16 Boys, Molly Turner – Under 12 Girls, Kaci Leigh Taylor – Under 14 Girls, Ella Shaeers – Under 16 Girls

NABGC 5 A SIDE FOOTBALL

This year's national NABGC 5 a side Football Championship took place on Saturday, 11 June in the Trafford Soccerdome in Manchester. Female and male participants competed against each other in the age groups Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16.

The U12 team from Afan Lido F.C. won the tournament with Lewis Ridd, Morgan Daniel, Ellis Williams, Tian Mills, Luke Macdonald, Dylan Joseph, Callum Fisher and Trystan Reid playing while Dylan Davies, Max Williams, Ethan Williams, Alex George, Matthew Davies, Leon Rayner, Jenson Livick and Harvey McAndrew from Wyndham Boys' and Girls' achieved the second place.



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THE Us Girls PAGE

This page is dedicated to girls and showcases the work we are undertaking to get more girls involved in sport and involved in the activities of the Organisation.

ADVENTURE WEEKEND



Between Friday, 22 April and Sunday, 24 April, a group of 20 young girls and leaders from North and South Wales stayed at the Maes y Lade Centre in the Brecon Beacons to take part in an UsGirls Adventure Weekend.

On Saturday the participants tried out archery and took part in some sport activities in the morning. Equipped with canoes and kayaks, the group went to the River Wye near Glasbury and spent the afternoon on the river playing games and paddling along the river – and some were even brave enough to swim and jump into the river. After dinner, a movie night with a lot of popcorn was organised. Before leaving on Sunday morning, the group took part in a Lasertag game and various sport exercises. It was great to see that all girls worked well together as a team with girls they had never met before, ensuring everybody was supported and encouraged to try their best.



“USGIRLS ROCKS!” FESTIVALS

During the past months we frequently took part in “UsGirls Rocks!” Festivals with girls from disadvantaged areas. These festivals are offering a huge range of sporting activities, workshops and information stalls for the girls to try out and explore. In North Wales, Heather Robertshaw has worked at Conwy, Denbighshire and Flintshire’s Festivals who all put on a great event and had lots of girls attending.

Although all events were vastly different, each had exciting opportunities for young people ranging from swimming, climbing, disco dome, glow in the dark dodgeball and glow in the dark hula hooping. Leading from this, BGC North Wales have been able to set up two different Us Girls sessions for girls in local Community First areas. In South Wales we went to the festivals in Cardiff on Saturday, 17 April and in Newport on Saturday, 28 May. It was a great opportunity for the girls to get active and to try out something new and they were rewarded with a goodybag for taking part in ten different activities during their time at the event.



USGIRLS SESSION IN NORTH WALES

In North Wales, Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs of Wales have two successful Us Girls Sessions. The first of these was started in a Communities First area of Llandudno, running weekly on Mondays between 4 and 5pm in Ty Hapus Community Centre. We have two enthusiastic and motivated volunteers who help to run the sessions and bring different backgrounds into the mix. Numbers have risen steadily over the weeks and we now have a regular weekly attendance of 15 to 20 girls. This is a multi-sport session and we are very youth led. A variety of equipment is brought to the session, and the girls can decide on the activities that week. Firm favourites are rounders and dodgeball! Following the success of these sessions, we worked in partnership with Conwy School Sport, Conwy Council (Education Dept) to deliver Us Girls Activity Days in the school holidays. This was successful with more than 20 new girls registering on the day, in addition to the regular participants we were getting in the weekly sessions. This Activity Day was extremely successful, and we have planned another three days in the summer holidays which links in to the Youth Services activity programme.

The second Us Girls sessions Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs of Wales have in North Wales are the weekly session in Denbigh Hwb. This runs 6 to 7pm every Thursday evening and the venue is central for all members of the Denbigh Community, including a Communities First area. This is also a multi-sport session. However, it has taken on a different form as some of the girls are nervous about sport. We use this time to socialise and share healthy living tips and tricks. This has been beneficial to the girls as it has given them a fresh perspective of lifestyle choices such as healthy eating. Many of the girls have also gained confidence as we slowly introduce physical activities to the sessions. The girls at this session in Denbigh also created a video about how much they love the Us Girls sessions, creating, filming and editing the video themselves. We have many regular girls attending weekly and, together with Kelly Owen who works for Denbighshire Leisure and North Denbighshire Communities First, we have created a fun summer programme for the girls.

USGIRLS EVENTS



Over the past few months, we have had some very exciting events in North Wales additional to the festivals. One of them was a 5 Kilometre run along the prom in Llandudno in which the girls did fantastically even though we were unlucky with the weather.

Working in partnership with Conwy School Sport, Conwy Council (Education Dept), we also entered 22 girls into another 5 kilometre run - this time it was a colour run along the beach. All girls thoroughly enjoyed themselves, running, jogging and walking along the beach getting covered in powdered paint. Heather and volunteers from the Llandudno Us Girls sessions also helped to run a beach day in Porth Eirias. It was a great day full of sunshine and laughter with hundreds of young people registering to take part in some of the many activities on offer.



RUGBY



2016 was a successful year for all associated with Boys' Clubs Rugby with some memorable results and achievements by our current players.

Both the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales Rugby sides played in the Netherlands. The Youth side narrowly lost to Netherlands representative side 8-3. The game was a curtain raiser for the Netherlands senior international against Poland. Some great performances from the BGC Wales team with Aled Cockwell named man of the match. In the Under 16's match BGC Wales won 15-12 in a close game with

Kyle Jones named as man of the match.

The season was rounded off in style with the Annual Presentation Evening Dinner at the Towers Hotel. Max Boyce, President of the BGC Wales Rugby, presented the players with their caps.

Joff Carroll said "Yet again the Rugby panel have provided some excellent opportunities for the young people, I would personally like to thank all the volunteers who gave up their time and energy every week for this great sport."



US GIRLS @ LLWYNYPPIA

On 27 September 2016 Llwynypia Boys' and Girls' Club hosted an Us Girls event as part of the Street Games initiative that aims to provide opportunities for girls to take part in sport and physical activity.

The night saw clubs from across South Wales in attendance with over seventy girls participating in the variety of activities including football, volleyball, golf, netball, archery, table tennis and dance. Many of the activities were delivered by local providers ensuring that there were opportunities for the girls to continue their engagement in sport following the event. We would like to extend a huge thank you to the activity providers, Game On Wales, Rhydfelin Boys' and Girls' Club, Valleys Golf, Volleyball Wales and Rhondda Archery coach Kevin Bridgman, for offering some exciting and innovative opportunities for the girls to try something new in a safe and fun environment. Jess Lloyd, a member of the staff team that coordinated the event said,

"It was a pleasure to be involved in this event, it feels like a real community affair. It's great to see lots of Boys' and Girls' clubs coming together to promote healthy lifestyles for girls. The atmosphere has been brilliant here tonight and the girls have really given things a go, fantastic to see!"

At the end of the evening, all of the girls received a goodie bag for participating in the activities. Another big thank you goes out to LUSH Cardiff store and Us Girls for generously donating some healthy and beauty products that were included in the goodie bags. Hopefully this will be the first of many Us Girls Events and will provide girls with more opportunities to try new sports.