

Boys and Girls Clubs of Wales

Clybiau Bechgyn a Merched Cymru



IT'S WHAT WE DO

bite-sized

August 2023



Andrew Borsden MBE

CHAIRMAN

I aim to bring together the best practice of the organisation and to ensure quality youth work is delivered in Wales and beyond. I look forward to the future and it is my wish that we will all work together to take Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales to the next level.

Grant Poiner

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

My aim is to drive the organisation forwards and offer more opportunities for young people within our membership. Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales is not only holding on to its traditional mission of serving our young people here in Wales, but also taking a big step onto the global stage!



TRUSTEES

Vice Chair: R Fussell
Treasurer: R Williams
Secretary: Vacant
Football: A Howells
Rugby: A Morgan

Members: P John
S Khaireh
J Lloyd
C Evans

Apple Tang - Organisational Support & Finance Manager - to manage the organisation's finance and to organise the HQ's operation.

Gayle Harris - Business Development Manager - to fundraise for the organisation and provide help and advise to member clubs.

Jonathan Price - Youth Work Manager - to manage a team of youth workers to deliver youth projects to young people from member clubs.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

MEMBER CLUBS

132 affiliations across 22 counties in Wales. Among these clubs or organisations, there are 27 boxing clubs, 39 football clubs, 34 youth and community clubs and 32 rugby clubs. (August 2023)

According to the statistics collected from our member clubs, BGC Wales is reaching 5381 young people aged 10 or under, 5561 aged 11-14, 3436 aged 15-16 and 3454 aged 17-25.

We are not going to stop! BGC Wales is eager to follow our mission and aim to support young people in Wales to live healthy and happy lives, develop new skills, have fun and make a meaningful contribution to their community. The organisation aims to create a brighter future for young people in Wales.

AFFILIATION

It means you are closely associated with us to collaborate for the needs of young people in your community. Our fee is £30 for a 12-month period. Through affiliating, we will offer quality assured youth work and fantastic opportunities for young people at your club and in your community. As a national youth organisation, we have our intentions set and are actively working on developing our operations in North and West Wales. Please help us to spread the word.



FUNDERS AND PARTNERS



MEMBERSHIP
Business Support & Development



BENEFITS OF AFFILIATION

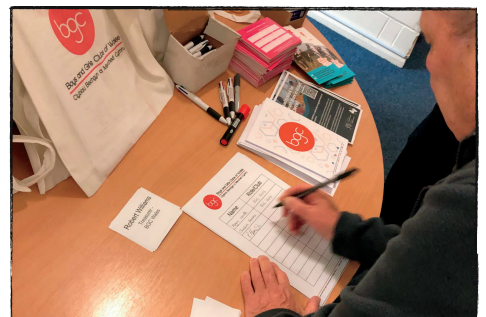
As a **national youth work organisation** with 95 years experience and proven record, **Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales** offers our member clubs to participate in our sport competitions and events, be part of best practice and evidenced-based educational projects and programmes both nationally and internationally. Member clubs can take advantage of our services such as DBS checks, training programmes, advice and support on youth work and best practice, helping to achieve sustainability goals in maintaining the standard within our **BGC Wales Network**.



Gayle Harris, Business Development Manager, is available for funding advice and support, please contact her at **gayle@bgc.wales**



58 attendees at our AGM that was held in January 2023. We hosted at Treharris BGC where we also celebrated its 100th anniversary – our first **Boys and Girls Club** established in Wales!



For information please contact office@bgc.wales or on 02920575705 or **subscribe** to our eNewsletter at www.bgc.wales



YOUTH WORK
National & International

PROJECTS AT MEMBER CLUBS

We have a brilliant team of youth workers led by our Youth Work Manager, Jonathan Price. The team is dedicated to delivering high quality youth work both nationally and internationally. Young people within our BGC Wales network can participate in the diverse projects and programmes BGC Wales offers, whilst our team also runs curriculum **projects and workshops at member clubs**. Stay updated by subscribing to our eNewsletter on our website www.bgc.wales. Moreover, if you are interested in organising a **residential visit at The Lodge**, simply contact Jonathan Price at paz@bgc.wales for a chat.



Safer Internet Week, Science Week, Summer of Fun, Environment workshop, Fuel saving advice.



Inter-club competitions, youth-led activities, social media safety, eLearning, Youth Forum, volunteering project



Meet and Code, Sport Leadership, Football against Racism, Politics project, outdoor activities.

SPORT PANELS
Health Lifestyle & development



BGC WALES SPORTS

Sport plays a pivotal role within our membership, acting as a transformative "vehicle" for young people to acquire essential skills that facilitate their overall development. BGC Wales is dedicated to advocating the numerous advantages of sports, encompassing not only **health and fitness** benefits but also **social and community** benefits. We actively champion successes and assist clubs in recruiting volunteers and securing funding to further promote and foster sports within our community.



We offer young people at our member clubs high-level and competitive sports activities, including inter-club events, tournaments, and competitions.



Our Boys' and Girls' Representative Teams have opportunity to compete nationwide and internationally such as European countries, Canada and the USA.

Welcome any sponsorships to our sport teams, please get in touch and contact office@bgc.wales



MEMBER CLUBS
Expanding Our Network

EXPANDING OUR NETWORK

Soon after the pandemic, we actively re-engaged with clubs in **North Wales**. We currently have member clubs including boxing clubs, football clubs and youth clubs in Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham. We are planning on securing sustainable funding to place an officer in North Wales to coordinate our projects and programmes. Our intention is to develop our network in North Wales to open up and create more opportunities for the young people in the North.



The New Dragons Speech and Language Club in Flintshire offers a safe, friendly, and stimulating environment for young people. We focus on fostering friendships, improving communication and social skills, all whilst having fun!



CEO visited **Clwyd Boxing Club** in June 2023 where the club has been an affiliated member for more than 20 years. All credits to Daryl who has been supported the young people for all those years!



A Summer of Fun Project with **STAND North Wales Youth Zone** that engaged young people and created a visual story of the impact of being bullied and how youth work can help young people.

RESILIANCE

World Wrestling Entertainment



WWE - BE A STAR RALLY

52 young people from our member clubs joined the **WWE - Be A STAR Rally** and had a fantastic time. This was a once in a lifetime opportunity for our young people in Wales. The event was a fun way to promote positive methods of social interaction and to encourage young people to treat others as equals. Thank you to our leaders for the time and effort they put in to make sure their young people could be there for this brilliant opportunity.



The event was attended by WWE superstars Sarah Schreiber, Bianca Belair, Angelo Dawkins and Montez Ford, joined by Vaughan Gething and Alex Davies-Jones.



The opportunity the superstars from WWE Community created for our young people was perfect and was also a fun way of getting the **anti-bullying** messages across.



Their work at the rally helped us to fulfil our mission as a youth organisation of empowering and supporting young people to improve their life opportunities for a better future.



WORLD CUP
U15s Boys and U15s Girls Football

INSPIRE A GENERATION

We were awarded funding by the Welsh Government and we arranged a trip for 32 young people, all aged under 15, and support staff to travel to **Boston in America**, to play matches against an American representative team on the same day the Welsh Men's National Team played against the USA Team at the **World Cup** in Qatar. The purpose of this trip was to provide a life changing opportunity for young people from Wales and for them to test their skills in another country.



Match Day (21/11/22)
USA 2 - 0 BGC Wales



At home in Wales, 44 member clubs hosted watch parties and football related activities, creating a Welsh footballing legacy in clubs with attendance of 3631 young people.



Match Day (21/11/22)
USA 0 - 3 BGC Wales

YOUTH FORUM

Raise Your Voice, Pizza & Politics



YOUNG PEOPLE'S VOICE

Our Youth Work Excellence Award winning project in 2021, **Raise Your Voice**, in partnership with Swansea MAD and Deryn, built our confidence in engaging young people in Wales to discuss politics, and its impact on their lives and the things they care about. The Youth Forum members thrived within our BGC Wales network which we are committed to continuing, and we are delighted to have the support of the Welsh Government and Principality Building Society.



Pizza & Politics sessions took place in the runup to the local elections in May 2022. 450 young people from across the BGC Wales network engaged in the project.



We held a **Youth Hustings Event** where young people aged 16–25 asked candidates from each political party why young people should vote for them.



Our first member of the **Welsh Youth Parliament** met the King at the Senedd! His role was to discuss issues that affect young people and helped contribute to shaping services for young people.

[RaiseYourVoice.Wales](https://www.raiseyourvoice.wales)

[CodaDyLais.Cymru](https://www.codadylais.cymru)

Outdoor adventure & activities

CHALLENGES



OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

It is all about **personal challenge**, not a race. Participants call on their skill, determination and stamina to achieve many of our outdoor adventure activities. The achievement brings a sense of personal fulfilment that will remain with the individual for life. These events are an extended opportunity to undertake quality youth work with a group of young people who will be pushing themselves to achieve. It is not easy and requires effort which in turn leads to the reward of completion and satisfaction.



15 young people and 5 trained staff participated in this year's **100-mile Canoe Test** in 2023 at the River Wye.



Essex Adventure Weekend, hosted by Essex Boys' and Girls' Clubs. Young people took part in a wide range of activities, such as climbing, high ropes, bush craft, archery and more!



We are really proud of the young people. Their hard work, **resilience** and teamwork skills have been commendable.



INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

We believe international exchange programmes offer numerous benefits for young people include cultural awareness, global perspective, language skills, interpersonal skills networking opportunities, and more - that's why we have been doing it for two decades and we continue to do so. **Taith** is Wales' new **International Learning Exchange Programme** that supports activities that would have previously been funded by the Erasmus+ programme. Taith provides opportunities for young people, staff and volunteers at Welsh youth organisations and local authority youth services.



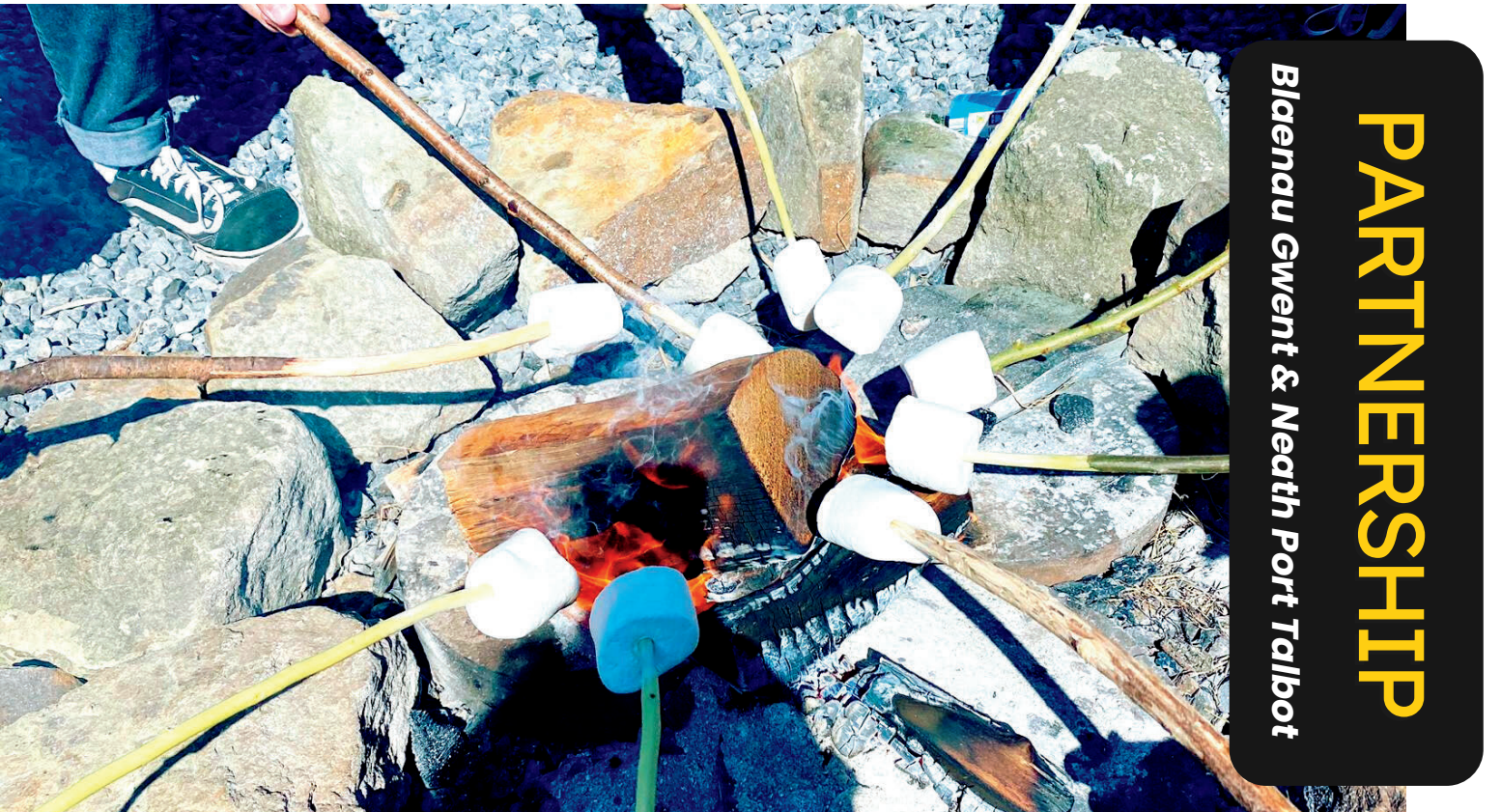
Our Boys **Rugby Teams** in the Netherlands (above) whilst the Girls Rugby Team is planning for the visit to France. Boys **Football Teams** went to Germany in May 2023, we have just announced that the Girls Football Teams will visit Spain in Oct 2023.



20 years experience of organising our **Welsh/German Youth Exchange** funded by the Erasmus+. We planned our return to Germany in 2023 and continuing our new journey with Taith International Learning Education Programme.



The **FLW project** (Finland, Latvia and Wales) **empowered young people** through the medium of dance, particularly focusing on the engagement of young people excluded from the sport for various reasons.



PARTNERSHIP WORKING

In 2022, we collaborated with youth services from eight local authorities - Blaenau Gwent, Neath Port Talbot, Swansea, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Cardiff, Bridgend, Carmarthen and Vale of Glamorgan - to provide activities at **The Lodge** and focus on the **wellbeing of young people** and support the delivery of wellbeing workshops to young people in their youth provisions. As we move into 2023-2024, we maintain our partnership working with Blaenau Gwent and Neath Port Talbot for continued **joint initiatives**.



Supporting **Neath Port Talbot Youth Service** at their clubs and offering BGC Wales opportunities to their young people.



1 to 1 and group **wellbeing sessions** in their areas and youth clubs, as well as some member clubs of BGC Wales.



14 young people from **Blaenau Gwent Youth Service** stayed at The Lodge and engaged in activities including the aqua park.

THE LODGE

Activities and Residential



RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

We are proud to present our residential centre, **The Lodge**, where we cater to the diverse needs of young people through customised residential visits. A range of adventure activities, wellbeing workshops, team building sessions and bushcraft activities, and outdoor activities nearby include BMX riding, GoApe, surfing, mountain biking, mountain walks, coastal walks, quad biking, star gazing, geocaching sessions, as well as a **space to host sports groups**.



Member clubs are very welcome to use our facilities at the Lodge for team building, training events or a stay for inter-club competition.



A delightful, relaxed **44-bed** group bunkhouse style venue and facility with a self-catering kitchen and communal areas.



The Lodge is a **perfect venue** for us to welcome our member clubs and our international visitors.

Heol Dewi Saint, Bettws, Bridgend, CF32 8TA

www.bgc.wales/the-lodge

UPCOMING PROJECTS

The **Taith programme** offers opportunities for member club leaders and young people to engage in educational exchange projects in countries such as the USA, France, Canada, Mexico, Germany, Spain and more. As well as a 2-year **Democratic Project** which empowers young people to voice their concerns for their communities. Funding is available for youth-led projects being run within BGC Wales network. Our first **Girls Rugby Team** is geared up for the new season. Furthermore, the launch of the **South Wales Police Youth Volunteers project** is imminent!



MSCT (Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust) - to offer young people in Anglesey, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Conwy and Gwynedd a comprehensive programme of sporting and youth activities.

RSBC (Royal Society for Blind Children) - to assist member clubs in supporting and engaging young people who have vision impairments

Ofcom Project - working with Promo Cymru to empower our young people to be media literate and to protect themselves and others against harmful content.

IT'S WHAT WE DO

and to the future



Boys and Girls Clubs of Wales
Clybiau Bechgyn a Merched Cymru



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