

# YEPS NEWSLETTER

YEPS

## CHRISTMAS EDITION



2023 has been a busy year at YEPS! We've been busy working on lots of different projects throughout our provision during the year. Here are some snapshots of some of our work that's been going on in 2023. For more information visit our website at [www.yeps.wales](http://www.yeps.wales)

1.



## FERNHILL OPEN SPACE PROJECT



The young people in Fernhill Youth Project participated in a community project from April – September. Young people asked workers can they renovate the garden area as they wanted a safe space to spend time with their friends when the youth project was closed. Approximately 15 young people took an active part in the delivery ranging from digging up brambles, mixing cement, drilling wood panels, planting trees and flowers. They also designed the bench including a light and speaker. In October we celebrated this achievement by having an official opening. The young people wrote speeches to share on the evening.

# 2.

## REALSKILLZ PROJECT

The Realskillz Project was run collaboratively with YEPS, CfW+, ARC Training and Martin Roberts (Homes Under the Hammer). It gave a group of Year 11's from St John's an opportunity to get an experience of the construction industry. Over 2 weeks, (1 week hands on and 1 week in a classroom) the group were renovating a local pub in the Rhondda. All participants gained multiple qualifications.



# 3.

## WELLBEING WEDNESDAY @ MACS



YEO & MHWO worked with staff at Mountain Ash Comprehensive School to identify young people who require low level mental health and wellbeing support. This created Wellbeing Wednesday project to provide a safe space for weekly wellbeing sessions in a familiar setting using the YEPS van. The project delivers weekly one hour sessions per group. The use of the YEPS Van allows young people to engage outside of the typical school/classroom setting.

## TREORCHY YOUTH CLUB

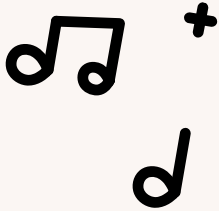
4.



Treorchy Youth Club won the 'Youth Club of the Year' award at our 2023 Celebration Event. Treorchy Youth club ranges in age and diversity. The young people who attend are accepting of people's difference regardless of sexuality, gender or abilities. Every week there's a DJ set-up for the others to enjoy and participate in dancing and singing.



5.



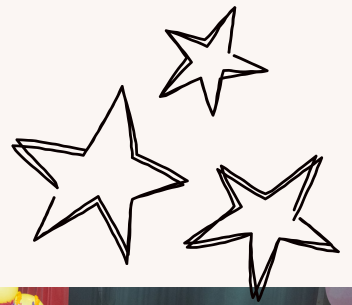
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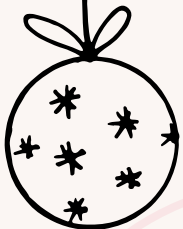
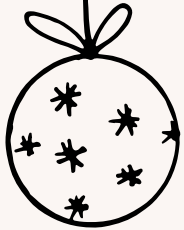
RCT youth forums were invited to spend the day at the National Eisteddfod at Boduan in August in preparation for the Eisteddfod's arrival in RCT next summer. YEPO's Shauna and Chelsea took a group of forum members up to North Wales on a Welsh historical tour before spending the afternoon on the Maes. The young people thoroughly enjoyed seeing and exploring all the contemporary art on display.

# YOUTH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

# 6.



We are thrilled to announce that we've been shortlisted in two categories for the Youth Excellence Awards. Our Cynon Youth Forum, is shortlisted in the 'Equality and Diversity' category and our Mental Health Animation project has been shortlisted in the 'Digital Innovation' category. The winners will be announced in February 2024.



## MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

