

Report to Nineveh Charitable Trust

Project title:	Youth-led environmental action
Amount of grant:	£2,500
Date received:	21 st April 2023
Date of report:	1 st December 2023
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YG gratefully received your grant of £2,500 in April 2023 and since then we have worked hard to secure the funding required to meet the project budget. We did receive the £15,000 refunding from Ernest Cook but with your grant and the £3,000 pledged from CLA, we were still short of the 30hr budget of £37,180.

However, thanks to your support, we have undertaken a number of outdoor activities including litter picking in green spaces, nature walks and taking out-of-work young people to the Brecon Beacons National Park.

Our Sea Bin partnership with the Canal & River Trust has continued and younger children have visited us and our youth-worker has gone into schools to educate young people about this outdoor project. We run three of these workshops each to 10-20 young people. Subject to funding, we aim to implement another sea bin to collect even more litter from the canal and basin and to grow this outdoor project that provides young people with other skills including data capture.

In the Cheltenham area, we have run weekly sessions, with space for up to 10 young people per session to join and we have delivered a variety of sessions outdoors including an in nature scavenger hunt, mindfulness walks, a visit to an animal shelter, therapeutic arts walk, yoga sessions and more. All sessions have been developed so they are accessible and central so young people can easily attend with no transport barriers.

Young people have benefitted from connecting with nature both in the countryside and in the centre, finding beauty in outdoor space and fresh air regardless of location. This support has seen reduced social isolation and giving young people accessible tools to manage their wellbeing.

Here are two examples of other work our environmental youth-worker has undertaken since April 2023:

Belmont School – we have been working with six SEND students to create an interactive outdoor learning and wellbeing space to enjoy whilst at school. We have partnered with Men's in Sheds who have helped with all the woodwork, building outdoor seating and an enchanting entrance way to the garden. The group will soon be putting in a willow arch as an alternative entrance to the garden. We also had an artist in Bristol commission a wellbeing check-in board which has gone up in the shed. The group won an award at "No Child Left Behind" for their garden.

Henley Bank High School – bug hotel, raising awareness about pollution by presenting to the whole school, designed a book case using a small greenhouse which is used at break times in a quiet corner for students who want some quiet time. It is also stored in the library outside of breaks and where the students have created a nature-themed display, selecting environmental books to entice other students to learn more about our planet. They also created a bottle cap mural with an underwater depiction and a message to "save our oceans" which has been displayed on the gates to the entrance of the school.

Thank you for your support of Young Gloucestershire.