

Give Children & Young People the Best Possible Start in Life	What we achieved...
A minimum of 10 low cost/low barrier events or activities for young people under 18yrs per annum including at least 4 events in the school summer holidays for young people	<p>Black Mountain Jazz, a Melville hosted company, delivered 2 Jazz workshops for young people and 2 taster sessions which have resulted in the formation of BMJ Katz, a jazz company for young people.</p> <p>10 weekly youth drama sessions held by UK CRF funded Future is Us Project (FiU) sessions culminating in several public pop-up activities in the town in mid-July 2022.</p> <p>An outdoor writing workshop for young people was held as part of the Abergavenny Writing Festival</p>
At least 4 events per annum for young children (under 5 yrs) and their families	<p>BMJ has delivered 2 'Jazz for Littl'uns' sessions at the Melville for toddlers to 5 yrs.</p> <p>4 performances by #Louby Lou Theatre Company.</p>
As a result of increased staffing capacity additional fundraising to support young people's access to engagement in events and activities of their choice associated with the Arts.	<p>UKCRF funding of the Future is Us project has been instrumental in bringing on board 6 creative personnel (in, art, craft, dance and drama) to work with young children attending from 7 north Monmouthshire schools, hard to reach teenagers in the Abergavenny area.</p> <p>The Centre Manager was appointed in mid-November 2021 and has contributed to programming and oversight.</p>
Address the challenges of demographic change	What we achieved...
To reduce social isolation MCA CIC will:	
Provide a programme of 12 coffee mornings in the café bar with at-cost refreshments.	Our emergence from Covid required a careful approach, re-planning of work and adjustment of timescales for the achievement of objectives with our existing groups. The first priority for the Melville emerging from the worst of Covid in summer 2021, was to encourage the return of our user groups, and establish/

	<p>re-establish a strong network of volunteering and support for our more vulnerable user groups, such as the diverse ability Blodeuo Theatre Company.</p> <p>People needed help to regain lost confidence and to return to easy interactions, only then to develop commitment to new projects. It is a re-stabilising process still running its course. Having limited access to the phone and social media, many of this particular group had spent 2 years with very little contact with their lifelong informal network, let alone face to face contact.</p>
<p>Provide a programme of 12 free facilitated, art/ writing/play or poetry reading sessions, with materials and at-cost/own refreshments 10am – 12pm - for people in the community to enjoy being creative in a space (or spaces) shared with others.</p>	<p>The Blodeuo Project is funded by the Arts Council of Wales, and we have world class facilitators. Participants pay £5 per session which covers refreshments. 22 sessions have been delivered.</p> <p>We also host a low-cost Writing for Fun group, a Stitch Together group, a lip-reading group with a qualified trainer and a Touch Trust group which together have provided 45 sessions</p>
Promoting Active Citizenship	What we achieved...
<p>Provide increased volunteering opportunities and well-coordinated volunteer activity</p>	<p>We initiated monthly community lounge drop-in sessions for local volunteers 9.30am – 12.00pm; the coffee and cake is free, great information exchange goes on. These sessions are well attended by both men and women.</p>
<p>Provide increased access to training for volunteers</p>	<p>We have co-organised and hosted two training days with MCC and GAVO – also free for volunteers and their agencies.</p>
<p>Increase support to volunteers</p>	
Communities and businesses to be part of an economically thriving and well-connected county	What we achieved...
<p>Continue to buy local and to build working relationships with local tradespeople & suppliers.</p>	<p>Where this was practical, we have used local caterers, supermarkets, glaziers, electricians, gardeners, and ground works, grant funded refurbishment from local companies, local MCC contractors</p>
<p>Provide opportunities for local businesses and freelancers to support community activities in the Centre, for example providing services on a pro bono basis</p>	<p>Where it is practical, we will continue to seek to provide these opportunities although it is recognised that these opportunities are limited as rarely can arts freelancers afford to provide services on a pro bono basis</p>

Work with higher education and further education institutions to identify career pathways into the arts, and, as appropriate, encourage local businesses to consider providing work experience opportunities in the arts for local people.	Discussions held with Careers Wales and re NMiTE advisor regarding providing placements for Graduate and Postgraduate students and to engage in a theatre type set for a specific arts related project.
Protect & enhance our natural environment & minimise the impact of climate change	What we achieved...
Support the enhancement of biodiversity & pollinator-friendly species in the Centre's green spaces.	Reduction in mowing of the green spaces has allowed diversity and volume of plant life e.g. giant thistles to develop encouraging greater numbers of pollinator- friendly species to graze for longer
Increase the overall planting of the Centre's green spaces, to include the planting of trees (target p.a. tbc).	This is an objective which has not yet been translated into reality although we have identified several volunteer gardeners and received an offer of help relating to advice on species, and labour to dig in from Growing Spaces in Mardy
Fundraise for the implementation of energy saving measures to reduce the Centre's carbon footprint	We have raised a further £490 match funding for LED lighting
Encourage active travel to the Centre and install more cycle racks as demand increases	4 cycle racks installed. We encourage customers attending events and classes to walk or cycle or use public transport when practicable.
Keep raising our sights as we (MCA CIC) set our annual E&S targets (as required by our Environmental and Sustainability Policy) and draw visitors' attention to our targets	We have agreed and produced a new Business Plan which includes our aspirations on E&S. There is further work to do in terms of making our customers aware of our targets.
Encourage best possible recycling of waste at the Centre	The amount of waste recycled has increased 2021 – 2022. Food waste recycling is now second nature, and the volume has increased to 2 – 3 caddies per week
The annual report will include the following measurements	Outturn as at July 2022
Number of coffee morning visitors	Blodeuo: 264

	Volunteers 20
Number of individuals participating in creative arts sessions	In the region of 150
Number of volunteers and estimate of volunteer hours with a breakdown of age under 26 years and over 26 years	<p>20 Blodeuo volunteers = 150 hrs</p> <p>Directors = 2500 hrs</p> <p>Café-Bar = 300 hrs</p> <p>Admin library = 10 hrs</p> <p>Wardrobe = 50 hrs</p> <p>Invoicing = 36 hrs</p> <p>Total Volunteering hours 3040</p> <p>Under 26: Café bar and Admin Library = 40 hours</p> <p>26 and over = 3000 hours</p>
Sessions of volunteer training undertaken	3 large group sessions and one Fire Warden training session for 5 multi-agency volunteers, 2 trained as ALPH 6 trained as bar stewards
Additional funding for youth activities secured	<p>£165k Future is Us project</p> <p>Following UKCRFs invitation to the FiU steering group to submit a follow up grant application for a related 'levelling up' project of three years duration, we await the outcome of such an application, its objective to deliver a youth theatre initiative across Monmouthshire, with its hub at the Melville Centre in Abergavenny</p>