

THE WICKED PROJECT

QUARTERLY REPORT, JANUARY – MARCH. '08



TIR COED



1. Overview of Tir Coed Activities:

1. The Tir Coed team has been meeting on a monthly basis, under the guidance of John Wildig, Company Secretary, to discuss progress and issues arising.
2. Chris, the Tir Coed Admin Officer, has continued to make applications to small Charitable Trusts for core funding. 7 replies have been received, acknowledging receipt.
3. At the end of the first year of the WICKED project, we are £2,352 underspent with the BLF budget, however, we have been granted permission to carry this underspend over to year 2. The Comic Relief budget has balanced in year 1, this was helped by the spend as a result of organising the two Acorn End of Year Celebrations for Young Carers.
4. The Annual Report to Comic Relief has been submitted. This included 4 case studies regarding young carers who have benefited from the Acorn initiative.
5. The Annual Report to the Hilton Foundation has been submitted. The administrator emailed the Project Officers with the following response: “your Grant Report ... was reviewed by the Grants Committee at their quarterly meeting yesterday. Everybody was pleased to see such a comprehensive report including details of spending, case studies etc. and hear the progress you have already made with the Tree Wise project.” The Hilton Foundation have agreed to carry the underspend of £3,090 into Y2 of the project and 2 of their Trustees have showed an interest in visiting WICKED activities in the coming year.
6. The Tir Coed six-monthly Board of Directors Meeting was held on April the 10th, 2008. Two new Directors were welcomed to the meeting, Paul Subbachi of Forestry Commission Wales and Keith Blacker a woodland owner with a long-standing involvement with NCH and Mencap.
A presentation was given on the achievements in the first year of the WICKED project
The following policies were approved:
Welsh Language Policy, Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Recruitment Policy and CRB Security Policy.
7. Becky gave a presentation about Tir Coed and the WICKED project at a Coed Lleol Networking day at the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT).
8. John Wildig represented Tir Coed at a WCVA Regional Policy event – “European Structural Funds programme up-date”. As a result of John’s networking, Tir Coed were invited to give a presentation on the WICKED project to WAG’s Youth & Adult Learning Opportunities Division. Simon, John and Gwyneth met with Marcus Hill and Nikki Moulds of the Welsh Assembly Government’s Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills.
The Department is applying to the European Convergence programme for funding towards “Reach The Heights” – a programme focusing on raising levels of achievement and stimulating skill levels of hard to reach young people within Wales.
The Tir Coed Chair and Secretary felt that the current WICKED project activities would fit well into this programme; therefore, Tir Coed expressed an interest in becoming a Project Partner.
Using the funding already secured for the WICKED project as match funding, Tir Coed, through the Reach The Heights programme, could draw down European funds.

This would enable us to employ additional Project Officers to spread the benefits of the WICKED project to the counties of north west Wales, namely Gwynedd, Anglesey, Conwy and Denbighshire.

A full Project Proposal Form has been submitted for Reach The Heights – a 4-year project, running from 2008 onwards.

Total cost of 4-year project	£1,265,958
Match funding from current WICKED budget declared for Years 1 & 2	£222,989
Match funding in-kind declared (value of Youth Workers, etc.)	£186,710
ESF applied for (@ 54.46%)	£689,439
Shortfall in match funding for years 3 & 4 (2010 & 2011)	£166,820

9. Becky met with Liz Griffiths, Pembrokeshire Youth Service Accreditation Officer, to discuss Open College Network (OCN) accreditation for the Pembrokeshire Tree Wise group. The meeting was very useful, and gives Tir Coed Officers further insight into how OCN works.
10. Gwyneth met with an officer of the Powys Youth Offending Team. It was agreed to arrange a taster day for staff and clients. If there was sufficient interest amongst staff, this could lead on to the training of YOT Officers in green woodwork & woodland management skills to enable long term 1 : 1 work with young people.

2. Activities in the fourth Quarter Listed Under each WICKED project initiative:
(Including achievement against targets and feedback)

a) The ACORN Initiative
(Respite activities for Young Carers)

The main activity under this initiative was the first Acorn Celebration, involving 3 of the 4 counties that have been part of the Acorn initiative.

Powys Young Carers:

Club night Easter decorations from Willow:

Following the success of the Christmas Willow decoration-making, Powys Young Carers requested a series of club night Willow sessions leading up to Easter. 5 clubs were visited in total by 2 separate Trainers from north and south Powys. The clubs were held at Newtown, Welshpool, Knighton, Llandrindod Wells and Brecon. 36 Young Carers took part. Each participant made either a small willow basket or a tray to take home with them. The Tir Coed Project Officer supplied mini chocolate Easter eggs to put in the baskets. The young people were thrilled with what they had produced.

As this was not an outdoor-based activity, as well as only being only 2-hours long, the Project Officer did not ask participants to complete self-assessment forms pre and post activity. However, feedback on “likes” and “dislikes” was gathered

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item	All participants took at least 1 item home.	
Participants are able to express their views about the activity & themselves on a video recording.	No video footage was taken. Photographic evidence only	
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	N/A as only 2-hour session	36 participants

Feedback:

Likes -

“How easy it was and the eggs”

“I liked all the weaving and making the tray and ... getting free eggs!”

“I liked everything”

“It was good to do and was fun”

“My egg basket”

"I liked to play with the willow and make it look very nice"

"Making the basket"

"Making a get well basket for my mum who's in hospital"

Dislikes -

"I found twisting the willow difficult but as I did more I got better"

"Making the basket" x 3

"Nothing" x 11

"It was too hard for me"

Feedback from Trainer:

"We enjoyed the sessions but found the Llandrindod one the most difficult (and note more negative feedback here!).....I think the problem was that because we could not use the previous space (meeting over-running in there) we set up in a smaller room. I thought this gave us the advantage that we were starting altogether and I could explain the basic process. But afterwards realised that was intimidating and that they started with a lack of confidence about it. Much the best way to work is one-to-one starting them as they come into the group. – Doing is much better than watching!"

Forest School Taster Session, March 27th –

On a warm day in March, 9 members of the Montgomery group of Powys Young Carers visited Bolbro Wood, near Abermule, for a Forest School taster session. The day was led by 3 members of the Montgomery Forest Education Initiative cluster group.

The young people were greeted with toast and hot drinks around the camp fire, followed by games. Then they were split up into 2 teams to build rope bridges, they enjoyed this so much that they asked if they could have a competition to see who was the fastest to cross the rope bridges. The most competitive and physically active members of the group revisited this activity at intervals throughout the day, while other participants preferred to sit around the camp fire making whistles and mallets.

Although all had bought a packed lunch along, the Trainers had also brought ingredients to make curry and rice on the camp fire. Some of the group helped with the preparation of the lunch, which was enjoyed by all.

Another activity which proved to be very popular during the day was den building.

The young people are now looking forward to their next visit to Bolbro Wood for a 2-day follow-on Forest School session during Whitsun week.

A dartboard self-assessment was carried out at the start of the taster session – this will be completed at the end of the follow-on sessions, along with other feedback on the Forest School experience.

A full report on the follow-on sessions, along with feedback, etc, will be included in the next quarterly report.

Ceredigion Young Carers:

No activities, other than the 2 x Celebrations reported below, were run with Ceredigion Young Carers during this quarter. Easter activities took part in early April and will be included in the next Quarterly Report.

Carmarthenshire Young Carers:

2 x 1-day Green Woodwork Workshops – 2 1-day workshops on March 25th & 26th at Keepers workshop, Brechfa. The first workshop was for 8 – 12 years olds and had 9 participants, and the second was for a group of 8 13-18 year olds. Jamie Miller and Tony Eames led both workshops, with support from Dave Hoyle. Although the young carers had requested 2 or 3 day workshops, which would have been more rewarding in terms of both practical and social outputs, the workshops were reduced to 1 day each, due to a shortage of support staff.

The young people had a variety of products that they could choose to make, including 1-legged and 3-legged stools, ‘Harry Potter’ brooms, toadstools, hazel baskets and mini-hurdles. On both days small groups of young people took time out to go into the woods behind the workshops to explore and make dens with Dave Hoyle. The young people on both days were very focused, concentrating well on the tasks in hand, and came away with many things that they had made. I am told that one young man in the younger group fell asleep in the car on his way home, resting on the 1-legged stool that he had made that afternoon.

Trainer feedback:

“All young carers were fully engaged with all that was on offer on both days, even bringing their own ideas for making different items” – Tony Eames.

Support Worker feedback:

Learning outcomes: *“Using potentially dangerous tools properly, giving young people life skills for the future”* – Grant Rees.

“The smiles say it all and hardly any moaning, a fabulous day had by all” Candace Reed.

Young People Feedback:

Likes – (Younger group) *“Everything, even the wood going in my eyes and I loved to make the brooms”*

(older group) *“Everything”* x 8

Dislikes - (Younger group) *“The cold”* x 3

(older group) *“Nothing”* x 7

Outcomes: All participants produced several hand-crafted items at this activity.

Becky is experimenting with different feedback forms to evaluate outcomes, as it is becoming difficult and laborious to get accurate responses to questions concerning health and happiness after every activity. Therefore, information from Carmarthenshire Acorn regarding WICKED project outcomes is now being collected on a bi-annual basis at the regular Carmarthenshire Young Carers evaluation days.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and		

self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item	Yes, all participants produced at least 1 item at every Acorn workshop.	
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	Yes, all attended for all of the days = 100% attendance	
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental awareness:		
Participants can name at least one tree species	78% named at least one tree species.	
Participants know that woodlands support wildlife – can name at least one type of fauna	93% named at least one type of woodland fauna.	
Participants know at least one way that woodlands benefit the environment	57% knew one way that woodlands benefit the environment.	
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
At least 60% of young people feel happier than when they began the Project activity	yes, Of the 14 that responded: 2 = same = 14% 9 = more = 64% 3 = less = 21%	
At least 60% of young people intend to pursue similar healthy activities again	Yes, all that responded wanted to take part in more WICKED activities.	

Pembrokeshire Young Carers:

This was the second workshop that has run as part of the WICKED project with Pembrokeshire young Carers: the workshop ran as part of the Group's already established bi-monthly club nights. Again, this was willow themed, Becky is hoping to tempt the Support Workers with willow training.

Club night Willow Workshop – A willow workshop with an Easter theme, which ran on 29th February. Jo Steadman and Helen Campbell led the workshop, which was held at Albany Hall, Haverford West. The workshop involved 20 Young Carers aged between 9 and 16 years. As a follow-on workshop from that run in November, the young carers built on their experience of willow and rush work to create Easter baskets. The Young Carers Support Staff brought along chocolate eggs which made a lovely finishing touch to the Easter baskets. The young people were encouraged to experiment themselves with the materials, making simple shapes, before being helped to make more elaborate forms. Decorations produced included wreaths, chains, balls, stars and Christmas trees. The

activity sustained the interest of the young people right the way through the 2 and a half hour session, which, due to the late hour and young age of some of the children, was quite an achievement.

Trainer feedback:

“Verbal feedback from participants and staff was very positive and they were keen to do something similar in the future.” – Jo Steadman

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item	Yes, all participants produced at least 1 item.	
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	N/A as only 2.5 hour session	
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
At least 60% of young people feel happier than when they began the Project activity	Yes, Of the 5 that responded: 1 = same = 20% 4 = more = 80%	
At least 60% of young people intend to pursue similar healthy activities again	Yes, all that responded wanted to take part in more WICKED activities.	

Feedback:

Likes – *“Everything about the willow weaving it was great fun. Please come again. Thanx”*

Dislikes - None given

The Acorn Celebration 2008:



This event celebrated a year of the WICKED project, and brought together 3 of the 4 Young Carers groups that Tir Coed have been working with for 2 x 2-day residentials during February– one for 8 – 12 year olds, and the other for 13- 18 year olds. 41 Young Carers took part in all. The Celebrations were held in the Brechfa Forest area, with workshops at Keepers Workshop, and evening entertainment at Llansawel village hall. Tir Coed worked with many local individuals and groups to make these 2 events a resounding success.

Both residentials followed a similar format. The first day began with storytelling, delivered eloquently by Melissa Holloway. The story was a traditional Eastern European tale about the transition from childhood to adulthood, and captivated both age groups. 2 workshops were then provided, a construction workshop and arts workshop. Green woodwork and construction was led by Tony Eames and Jamie Miller, the young people made a variety of different items, including toadstools, baseball bats and even go-carts, but the main activity revolved around constructing and carving a wooden archway, which represented the transition from childhood to adulthood. Melissa Holloway and Maggie Fearn led the arts workshop, the young people made talisman dolls, cushion covers, clay models and willow models. Some of the young carers spent some time exploring the woodland, sitting and talking around the fire and making dens. All trainers were very flexible in their approach, much of the activities were on request from the young carers themselves. The 2-days were concluded with a ‘celebration’, the young people’s wishes for themselves and for the future were written on seed-shaped pieces of paper, collected and placed in a willow a challis that one of the participants had created earlier in the

day. The challis was then ceremonially burnt whilst the young carer watched, some joining in banging on drums.

Gillie Gardner at Gilfach Wen Bunkhouse, Brechfa, provided the accommodation. The bunkhouse was newly kitted out, and provided a good standard of accommodation. Marie Simpson provided the food, both at the bunkhouse and workshop, this was definitely a winner with both young carers and Support Workers. A Celtic Band called the Mordekkers, and Ceilidh caller, Cath Oakwood, provided the evening entertainment. Although the younger group in the main enjoyed the evening entertainment, many taking part in the dancing, the older group would have preferred a disco or karaoke – this will be taken into account on future residential.

All in all both Acorn Celebrations were resounding successes. One of main positive outcomes was bringing together young carers from all over mid and west Wales to share their experiences. Many young carers have requested for further joint county events

Younger Group

22 young carers attended this Celebration

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item	Yes, all participants produced at least 1 item.	
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	95% had a 100% attendance rate	One out of the 22 participants went home after the first day, as he was worried about his home situation.
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
At least 60% of young people feel happier than when they began the Project activity	Yes, 3 = same = 14% 2 = less = 9% 17 = more = 77%	
At least 60% of young people intend to pursue similar healthy activities again	Yes, all that responded wanted to take part in more WICKED activities.	

Young People Feedback:

Likes – *“Making friends”*
 “”The doll making and sewing”
 “Den making”
 “The wood work shed”
 “I liked everything”
 “Everything except being cold”
 “The soup x 6”

Dislikes - *“The cold”*
“Circle games”
“That some of it was out doors!”

Trainer feedback: *“Fantastic workshops – based around kids doing what they want to do”*
 – Jamie Miller
“Humbling working with such amazing kids” – Mellissa Holloway

Support Worker feedback: *“The young people enjoyed the sessions and definitely became more and more confident in using the equipment over the two days.”* – Katie Gardner, Carmarthenshire Young Carers

“The group we brought did not all know each other before. They made friends very quickly with each other and with young carers from other parts of Wales. Using the woodworking tools to make things was great for boys and girls. One boy has decided to become “a woodsman”! I think they would all like to do more.” – Janet Bidgood, Powys Young Carers

Older Group

19 young carers attended this Celebration

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item	Yes, all participants produced at least 1 item.	
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	100% had a 100% attendance rate	
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
At least 60% of young people feel happier than when they began the Project activity	No, 10 = same = 52% 9 = more = 48%	
At least 60% of young people intend to pursue similar healthy activities again	Yes, all that responded wanted to take part in more WICKED activities.	

Young People Feedback:

“Fantastic” x 2, *“Awesome”*, *“Brill!!”*, *“Relaxing”* x 2

Trainer feedback: *“It was a delight to take a small group exploring the wider forest.”* – Maggie Fearn
“Lots of team building and working with others” – Tony Eames

Support Worker feedback: *“Kids got really involved in tasks esp. woodworking and 2 in particular who I know to have short attention spans got really involved and got real*

satisfaction and fulfilment out of the pieces that they produced. ... Lots of good things and memories to take home” – Celia Milne, Powys Young Carers

“An excellent activity with variety and knowledgeable staff/workers. Well done to all of you. The group enjoyed themselves very much and asked when will the next one be held.”
– Denise John, Ceredigion Young Carers

b) The WORKING YOUR WOODS initiative

(for 16 – 19 year olds not in education, employment or training)

Powys

Two of the Powys trainees attended a training course run by Chris Hughes, of MWMAC. The course covered the use of hand winches and tractor winching.

The Project Officer is currently helping one of the Powys trainees to research funding sources that will assist him in buying a mobile saw. Over the past few months he has been selling Christmas trees and moss and has managed to save £2,000, which he will use to matchfund any grants that are available to him.

The Forestry Commission Wales is currently developing a forestry Modern Apprenticeship scheme; when this scheme is operational it could provide a mechanism to enable further training and work placements for some of the Working Your Woods trainees.

Outcome:	Target:	Comments:
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people	At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation	66% have received accreditation
	At least 60% of participants showing a positive attitude towards career development	Average attendance rate of all participants was 94%
	At least 25% participants progress to further training or employment	75% have progressed to further training or employment

Ceredigion:

The 2 trainees who were following a 6-month Diploma at the Coppice wood College have successfully completed their course.

One of them has found a work placement with an engineering company, based at Lampeter. The Tir Coed Project Officer is actively looking for a carpentry/joinery work placement for the 2nd trainee at the moment.

In addition, both trainees were awarded with Millennium Volunteers certificates to acknowledge over 100 hours of volunteer time that they had completed. The certificates were presented by Simon Hewitt (Tir Coed Chaiman) and was seen as an opportunity to publicise the WICKED project in local newspapers.

The progress of the other Working Your Woods trainees is as reported in the October-December Quarterly Report.

Outcome:	Target:	Comments:
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people	At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation	62% have, or are in the process of, receiving accreditation
	At least 60% of participants showing a positive attitude towards career development	Average attendance rate of all participants was 86%

	At least 25% participants progress to further training or employment	62% have progressed to further training or employment
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Pembrokeshire:

Since the introductory sessions have come to an end, some participants have progressed to stages 1 and 2 of the programme. A brief summary of each participant follows:

Trainee 1 – This young man started a work placement the Pembrokeshire Wood Store. However, the lengthy travel involved proved to be too much of a barrier, and unfortunately this individual dropped out after a few weeks.

Trainee 2 - received his Millennium Volunteer (a WCVA funded project) 150 hour Award in January. He has now completed a 6-month OCN accredited course with the Coppice Wood College. Becky is looking for a suitable work placement for this young man, and also investigating chainsaw training.

Outcome:	Target:	Comments:
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people	At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation	43% (3 out of 7) have, or are in the process of, receiving accreditation
	At least 60% of participants showing a positive attitude towards career development	Yes, average attendance rate of all participants was 75.7%
	At least 25% participants progress to further training or employment	43% have progressed to further training or employment

Working your Woods taster sessions for 2008 are being planned for June and July in Pembrokeshire.

Carmarthenshire:

As the Working your Woods taster sessions in Carmarthenshire during 2007 were cancelled due to low attendance, Becky has not kept track of the career development of those individuals that attended part of the programme.

Working your Woods taster sessions for 2008 are being planned for June in Carmarthenshire.

c) **The Tree Wise initiative**

(For young people, 14 – 16 years who are, or are in danger of being, excluded from school)

Powys

Some progress has been made towards starting up a Tree Wise project in Powys for the next school year.

1. Two Youth Workers who work with secondary schools, one in Llanfair Caereinion and the other in Llanidloes, have expressed an interest in being trained to lead a Tree Wise project. They are already working with years 10 and 11 pupils, offering various wider curricular activities, and are interested in including woodland-based activities on a one day per week basis.

They are awaiting approval from their Line Managers to be trained in green woodwork, etc.

2. A wood technology teacher at Brecon High School (who is retiring from full-time teaching in July) is interested in returning, for 1 day per week from next September onwards, to lead a Tree Wise project. He already has the green woodwork skills to lead a woodland-based project. He's liaising with Brecon High School with a view to them employing him to run Tree Wise in Brecon.

Ceredigion:

Although there are only 3 young people on this project currently, they are all drawing benefits from participating. The group has completed the restoration and extension of the woodland theatre which is situated in the woods. A specialist Trainer was brought in to help them with this construction work.

This construction project, along with tool identification, was accredited through the Open College Network (OCN). The 2 units delivered were:

- Construction of a Basic Wooden Shelter;
- Identify Woodwork Tools and Equipment.

The young people are currently carrying out arts-based work in order to decorate the theatre, as well as making music with percussion instruments made from wood.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item	Yes, all participants have taken part in bird box making, as well as the construction project.	
Participants are able to express their views about the woodland, the activity & themselves on a video recording.	Photographic evidence only to date – participants not comfortable with video recording.	

70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	All 3 participants have a 100% attendance rate.	
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental knowledge	All participants that completed feedback forms could name a type of tree and a type of woodland wildlife.	
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
At least 60% of young people feel happier than when they began the Project activity	Same – all participants gave themselves the highest score at self-assessment.	
At least 60% of young people intend to pursue similar healthy activities again	Yes, all participants would like to continue their involvement in the project.	
Target:	Milestone:	Comments:
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation	2 of the 3 participants have completed 2 units of OCN accreditation	The 3 rd participant joined the project half-way through the delivery of OCN and couldn't therefore be registered.
At least 60% of participants showing a positive attitude towards career development	All 3 participants have a 100% attendance rate.	

Feedback from term 2:

What did you make? – “I made a bird box and part of my walking stick”
“Made the back of a stage theatre”
“Went for walks to the beach”

A second Ceredigion Tree Wise project will start during April at woodland on the border of Ceredigion & Carmarthenshire.

A full report on this new project will be included in the next Quarterly Report.

Carmarthenshire:

Due to staff changes within Carmarthenshire Youth Services, only 2 Tree Wise sessions ran at Woodhouse Wood during this quarter. 2 students attended both sessions and took part in making dream-catchers from willow, site exploration, fire lighting and cookery. Anwen Davies, who originally led the Project, has now been moved to a new post in a different area. Thanks to Anwen for all of her hard work in helping to set this project up. Fortunately, another Youth Worker who undertook Tree Wise training during Summer 2007 is now in a position to lead this Tree Wise project. Rachel Cray, along with 2 Youth Workers new to Tree Wise, Simone Pearce and Tim Evans will be leading this project, with 9 students from Easter onwards on Wednesdays. All 3 youth Workers attended a 4-day green woodwork course with the Coppicewood College during March (see Support Worker Training, below) and are now raring to go.

Due to low numbers and infrequent session, targets have not been assessed, or feedback taken for this project during this quarter.

Pembrokeshire:

During this quarter, 11 Tree Wise sessions have taken place in Pembrokeshire, including one extra session, which was an overnighter. The seven participants have been busy learning bush-craft skills, such as fire-making. They have been making willow fences to complement the stone terraced area in the woods that they constructed last term and, with guidance from one of the participants, whose father is a hedge-layer, have even turned their hands to hedge-laying. The group has also embarked on a major project, building a portable woodland shelter. The boys, under the guidance of Leaders Anthony Harris and Matt Done, have been involved in every aspect of shelter-building, including sourcing and felling the timber for the frame poles. The portable shelter will provide flexible wet-weather cover and will mean that this group can work in the woods next to Pembroke School more often, as previously they were restricted to Tenby Youth Centre in poor weather conditions.



All 6 participants have now gained their Youth Achievement Awards and have begun work on an Entry-level Open College Network (OCN) qualification in Identifying Tools, which will be verified by the Youth Service Accreditation Officer.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item	Yes, all participants have taken part in fence making and shelter-building.	

Participants are able to express their views about the woodland, the activity & themselves on a video recording.	Photographic evidence only to date – participants not comfortable with video recording.	
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	72.6% average attendance rate. 4 out of 7 (57%) had a 100% attendance rate	One of the Pembroke school participants has now finished with the project, due to changes in his school timetable. The 2 Greenhill school participants cannot always attend sessions, and therefore have a 27% and 36% attendance rates
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental knowledge	All participants that completed feedback forms could name a type of tree and a type of woodland wildlife.	
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
At least 60% of young people feel happier than when they began the Project activity	Same – all participants gave themselves the highest score at self-assessment.	
At least 60% of young people intend to pursue similar healthy activities again	Yes, all participants would like to continue their involvement in the project.	
Target:	Milestone:	Comments:
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation	All current participants have been awarded their Bronze Youth Achievement Awards, and have been registered for OCN accreditation	6 participants
At least 60% of participants showing a positive attitude towards career development	72.6% had a 100% attendance rate. In all, the average attendance rate was	See above

	72.6%	
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Feedback from term 2:

Likes – *“Constructing the shelter – cutting down trees.”*
“Staying our in the woods.”

Dislikes - *“Nothing” x 3*

What did you make? – *“We made a portable shelter which is 16foot wide by 14 foot at its height. We found the trees cut them down and de-barked them. We carried them dug holes to place them in and constructed the shelter. We also made fencing to protect the shelter and make it to look part of the woods.”*

Leader feedback from term 2:

“The portable shelter project has seen the boys who took part gain confidence and knowledge in greater depth in working together and problem solving with the added woodworking skills being used without them realising. The group have been constructing willow fencing to enhance the shelter. This enabled them to sources the wood, cut and gather the stakes and lengths needed for construction. This was a fantastic project and would do this project again with other groups.”

Support Worker Training:

1. 3 Youth Workers who have taken over the running of the Carmarthenshire Tree Wise project attended 4 days of Green woodwork training, hosted by the Coppicewood College, Cilgerran.

Feedback

The table below shows the response of the 2 trainees who completed Feedback Forms, as one trainee missed the final session, due to illness:

	Poor 1 Low	2	3	4	Excellent 5 High
Did the training achieve its stated objectives?					2
Were you happy with the ratio of theory to practice?					2
Please rate the standard of instruction					2
Please rate the standard of equipment provided					2
How suitable was the woodland site?					2
How applicable was the training to your support role?					2
Please rate the standard of admin/organisation					2
Overall, please rate the standard of the training course					2

Comments - *“Would have loved for the course to be longer – lots to learn*

Suggestions - *“Pole lathe course”*

2. A one-day training workshop, led by Bob Shaw and Tony Eames, for Staff and Support Workers who work with young people on a practical level was held at a woodland in north Ceredigion during March.

The aim of the day was to make Staff & Support Workers more aware of the safety and practical issues involved with running a woodland-based activity, so that they would be better equipped to support the young people taking part.

The workshop content included:

- The safe use of hand tools;
- Supporting woodland management activities;
- Supporting woodland craft activities.

The course was fully subscribed, with 12 Support Workers attending.

Evaluation of the training course was gathered via feedback forms.

Cumulative response for each question is as follows:

	1	2	3	4	Excellent 5 High
Did the training achieve its stated objectives? (to raise awareness of the safety & practical issues involved with running a woodland-based activity with young people)					12

Were you happy with the ratio of theory to practice?					12
Please rate the standard of instruction					12
Please rate the standard of equipment provided					12
How suitable was the woodland site?					12
How applicable was the training to your support role?				2	10
Please rate the standard of admin/organisation				1	11
Overall, please assess the quality of the training course					12

Synopsis of comments upon improvements:

More time to use tools and techniques, maybe a 2 day course.

Perhaps a follow-up course.

There just wasn't enough time.

Info on other participants for lift sharing.

Hand wash facilities?

Biscuits!

Other woodland-related training that would be of use:

Woodland environmental games/education.

Making musical instruments.

Very simple tool construction.

Woodland management.

Identification & Species Awareness.

Tool maintenance.

Furniture making.

Building a woodland shelter from start to finish.

Tool sharpening.

Taster sessions to bring along young people to have a go.

3. A letter has been compiled to consult on the training needs of Youth & Support Workers who have been involved with the WICKED project. Responses to this letter will be used to determine the nature of training to be offered during Year 2 of WICKED.

End of report.