



TIR COED

## **Annual Progress Report**

April '05 to March '06

## 1. Introduction

The year's activities have followed the 3 key themes of our Business Plan, namely

- Promoting Rural Regeneration
- Promoting Health and Wellbeing
- Alleviating Social Exclusion and Deprivation

The three strands are closely linked, each affecting the other and often projects can be categorised under all three. Our work still focuses on the rural areas of Wales, with priority given to deprived communities and where specific needs are identified.

Many health and well being/social inclusion promotional workshops and events took place. These are detailed on the following pages, but included work with community mental health groups, groups with learning disabilities, support workers, young offenders, young people excluded from school and an youth club. Geographical areas covered were Powys, Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion.

Our key event during this period was the Woodland Health Week organised in the Brechfa Forest area as part of National Rural Health Week. The event was led by Tir Coed, but also involved the Pobl y Fforest community group, Forestry Commission Wales, Llandeilo Day Centre, West Wales General Hospital Cardiac Rehab Unit and the Carmarthenshire County Council Biodiversity Officer. The week-long event included a series of 4 targeted walks and a family cycle ride, as well as our annual Health Open Day.

We have continued to support the development of skills in rural parts of Wales. Currently, there are very few subsidised training opportunities on offer, other than to landowners, within Wales. Tir Coed is therefore able to offer up to 50% of training and certifications costs to trainees that arent able to access other funding (such as Lantra or Farming Connect funding).

The structure of our Small Grants Scheme has been further developed and publicised.

Focusing our efforts on particular geographical and work areas has led to the delivery of our Woodlands For Wellbeing project, which was part funded by a grant received from the Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust.

In addition, funding has been secured from the Lottery-run Awards For All programme to deliver musical instrument making and environmental rap for youth groups, two in Powys and two in Pembrokeshire.

Progress has been made with our application for charitable status. A revised wording of Tir Coed's objects has been agreed with the Charities Commission, pending the Board of Directors' approval.

Tir Coed's Service Level Agreement with Forestry Commission Wales has been updated and extended to the end of December, 2006. We are very grateful to Trefor Owen for his efforts in securing this.

Considerable research has also taken place into potential funding streams and a Funding Strategy for the next nine months has been produced.

The following policies have been updated and will be presented for adoption at the Board of Directors meeting:

- Child Welfare and Safety Policy;
- Equal Opportunities Policy;
- Tir Coed Health and Safety Policy.

Our thanks to John Wildig in his role as Line Manager of the two Project Officers. His support and guidance during the monthly team meetings has been invaluable.

Thanks also to all our Directors and, in particular, our chairman for their continual networking on Tir Coed's behalf.

Below you will find a summary of our main activities during this period, categorised according to the three themes of our strategy. The Outputs of these activities are included, as well as our annual outputs measured against our targets for 2005/06.

## 2. Key Activities

### **Promoting Rural Regeneration**

#### 2.1 Training

These are the training courses that have taken place during the year, along with the numbers that took part and the total cost to Tir Coed:

<b>Instructional Techniques Ceredigion, 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr- Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. training sessions / courses	1	Cost to Tir Coed: £2,756.25
No. people receiving training	5	
No. women assisted/given support	2	
No. unemployed given support	1	
No. self employed given support	3	
No. contractors supported	1	
<i>Outcomes: Increased confidence and effectiveness in passing on practical skills to community/ social groups.</i>		

<b>Instructional Techniques Lantra Award Assessments Builth Wells, August 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr- Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. trainees being assessed	2	£270.00
No. self-employed assisted	2	
No. of women assisted	1	
No. trainees receiving qualification	2	
<i>Outcomes: Qualified trainees will be running woodland/hedgerow related courses from their tree nursery.</i>		

<b>Use of Chipper – Forestry Machine Operator Certification</b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr- Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. of training sessions	1	Cost to Tir Coed: £0.00 50% funding accessed through Lantra.
No. people receiving training	4	
No. of contractors supported	2	
No. trainees obtaining qualification	4	
No. self-employed assisted	4	
<i>Outcomes : Greater contract opportunities as contractors now have certification that enables them to tender for work with public/statutory organisations</i>		

<b>Basic Chainsaw – North Ceredigion, June 27<sup>th</sup> – July 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	Cost to Tir Coed: £677.14
No. people receiving training	4	
No. unemployed given support	2	
No. self-employed assisted	1	
No. contractors supported	2	
No. trainees obtaining qualification (including 1 external candidate)	5	
<i>Outcomes: Increased skills through subsidised training, all obtained recognised qualification (NPTC), one person from “New Deal” and one ex-student now employed within woodland sector.</i>		

<b>Seed Collection Training day Brechfa Forest, October 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£0.00 (Tir Coed funding of £178.38 was carried over by Pobl y Fforest from the previous financial year)
No. people receiving training	7	
No. self-employed assisted	1	
No. community organisations supported	1	
No. agencies involved	1	
FC woodland sites used	1	
<i>Outcomes: Plans to develop a seed collection service for local nurseries within Carmarthenshire area.</i>		

<b>Basic Chainsaw (NPTC) - North Ceredigion, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£1,578.08
No. people receiving training	3	
No. unemployed given support	2	
No. contractors supported	1	
No. of trainees assessed	3	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	3	

<b>Tree Climbing &amp; Aerial Rescue (NPTC) Powys, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	

No. people receiving training	4	£1,543.50
No. unemployed given support	1	
No. contractors supported	1	
No. self-employed given support	2	
No. of trainees assessed	2	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	2	
<p><i>1 trainee was already qualified but attended for a 2-day refresher course.</i></p> <p><i>1 trainee will be assessed at a later date, following more practical experience.</i></p>		

<b>Basic Chainsaw (NPTC) - South Ceredigion, January 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£370.00
No. people receiving training	5	
No. women assisted	1	
No. self-employed given support	4	
No. of trainees assessed	4	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	4	
<p><i>1 trainee did not require assessment as he was only managing his own woodland.</i></p> <p><i>3 trainees were members of the Longwood Community Group; accreditation will allow them to carry out management on behalf of the group.</i></p>		

<b>Basic Chainsaw (NPTC) Powys, January 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£1,596.20
No. people receiving training	4	
No. women assisted	1	
No. unemployed given support	1	
No. of young people benefiting	1	
No. self-employed given support	1	
No. of trainees assessed	2	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	2	
<p><i>1 trainee did not require assessment as only managing her own woodland.</i></p> <p><i>1 trainee will be assessed at a later date, following more practical experience.</i></p>		

<b>Basic Chainsaw (NPTC) –</b>	<b>Total Outputs</b>	<b>Total cost to</b>
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<b>Pembrokeshire, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£2,800.23
No. people receiving training	4	
No. unemployed given support	4	
No. of trainees assessed	4	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	4	
<p><i>1 trainee who was previously unemployed has gained employment with a company clearing power lines of dangerous branches. He emailed the following message: "Thanks again for the training, as this was extremely useful for me getting this job."</i></p>		

<b>Basic Chainsaw (NPTC) – South Ceredigion, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£2,458.15
No. people receiving training	4	
No. unemployed given support	2	
No. of women assisted	1	
No. of trainees assessed	4	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	4	
<b>Tree Climbing &amp; Aerial Rescue (NPTC) Pembrokeshire, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£2,330.00
No. people receiving training	4	
No. unemployed given support	2	
No. of self-employed given support	2	
No. of trainees assessed	4	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	4	

<b>Use of Chainsaw up a tree (NPTC) Powys, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£934.05
No. people receiving training	4	
No. unemployed given support	1	
No. of contractors supported	1	

No. of self-employed given support	1	
No. of trainees assessed	2	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	2	
<i>2 trainees needed more practical experience before being assessed</i>		

<b>Use of Chainsaw up a tree (NPTC) Pembrokeshire, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£1,295.50
No. people receiving training	4	
No. unemployed given support	2	
No. of self-employed given support	2	
No. of trainees assessed	4	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	0	
<i>Due to lack of experience in chainsaw operation the trainees failed their assessments.</i>		

<b>Hedgelaying – South Ceredigion February 25<sup>th</sup> &amp; 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£171.92
No. people receiving training	2	
No. unemployed given support	1	
No. of contractors supported	1	
No. of self-employed given support	1	
No. of women given support	1	
No. young people benefiting	1	
<i>Course was run and funded in partnership with South &amp; West Wales Wildlife Trust.</i>		

<b>Working Horses in Woodlands Pems, March 4/5<sup>th</sup> &amp; 11/12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£420.00
No. people receiving training	3	
No. of women given support	2	
No. of contractors supported	1	
No. of self-employed given support	3	

*Outcomes: All 3 trainees have improved their skills and hope to manage their own woodland by horse logging.*

<b>Forest Machinery Operations Certificate - Powys, March 14<sup>th</sup> &amp; 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£321.50
No. people receiving training	2	
No. of contractors supported	2	
No. of trainees assessed	2	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	2	
<i>Outcomes: Greater contracted work opportunities with public/statutory organisations due to accreditation.</i>		

<b>Hedgelaying – South Ceredigion March 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£171.93
No. people receiving training	5	
No. unemployed given support	2	
No. of contractors supported	1	
No. of women given support	1	
<i>Course was run and funded in partnership with South &amp; West Wales Wildlife Trust.</i>		

<b>Use of Brushcutter, Lantra ITA North Ceredigion, March 28<sup>th</sup> &amp; 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of training sessions/courses	1	£312.50
No. people receiving training	4	
No. of unemployed given support	1	
No. of contractors supported	3	
No. of trainees assessed	4	
No. of trainees obtaining qualification	4	
<i>The unemployed candidate is a volunteer with the Woodland Trust, who part-funded his training costs.</i>		

## **2.2 Workshops**

Over the past year two workshops have been held, both within Carmarthenshire.

The first was held at Brechfa on December the 10<sup>th</sup>, in partnership with Pobl Y Fforest community group and with the support of the Carmarthenshire Coed Cymru officer, looking at ways of maximising the value of small diameter timber. The aim was to set up a local network of woodland owners, and to pool available contractors and machinery, whilst looking at ways of adding value through processing and servicing local markets. Five contractors gave talks about their work and demonstrated their equipment.

<b>Adding Value workshop Carmarthenshire, December 10<sup>th</sup>, '05</b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of attendees	10	£0.00 (Tir Coed funding of £178.38 was carried over by Pobl y Fforest from previous financial year)
No. contractors supported	5	
No. demonstrations	3	
No. community organisations supported	1	
No agencies involved	2	
FC woodland sites visited		
<i>Outcomes: Useful links made between contractors and woodland owners with the potential of bringing more woodlands into management.</i>		

The second workshop concentrated on managing small broadleaved woodlands, it was hosted by Pobl y Fforest.

25 woodland owners and managers, from the local area and further afield, attended the workshop.

The day was designed as a discussion forum, to explore some of the issues involved in owning and managing woodland, and was led by Coed Cymru Officer, Mat Ridley. The day began with a guided tour around farm woodland, an upland oak woodland recently thinned and fenced to exclude stock, and a mixed ash woodland. Most of the discussion centered on the complexities of managing woodland for amenity and conservation value.

In the afternoon, after an excellent lunch of soup, bread and cheese, there was a visit to another upland oak woodland, felled in WW1 and recently thinned. The local contractor who is managing the wood, led the discussion, which focused on the economic viability of woodland management and some of the practicalities involved.

The event was well received by all and may result in further woodland-related training days/events.

<b>Managing Small Broadleaved Woodland Carmarthenshire, February 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. of attendees	24	£0.00
No. contractors supported	4	

No. self-employed assisted	20	(Tir Coed funding of £178.38 was carried over by Pobl y Fforest from previous financial year)
No. women benefiting	7	
No. demonstrations	1	
No. partnerships formed with other organisations	2	
No agencies involved	2	
Private woodland sites used	2	
No. woodland sites visited	2	
<p><i>Outcomes: Private woodland sites visited, increased awareness of management systems, biodiversity and economic viability of woodland management.</i></p> <p><i>Following the success of this workshop, Pobl Y Fforest have organised 2 further woodland management workshops, to run over July 2006, "Woodland Types and Classification", and "Woodland Management for Biodiversity". Both workshops will also be led by Mat Ridley.</i></p>		

*Promoting Health and Wellbeing*

### **2.3 Projects relating to health**

#### **Making Kestrel Boxes with Gorwelion (Mental health group):**

A local community craftsperson, who has benefited from Tir Coed training, carried out her first instructional role working with clients of the Gorwelion centre at Aberystwyth, providing 3 workshop sessions making kestrel boxes. A further 2 woodland visits were included, with the support of the Forestry Commission Wales Conservation Ranger, when the clients helped to erect some of the boxes.

<b>Kestrel Box Making with Gorwelion June 8<sup>th</sup> – July 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. self employed assisted	1	£347.00
No. training sessions	3	
No. benefiting from woodland/craft as part of health/rehab programme	8	
No. of women benefiting	5	
No. of agencies involved	2	
No. of woodland visits	2	
FCW woodland sites used	2	
<p><i>Outcomes: Working with people with mental health problems. Practical, craft skills improved, sense of achievement in having created something that is of value to nature and the environment.</i></p>		

*Feedback - "One member of the group expressed the wish to carve his initials into the base of the box for history. It seemed important to him and very pleasing when the box was erected and the initials could be seen."*

**Willow Weaving with Hazel Centre and MIND group, Llandrindod Wells:**

A local weaver worked with clients from a mental health unit and MIND clients. Following an initial taster session, clients decided what they would like to make. 8 opted for basket weaving, while another 11 wanted to make garden structures and sculptures/wall hangings. The basket weaving sessions ran in September whilst the other structures will be made during sessions in October.

<b>Basket Weaving with Mental Health Clients, September 14<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. of training sessions	5	£430
No. benefiting from craft as part of rehab programme	8	
No. of women benefiting	7	
No. of self employed assisted	1	
No. partnerships formed with other organisations	2	
<p><i>Outcomes: Each client managed to complete his/her basket. Practical, craft skills and capabilities improved; hand – eye co-ordination improved.</i></p> <p><i>Feedback - Enjoyed – "The company and using my hands to make something." "The challenge, the achievement and friendliness." "New interest, something to look forward to."</i></p>		

**Building Hazel Arbour with Gorwelion (mental health group):**

2 instructors worked with the clients of Gorwelion during 7 weekly sessions to create a Hazel Arbour and Rest Area for the garden of the centre. The Arbour was constructed from local wood and incorporated panels designed by the group to showcase their work with natural materials. The project also provided a "quiet" area in the garden. There was also good publicity for Tir Coed as the project was covered by a local newspaper.

<b>Building Hazel Arbour at Gorwelion July 13<sup>th</sup> – August 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. of training sessions	7	£1,335.00

No. benefiting from woodland/craft as part of rehab programme	9	
No. of women benefiting	6	
No. of self employed given assistance	2	
<p><i>Outcomes: Hazel Arbour and rest area created at the mental health centre's garden for ongoing use by the clients. Carpentry and team working skills developed.</i></p> <p><i>Feedback - Enjoyed ... "working outdoors and working together as part of a team all with our own individual skills. The part I enjoyed about the project was the construction, learning to use tools and wood working techniques."</i></p> <p><i>"On Tuesday night, I had a blazing row with someone so on Wednesday, the last thing I wanted to do was come to gorwelion. Was feeling very close to tears when I arrived, but within minutes of doing stuff with you guys, I felt brilliant.."</i></p>		

### **Woodland Health Week, Brechfa Forest area:**

Our annual Woodland Health Open Day was this year extended to a week-long series of activities based in the Brechfa Forest area, which culminated in an open day on the final Sunday. Organised in partnership with Pobl y Fforest, as part of National Rural Health Week, activities included:

- a family cycle ride;
- Senior Citizens' guided walk;
- Healthy Heart guided walk;
- Local history walk;
- Family guided walk;
- Local therapists' displays;
- Tai Chi;
- Meditation;
- Circus skills;
- Children's activities with the FCW Education Ranger.

Despite changeable weather, 60 people attended the open day and some 73 participated in the walks and various activities.

<b>Woodland Health Week, Brechfa Forest area, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> – Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. health promotion events	6	£2,100
No. benefiting from woodland as part of health programme	21	
No. vol/community organisations supported	2	
No. agencies involved	3	

No. partnerships formed with other organisations	2	
No. young people benefiting	28	
No. women benefiting	67	
No. attendees	133	
FCW woodland sites used	4	
Private woodland sites used	1	
No. woodlands visited	5	
No. events organised	6	
<p><i>Outcomes: People of all ages from the local and surrounding areas attended, raising awareness of using woodlands to improve health. Local therapists given an opportunity to promote their work, local village shop benefiting by selling healthy food and drinks. Partnership with senior citizens' Day Centre and Cardiac Rehab Unit to be developed to offer more organised walks. Local therapists planning to organise their own Woodland Health Day for 2006. Local bike shop and cycle ride leader planning more family cycle rides in the future.</i></p>		

### **Willow Weaving:**

Service users of the Community Mental Health Centre and Mid Powys MIND took part in a series of 4 willow weaving sessions at Llandrindod Wells. Many structures for the garden were made, also wall decorations. One client, who took to the activity particularly well, made a large dragonfly.

According to the Occupational Therapist, these willow weaving sessions, as well as the basket weaving sessions held in September, have been very significant for one gentleman in particular who doesn't usually engage in any of the Centre's workshop activities. He has attended all the sessions provided and is very proud of the basket and the garden climber he managed to complete.

<b>Willow Weaving – Llandrindod Wells October 5<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> (4 sessions)</b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. training courses/sessions	4	£402.00
No. benefiting from woodland/craft as part of health/rehab programme	12	
No. of women benefiting	9	
No. partnerships formed with other organisations	2	
No. of self-employed assisted	1	
<p><i>Outcomes: Practical, craft skills improved; hand-eye co-ordination improved. Sense of achievement on completing items produced.</i></p> <p><i>Feedback:- Enjoyed...."Interaction with other people and learning skills</i></p>		

together”

“Learning how to manipulate the willow to create the shapes I have wanted.”

### **Live willow workshop:**

Six members of the Community Mental Health Unit, based at Knighton, Powys, built a live willow shelter to provide a rest area in the garden of their Centre. The activity was led by Helen Porter. They also made Christmas stars and wreaths from willow during the course of the day.

This was the first time that the group had worked with this instructor. They were so taken by her methods of transferring skills that they are planning a visit to her farm, near Tregynon, in the spring to see and purchase some of the willow that she grows. This will enable them to continue practicing their newly acquired skills.

<b>Live willow workshop Knighton, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005</b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct’05 – March’06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. training courses/sessions	1	£133.00
No. benefiting from woodland/craft as part of health/rehab programme	6	
No. of women benefiting	5	
No. partnerships formed with other organisations	1	
No. of self-employed assisted	1	
<i>Outcomes: Team working skills enhanced; hand-eye co-ordination improved. A number of the group expressed an interest in continuing weaving at home.</i>		
<i>Feedback: Enjoyed – “Creating something I can keep and show to other people to demonstrate self worth.”</i>		
<i>Main learning skills – “Other people find things hard too”.</i>		
<i>“Working alongside other people, as well as the patience which is needed for willow weaving – we should do it again!”</i>		

### **Woodlands for Wellbeing:**

This project began in early March and will continue, in various centres, until the autumn of 2006.

The project focuses on the training of “keyworker” staff, therapists and volunteers, involving Mental Health Centres that would like to establish green woodwork sessions at their centres.

Each regional group will have a series of six workshops sessions that will cover:

- Safe use of hand tools;
- Basic woodworking techniques;
- Making a shave horse;
- Making a 3-legged stool;
- Working with willow;
- Additional activity as identified by trainees.

In addition to this, the project will provide capital funds for participating centres to purchase hand tools, as well as work manuals, to enable trainees to pass on acquired skills to their Service Users, thus securing sustainable transfer of skills.

Part-funding for the project of £10,000 was awarded by The Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust.

As the project is in its early stages, the outputs and feedback for this project will be included in the next annual report.

<i>Alleviating Social Exclusion and Deprivation</i>
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## **2.4 Projects Involving Young People**

### **2-day Woodland Survival Weekend:**

The Penparcau Youth Club spent a weekend at Graybeards Wood, New Quay learning woodcraft and survival skills. Numerous activities were carried out, including charcoal burning, crafting plates and spoons, shelter building, collecting and chopping firewood, lantern making, archery and music making, as well as exploring the woodland terrain. The young people were thrilled to cook Sunday dinner over the charcoal they had produced!

This weekend was supported by Tir Coed in partnership with the Prince's Trust.

<b>Woodland Survival Weekend – Penparcau Youth Club – Sept 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. young people benefiting	8	Tir Coed – £330
No. women benefiting	3	
No. vol/community organisations supported	1	Princes Trust

No. partnerships formed with other organisations	1	- £330
Private woodland sites used	1	
No. woodlands visited	1	
<p>Outcomes: Environmental awareness increased. Education and hands on experience of making and utilising wood products, also survival experience within a woodland setting.  Feedback from Youth Leader – “The activities were really good; hands on and you can see the results – the young people took home numerous items and many more memories.”</p>		

### **Ceredigion Youth Offending Team Activity Project:**

The Youth Offending Team works with at risk/vulnerable young people referred to them by the Social Services department. The object of the Activity Project is to create diversionary activities that help to raise confidence, address inclusiveness and self-development, challenge attitudes and provide positive adult role models.

The Activity Project organises activities in woodlands and forests to address the needs identified above.

These activities include – mountain biking, orienteering, survival skills, hut/tepee building, charcoal production and pole lathe turning. Tir Coed has funded essential safety equipment which enables the project to continue its woodland remit.

<b>Ceredigion Youth Offending Team, April 2005 →</b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. of young people benefiting	20	£520.00
No. events organised	50	
No. agencies involved	1	
FCW sites used	3	
Private woodland sites used	1	
<p><i>Outcomes: Building confidence and self-esteem. More positive attitude to the woodland environment.</i></p>		

### **Ceredigion Youth Offending Team:**

Graybeard's Visit – A 1-day workshop for the Ceredigion Youth Offending Team visiting Graybeard's Wood and focusing on woodcraft skills. During the visit the young people made bows & arrows, CD racks and various items on the pole lathes. The team leaders have reported that feedback from the youths was very positive; the youths were very focused and took great interest in the woodwork. This visit was part-funded by Tir Coed with match funding from Princes Trust Cymru. As a result of this visit, the team hope to make further use of Graybeard's Wood as a base for their woodland related activities.

<b>YOT woodland craft workshop October, 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005</b>	<b>Total Outputs Oct'05 – March'06</b>	<b>Total cost to Tir Coed</b>
No. young people benefiting	7	£160.00  (funded in partnership with the Princes Trust)
No. women benefiting	1	
No. unemployed given support	2	
No. self-employed assisted	2	
No. benefiting from woodland/craft as part of health/rehab programme	3	
No. agencies involved	3	
No. partnerships formed with other organisation	1	
No. private woodland sites used	1	
No. woodlands visited	1	
<p>Outcomes: Focused activity leading to self-fulfilment and increased self-esteem; New skills learnt and extra-curricular interests developed.</p> <p>Feedback from leader: “The young people were very focused and took a great interest in the woodwork. Very positive feedback was received from them.”</p> <p>Feedback from instructors: “Most of them wanted to return the next Saturday, which was amazing as weather conditions were poor.”</p>		

#### **2.4a Projects Involving Adults:**

##### **The Coedlan Project**

Coedlan is a woodland project run by the Cyfle Newydd Day Centre at Machynlleth. The project works with adults with learning disabilities and has 2 work areas - a Forestry Commission Wales woodland site at Forge and a workshop at Ceinws.

Tir Coed funding was used to train 4 support workers in woodland management and greenwood activities, safe use of hand tools, producing and developing a wide range of products and services. The skills learnt will be passed on to the service users through an on-going education and training programme, which will aim to provide purposeful employment opportunities.

Funding included training, materials and construction of a pole lathe, a set of chisels, as well as a kindling splitting machine.

<b>Coedlan Project – Machynlleth April – September, 2005</b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
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No. training courses/sessions	5	£925
No. people receiving training	4	
No. women assisted	1	
No. partnerships formed with other organisations	1	
FC woodland sites used	1	

**The Woodpecker Group, Canolfan Meugan, Cardigan:**

8 clients from Canolfan Meugan, centre for people with learning disabilities, based at Cardigan, attended a woodcraft skills workshop at Graybeard's Wood, New Quay. They all made CD racks from local wood using hand tools.

<b>Canolfan Meugan visit to Graybeard's Wood – August 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. of training sessions	1	£230.00
No. benefiting from woodland/craft as part of health programme	8	
No. of women benefiting	1	
Private woodland sites used	1	
No. of partnerships formed with other organisations	1	
<p><i>Outcomes: 8 CD racks created from local wood. Use of hand tools skills improved. Group want to develop long-term woodland management working partnership with Graybeards.</i></p> <p><i>Feedback – "Everything was just right."</i></p> <p><i>"I enjoyed woodwork and learnt to make something useful."</i></p>		

**The Sound of Life "Gamelan" Project**

The Sound of Life is a community arts educational charity. This was a pilot project working with special needs groups of all ages within Pembrokeshire. The groups made musical instruments out of Welsh hardwood which were then used in sound and percussive workshops. The day culminated with the creation of an orchestra created from sustainable woodland.

The project was funded in partnership with Pembrokeshire County Council, Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services and Arts Volunteers Wales.

Evidence gathered from this pilot scheme was used to secure further funding to the value of £10,000 to continue with the project.

<b>The Gamelan Project, Pembrokeshire April – June 05</b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>

No. self employed assisted	10	Tir Coed - £840  (40% of total)
No. young people benefiting	40	
No. women benefiting	100	
No. benefiting from woodland/craft as part of health/rehab programme	100	
No. attendees	160	
No. agencies involved	3	
No. partnerships formed with other organisations	5	
Private woodland sites used	1	
<p><i>Outcomes: Each participant worked within a team to create his/her own instrument. Self esteem, social development and interactive skills improved. Awareness of environmental sustainability through the use of green wood &amp; natural / recycled materials was raised.</i></p> <p><i>Feedback – “working with you made me feel worthwhile.....I am proud of myself and my willow shaker”.</i></p>		

### **Outputs for 2005/06:**

<b>Output</b>	<b>Actual Output 2005 - 06</b>	<b>Annual Target 2005 - 06</b>
No. P/T jobs created (formerly unemployed)	2	2
No. self employed assisted	64	20
No. contractors supported	24	15
No. unemployed given support	19	15
No. training courses/sessions	23	5
No. people receiving training	62	20
No. trainees obtaining qualification	39	8
No. young people benefiting	105	30
No. women assisted/benefiting	223	10
No. benefiting from woodland/craft as part of health/rehab programme	175	15
No. vol/community organisations supported	8	10
No. organisations consulted	19	15
No. demonstrations held	3	1
No. health promotion events	6	1
No. arts events	0	1
No. events organised	56	3
No. attendees	293	200
No. agencies involved	17	10
No. partnerships formed with other organisations	18	10
No. feedback questionnaires completed	99	120
FC Woodland sites used	16	5
Private Woodland sites used	16	2

No. woodlands visited (as part of projects)	16	5
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## 2.5 Small Grants Scheme:

The following is a breakdown of activities and outputs funded through our Small Grants Scheme.

Please note that grant recipients are sent output tables to be completed. The figures below are in accordance with the information returned to us.

### **Barcud Coch**

A weekend of running events, aimed at all ages, which brought local people together to enjoy the woodland environment in a style which promoted healthy living. The events also attracted individual and family visitors into the area for a weekend stay. There were various distance races on offer for beginners and enthusiasts.

<b>Barcud Coch, Ceredigion, June 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr- Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. self employed given support	7	Tir Coed - £900 (20% of total)
No. young people benefiting	40	
No. women benefiting	90	
No. attendees	240	
No. agencies involved	3	
No. partnerships formed with other organisations	11	
FCW woodland sites used	3	
<i>Outcomes: Local businesses &amp; tourism-based enterprises supported. Healthy living and use of forest amenities promoted.</i>		

### **Graybeards Woodland Theatre**

This project involved Ceredigion Education Inclusion Unit, LINC'S (working with young people excluded from school), as well as other community youth and special needs groups, building a theatre out of recycled wood and other natural materials.

Volunteer weekends were held to make benches, masks and costumes. The project culminated on World Environment Day with a performance, written by volunteers, highlighting the need to protect our environment, this was supported by Ceredigion County Council Waste Management department..

The theatre is now available for community/youth/special needs groups to utilise.

<b>Graybeards Woodland Theatre, May 22<sup>nd</sup> – June 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. self employed supported	3	Tir Coed - £800  (50% of total)
No. unemployed given support`	30	
No. young people benefiting	57	
No. women given support	22	
No. benefiting as part of rehab programme	7	
No. of attendees	150	
No. agencied involved	2	
No. partnerships with other organisations	4	
Private woodland sites used	1	
<i>Outcomes: Increase in confidence and self-esteem of participants. Increased awareness and appreciation of the woodland environment.</i>		

### **Ysgol Gymraeg, Aberystwyth:**

This project involved developing a picnic area and outdoor classroom facility for the school, as well as planting trees on school grounds. In addition, Year 5 children paid 3 visits to the Coed Tyllwyd community woodland project, where they made milking stools for their picnic area, sets of skittles, rounders bats and hanging baskets for the school, as well as individual pieces of turned wood made on the pole lathes.

<b>Ysgol Gymraeg, Aberystwyth April – September, 2005</b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. young people benefiting	58	£1,530.00
No. partnerships formed	2	
FCW woodland sites used	1	
No. of woodlands visited	1	
<i>Outcomes: Learning woodcraft skills. Increased awareness and knowledge of woodland environment.</i>		

### **Cyfle Ffestiniog Walking and Fishing Festival:**

Cyfle Ffestiniog is the local regeneration group for the area. The festival was run within the Communities First area of Maentwrog and included guided woodland walks with information on local history and the environment, as well as fishing workshops and competitions for beginners and experts.

<b>Cyfle Ffestiniog Festival Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>

	<b>Sept'05</b>	
No. contractors supported	1	Tir Coed - £1,400.00 (38% of total cost)
No. young people benefiting	8	
No. women benefiting	8	
No. attendees	120	
No. agencies involved	6	
No. partnerships formed with organisations	2	
FCW woodland sites used	1	
Private woodland sites used	1	
No. woodlands visited	2	
<i>Outcomes: Increased awareness of woodland environment and its history. Increased visitor spend in the area. New skills developed.</i>		

### **Boncath Eco Festival:**

Application from North Pembrokeshire Energy Group for funding to offer woodland related workshops to local children during week leading up to and as part of the Eco Festival.

<b>Boncath Eco Festival, Pembs. – Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr-Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. young people benefiting	55	£765.00 (50% of workshop costs)
No. self employed assisted	1	
No. community/vol organisations supported	1	
No. arts events	1	
Private woodland sites used	1	
No. woodland visits	1	
<i>Outcomes: Art and drama used to inspire conservation of woodlands. Musical instruments created from Welsh hardwood.</i>		

### **Llandegai Summer Festival:**

Application received from Coetir Mynydd, a community woodland group near Bangor, for workshops run over 2 days to consult with local youth on their perception of local woodlands. The consultations were conducted in the form of environmental rap workshops.

Outputs sheet not yet returned.

### **Forestry Contracting Association Members' Services:**

Funding towards the costs of running the FCA enclosure at the Royal Welsh Show for the 4 day duration of the show.

We also had a small stand as part of the enclosure to publicise our work and receive training needs enquiries.

Tir Coed's contribution was used to cover the following costs:

Horse logging demonstration;  
 Log splitter demonstration;  
 Chainsaw carving demonstrations;  
 Chain saw demonstrations.

<b>FCA Members Enclosure July 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr- Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. contractors supported	4	£2,000.00 (50% of total cost)
No. demonstrations held	7	
No. attendees	60	
Partnerships formed with other organisations	1	
No. feedback questionnaires completed	24	
<i>Outcomes: Better understanding by the general public of woodland/forestry related skills. Better awareness of the value of woodland and its produce. Safe working practices publicised.</i>		

### **West Wales Wood Fair, 2005:**

Tir Coed provided partnership funding for this popular annual event. The Wood Fair provides a networking opportunity to strengthen links between primary producers, processors and end users. Also grant information organisations, working demonstrations and seminars add to the wider appeal of the day.

<b>West Wales Wood Fair, Carmarthenshire April, 2005</b>	<b>Total Outputs Apr- Sept'05</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>
No. self employed assisted	200	Tir Coed - £1,000.00 (15% of total cost)
No. contractors supported	8	
No. women benefiting	3	
No. benefiting from woodland craft as part of health/rehab programme	5	
No. attendees	1,500	
No. agencies involved	6	
No. partnerships formed with other organisations	60	
FCW sites used	1	
<i>Outcomes: Links across the supply chain strengthened. Raising awareness of "value added" opportunities. Sustainable woodland</i>		

*management encouraged.*

### **Deudraeth Cyf, Penrhyndeudraeth:**

The “Parc y Mileniwm” project will transform derelict land in Penrhyndeudraeth into a community park offering amenity and conservation areas.

Tir Coed funding of £2,000 will be used to plant specimen trees around park land, with the assistance of local volunteers and community groups.

Project not yet completed.

### **Coed Lleol 2:**

Coed Lleol aims to help the people of Wales get back in touch with their woods. The programme is hosted by the Small Woods Association.

Coed Lleol 2 was awarded £2,000 for the promotion and publicity of the project to the health and social inclusion & rehabilitation sectors of woodland access beneficiaries.

A Wales Woodland Celebration guide, available in Libraries and other public venues, has been produced, comprising of 240 woodland events held across Wales during 2006.

In addition, an interactive website has been launched, this intends to provide a broad spectrum of users with information as to where their locally accessible woodlands are, when specific events are taking place and which organisations are doing what to promote them.

### **Lessons from the Wood:**

Lessons from the Wood is run by Llangeitho Primary School. The project involves the development of woodland activity areas in the school grounds. The school children, along with other members of the local community, including older children, will help to plan and build a hazel bandstand, incorporating musical instruments and a ‘seasonal gallery’, as well as a wooden table and benches. The project has already attracted part-funding from the Woolworths Partnership Project. Tir Coed have awarded the school £523.00, which is 50% of the funding requested.

Outputs for this project will be included in the next report as the project is ongoing.

### **Frendzabout Woodland Residential Weekend:**

This project was run by Dim Prob, the Aberystwyth University Guild of student volunteers. They took a group of 12 young people with domestic/social problems, as well as young people with learning difficulties, for a woodland weekend at the Centre of Alternative Technology (CAT). The young people were referred to them through the Ceredigion Family Support unit.

The weekend included nature walks, tree identification, land art, photography as well as an environmental workshop provided by CAT. They applied to us for match funding with a Children in Need grant.

Outputs for this project will be included in the next annual report.

### **3. Publicity**

The following publicity and promotional activities have taken place over the last six months:

- Press releases covering our events published in local papers;
- Key events being advertised locally;
- Tir Coed website has been updated;
- Manning publicity stands at shows and wood fairs.

### **4. Staff Development:**

Over the last six months staff have received the following training:

- IT weekly classes (New Clait) – Gwyneth
- Effective Fundraising – Gwyneth

The staff feel they would benefit from the following training courses during the next six months:

- Preparing risk assessments;
- Health and Safety at work;
- Emergency First Aid (Becky);
- Fundraising.

### **5. Planned Activities**

- Focusing our resources on specific groups throughout rural Wales, where a need is identified;
- Focusing on training Support Workers in order to ensure sustainable transfer of skills to Service Users;
- Pursuit of core and project based funding beyond 2006;

- Pursuing charitable status;
- Updating publicity leaflet.