



Know Your Neighbourhood YMCA, Barnsley

Trans Pennine Trail Barnsley In Focus – A special Gobbledigook News Report

At YMCA Barnsley Detached Youth Work Team we ran a project with the young people of Dodworth, Barnsley thanks to the Know Your Neighbourhood Fund.

There were eight young people taking part aging from 12-14 years and six of those went on to produce the 'Gobbledigook News' Special Report.

The project involved:

3 x street based detached sessions that developed characters, scripts, running orders and ideas for reporting prior to filming day. These sessions also included 'art in the park' workshops.

1 x extended session incorporating, rehearsals, final script edits, 'art on the trail' workshop, and filming.

During the project it was great to hear that the young people taking part had fun, learnt new skills, felt more confident when speaking out in a group, felt more comfortable meeting other trail users and talking to them and their dogs.

Below are few direct quotes from participants:

Quote 1 – young woman aged 12:

'I was asked to stand up in assembly at school with a microphone and talk to everyone about a school project I had been involved with. I told the teacher I didn't want to do it as I didn't feel confident enough. I think I could do it now'

Quote 2 – Young man aged 14:

'It all looks green until we did the natural collage, then you realise that there are loads of greens, and reds, and yellows and even the odd purple!'

Quote 3 – Young man aged 13:

'I learnt to ride my bike on the Trans Pennine Trail when I was a kid'

We have really enjoyed spending time on a focussed project over a number of sessions and found it invaluable when galvanising relationships with young people. We are creating a common history and memories whilst learning and having fun.

The Trans Pennine Trail inspires creativity and ideas for youth working. It enables facilitators to think outside of the box and build on their skills and tool kit for working with young people.

The young people who participated in the project talked at length about spending a weekend on the TPT in another part of the country and even considering another Gobbledigook News Report in another location, perhaps near to the coast. They also discussed the connectivity it provides for people across the country and wondered if there are other youth groups who use the TPT and how they could reinforce the connection with shared experiences.

There is so much more that can be done and after speaking to other Trail users it is our hope that the young people will begin to use the TPT allowing time out from the hustle and bustle, embracing quiet and further exploring and spotting the flora and fauna on offer.

This funding has helped to kick start a relationship with the Trans Pennine Trail and are excited to see how the relationship continues to grow.

YMCA Barnsley Detached Youth Work Team, Barnsley



9.	YMCA - Barnsley
Aim of the Organisation:	<p>YMCA Barnsley currently support around 800 children and young people each year though our delivery of children’s and youth work programmes that provide positive opportunities and activities for children and young people in safe environments where they are supported by qualified, experienced and skilled youth workers. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building based and detached youth work • After school, youth clubs & holiday provision • Issue based, personal and social development • Environmental and horticultural programmes • Peer support, volunteering and ambassador opportunities. <p>Our programmes raise aspirations, build confidence and self-esteem and contribute to building emotional resilience and positive mental wellbeing.</p>
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