

2020 has been an incredibly challenging year for our communities, our partner organisations and both the groups and individuals with whom we work.

There has however been much to celebrate and I hope this brief report manages to capture a flavour of the positive work that has taken place during the past 12 months.

We are grateful to all of our funders, sponsors, volunteers and stakeholders for their continued support.

This has enabled us to continue working throughout the pandemic although it has necessitated adapting the ways in which we work.

Our thanks go to both employees and the partners of TOP who have given their time and expertise to help others during this difficult period. This help has included employing the TOP minibus to transport patients to and from hospital and volunteer stewarding for visitor management within the national park.

Collectively the charity has created 13,187 outdoor activity opportunities across North Wales as well as an influential role in a number of ground breaking national projects.

Community Development Programme

Led by our Outdoor Activity Development Officers in Anglesey and Conwy, aims to inspire children, young people and adults to take up outdoor activities as a life-long pursuit.

This year **11,129** opportunities were created through activities ranging from grass route level through to podium. The team also help clubs develop, run courses, train volunteers, talk to schools, create links between schools and clubs, organise competitions, run the County Outdoor Forums etc.

Last year (April 2019 - March 2020), 45 outdoor clubs were members of the Outdoor Partnership representing **5,179** members.





Volunteer Programme

The identification, training and rewarding of volunteers has been led by our Volunteer Officer allowing local people to develop their potential at a relatively low cost and, for some, providing a foundation for employment.

This year **260** course spaces were taken up by our volunteer leaders, of which 181 people were new to volunteering. The commitment of you, our volunteers is astounding. If the same contribution had to be purchased it would cost a minimum of **£1.7m per annum.**

Pathways to Employment Programme

This programme uses the outdoors to engage and support local people on a pathway to employment and is managed by our Pathways to Employment Officer and Training Officer.

This programme has helped **78** this year at a **SROI of £4.41** for every pound invested. Our key partners include the Health Boards, Job Centre Plus and Housing Associations, Mantell Gwynedd & Social Value Cymru, and local outdoor activity providers and employers



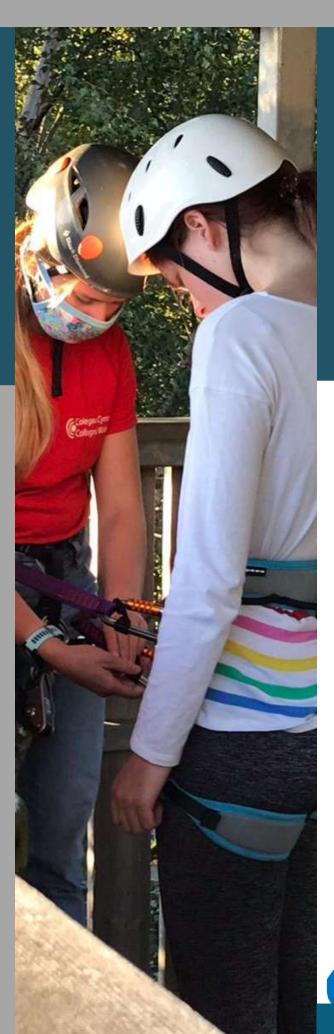
'This Girl's Adventure'

This project aims to address the inequalities of women in the outdoor sector workforce (instructors, managers). 320 women have taken part in this project and is led by our Inclusive Adventure Officer.

Inclusive Adventure

Aims to improve access and opportunities for people of all types of disability in the outdoors as there is currently a significant under provision. This is managed by our Inclusion Officer. This year alone, 1623 disabled people have benefited from this project with three new clubs established catering for disabled people.





We're now almost 12 months into our new 7 year UK Expansion project. Funded by the National Lottery Community Fund the project will work in Scotland, England and Northern Ireland to establish programmes which will inspire more people to regularly engage in healthy activities outdoors.

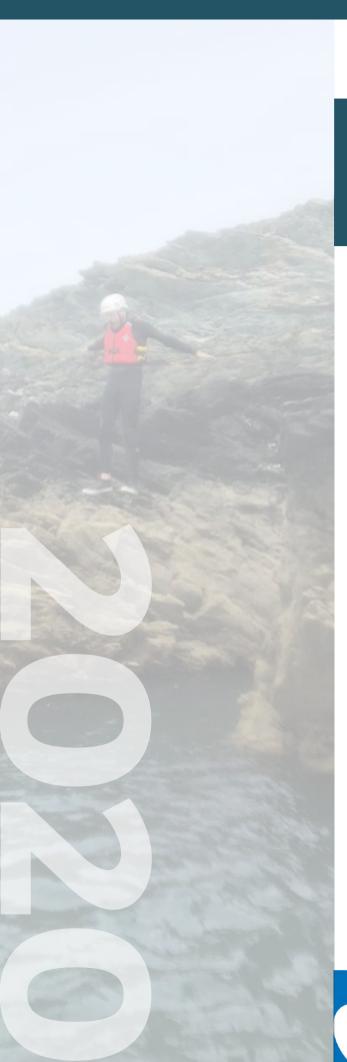
The project is managed by our new Programme Manager and supported by our Delivery Partners RPT Consulting. Already this year we have appointed three new Development Officers and established Stakeholder groups in Northern Ireland, Cumbria and Ayrshire. The aim to share good practice with other regions across the UK.

This year the charity's efforts to become a fully inclusive organisation were rewarded by becoming the first Third Sector organisation in Wales to be awarded the Disability Sport Wales Insport Bronze Accreditation

In late 2019, the Outdoor Partnership was shortlisted for two prestigious Awards. TOP was recognised at the Welsh Charities Awards as winners of the Best Use of the Welsh Language Award and highly commended for our work with Community Development and Cohesion.

The Charity's programmes have been supported by our freelance Marketing Officer, who manages and keeps our website and social media pages up-to-date. Also by our Finance Officer who, amongst other tasks, manages the accounts, audits, translation and payroll.

In the last few months, we have appointed Aqua Marketing to help raise the profile of the Charity's work and support the staff team as they continue to share good practice with other regions in Wales and further afield.



FINAL WORDS....

We are saying farewell to Owain Williams who has worked with over 500 individuals as part of his Pathways to Employment Office role.

We are also losing one of our trustees Jim Jones who has supported the Board with his role as Trustee responsible for Commercial and Marketing. Our thanks to them both, they will be missed.

I would like to thank our Chief Executive Officer, who is responsible for driving and leading the partnership strategically and operationally. Thanks to her and all the staff team on behalf of the Board for their tireless work. This year has been an exceptional challenge and they have proved to be an exceptional team.

THE NEXT STEPS...

Next year we will continue to look for opportunities to influence nationally and share our experience with other regions across Wales and the UK, without losing focus and the impact we have in the North of Wales. This pandemic has taught us all just how important it is that our communities access the outdoors, the importance of nature and the natural environment and that that we all could do with a little help with using it sensibly, safely and in a sustainable way.

Our success is due to our members, volunteers, directors and our staff team.

THANK YOU.