

YMCA Neath Newsletter

April to June 2025

WELCOME

Welcome to our second newsletter of 2025 - we're excited to share what's been happening over the past few months at YMCA Neath!

144TH GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST

We were proud to host our 144th Good Friday Breakfast this year - a tradition that has been part of our community since 1876.

We welcomed Kevin Johns as our guest speaker and we were treated to a performance by Harri Morgan, accompanied by Allister Mahoney on piano.

Thank you for everyone's hard work behind the scenes in preparing for this annual event and thank you to everyone who joined us.



GYM REFURBISHMENT COMPLETE!

We're thrilled to announce that our gym refurbishment is now complete, thanks to generous funding from the Clothworkers' Foundation and support from D&M Services.

With upgraded equipment and a fresh new look, we're proud to offer an improved experience for all our members.

Every penny from entry fees goes directly back into supporting vital services at YMCA Neath - so when you work out with us, you're also helping others!



MORNING MINGLE TURNS ONE!

Our friendly Morning Mingle group just celebrated its first birthday! It's been a year full of laughs, support, friendship and bingo - a huge thank you to everyone who makes this weekly group so special.



THE LENDING SHED

In May, our Lending Shed, funded by Hubbub, officially opened its doors. Whether it's garden tools, DIY equipment or items to help with events, we're here to help you save money, reduce waste and build a sustainable community. Pop in every Wednesday between 12:30 - 14:30 to see what's on offer.



GARDD Y POBL THE PEOPLES GARDEN

We're excited to share that we've been awarded a Development Package from Keep Wales Tidy to enhance our community garden.

With fantastic support from Roger, work is already underway and we're full of enthusiasm as we start bringing our ideas to life.

This project will help us continue creating a welcoming, sustainable green space for everyone to enjoy - we can't wait to show you what's coming next!



CORE FUNDING SECURED

We're delighted to share that we've been awarded £25,000 from the Neath Port Talbot CBC Third Sector Grant. This vital support helps us cover our core costs and continue offering essential services to the community.



LGBTQIA+ YOUTH

Our talented LGBTQIA+ youth group were asked to design a house that was proudly featured at this year's Urdd Eisteddfod. Their creativity and teamwork were displayed at the event and was also featured on S4C! It now takes pride of place in our community garden.



VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

We'd like to say thank you to the team from Admiral Swansea, who spent their day helping us refresh our spaces. The men's shower room and dojo were given a fresh coat of paint and their volunteers also supported work in our garden.



ANNUAL FUNDRAISING

Our Judo Club recently held their annual charity event, raising funds for CHECT (Childhood Eye Cancer Trust). A big thank you to everyone who took part and supported this important cause.



CREATIVE CONNECTIONS

Over the past few months, we've enjoyed a variety of fun and relaxing wellbeing sessions with our groups – from paper making and spring wreaths to watercolour painting.

These creative activities have been a wonderful way to come together, unwind and support our mental health through art and connection.

It's been a joy to see so many beautiful creations!



Starting 30th July, we'll be launching our new Mugs & Mates coffee morning – a friendly, welcoming space for men to chat, connect and enjoy a cuppa. Pop in on the last Wednesday of every month. We'd love to see you there!

surplus
486.14kg
food

volunteer
653
hours

charity shop
£824.66
raised

BYE FOR NOW!

This year marks a truly special milestone - our 150th anniversary! Since 1875, YMCA Neath has been a place of friendship, belonging and support. Keep an eye out for events, stories and celebrations as we mark this incredible achievement together.



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