

Report for Saltash Town Council for 2021 from Livewire youth project

In many ways 2021 was a very interesting and exciting year for us at Livewire, it was a year full of ups and downs as we were sent in and out of some degree of lockdown, although thankfully we didn't repeat the lockdown of 2020. There is so much we can look to that wasn't good but it doesn't do to always dwell on bad things so we will try to concentrate on the good things that 2021 brought us.

At Livewire we were able to meet again, all be it a slow re-opening whereby we needed to limit the numbers and everyone had to book before coming to begin with. Then when the restrictions on numbers were lifted we were able to properly reintroduce open access.

Young people engaging at Livewire can have music lessons (which were online at the beginning of 2021 but are now in person again yay) the music lessons on offer are in guitar, vocals, drums, bass, keyboard and music technology (which includes live sound, studio technology and music production) They can engage with youth workers on single issue programmes and a variety of activities. Or they can get one to one youth work support – This is possibly the most crucial part of the work we do, and we are extremely glad to have the mental health project which we use to refer some of the most in need young people to for counselling. However we continue to support many young people through one to one youth work support which as well as being extremely hard work at times can also be extremely rewarding. Due to the pandemic with the increase in vulnerable young people needing counselling and or one to one youth work support we count ourselves privileged at Livewire to be in a position to meet so many needs.

Whilst outdoor events were limited last year we were able to take part in Saltfest and Saltash regatta locally both events went really well and were well supported. Further afield we were invited to Boardmasters where over 100 young people performed. Young people also regularly perform on our stage in Livewire again which is wonderful.

Funding secured from Saltash Town Council has again helped us to continue to offer support to young people locally, other local funders have included the Co-op and Waitrose as well as the many individuals that give so generously.

Also on a fundraising note we were successful in our big lottery funding bid to the tune of £219 thousand pounds over 5 years for our heart 'n' soul and well-being project, which is a huge weight lifted as it means our counselling service and other vital services within the Heart 'n' soul project are safe.

As well as being extremely grateful to our donors we are also very grateful to our dedicated team of staff both paid and voluntary, our management committee and trustees for their commitment and hard work but most of all we are grateful to the young people that are members of Livewire because they give purpose to and inspiration to continue with all that we do.

End of Report.