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A lot has changed over the past month! Take a look at everything that's happened here at Cre8 in June.

From the Chair of Trustees

The Cre8 Vision is to be 'Community' led, 'Faith' based, and achieving transformative Social 'Change' ... bringing light into the darkest spaces of our community.

What has been so evident to me during lockdown is that the Cre8 team have their finger firmly on the pulse of what is the greatest need within the local area.

It has been truly amazing to see;

- Project GROW deliver food to those families that need most support
- The Music project continue its work online helping young people develop their artistic passion
- The youth workers keeping connected 1:1 with individuals in isolation
- The Cre8 team working so hard to keep the show on the road

restart Learning Plus and Youth Clubs, as well as how to expand social enterprise businesses. What is so important is to showcase and celebrate the many examples of more light shining through our community.



Learning Plus is Back

It is with great happiness that we can announce that we were able to start up our Learning Plus project on the **15th of June**. In our first week we carried out **ten 121 sessions** with young people, and it was great to see them again after being away for so long. We have marked out 2 meters across the house, to make sure we can carry out these sessions in a way which is safe for both staff and young people. We are continuing to risk assess all activities we plan to carry out in order to make sure what we are doing is safe for everyone

We're delighted to have our young people back with us, and are looking forward to all the sessions to come!



Clubs

Over the past few weeks, our youth workers have begun meeting with young people from our secondary club outside in small groups of 4 to carry out safe, socially distant activities. Our youth clubs are something which we have carried out since Cre8's beginnings in 2006, and they have formed a core part of what we do. Therefore it's been very difficult and strange not being able to do those kind of things in recent months! It's been lovely to see our young people again, and it was great for them to be able to see each other again too.

As well as this, we will be spending some time looking at options for some fun and safe activities we can do during the summer months with our young

sure these are carried out safely as regulations change over the coming weeks and months.



Grocery Update

The Grocery is now starting to work towards some kind of altered normality. We have begun to open up the Surplus Food Grocery again, **1pm-4pm Tuesdays and Thursdays**, as a 'shop' of sorts where people are able to come and collect food from us. It's all based outside **St Barnabas Church on Lyme Avenue** and we practice strict social distancing. We are now able to have a few more volunteers to help out which is reducing the stress and pressure on our original small team and means we are able to get food to more people.

We are currently running at around **90-100 household deliveries** each week and around **80 households are coming to collect from us**, so in total around **180 households** are being fed from the surplus food 'waste' we are collecting and redistributing. We estimate they receive on average around **£30 worth of food for a £3 donation**. As home deliveries begin to reduce over the next few weeks, we aim to open the 'shop' on another day for collection.

individuals who have donated to us. We are sincerely grateful for your generosity!

For more information on the Grocery and to keep up to date on whats happening, check out our Facebook page: [@Cre8Grocery](#).



Facilities Back in Business

We're delighted to announce that our Cre8 Facilities social enterprise business has got back up and running this month after being unable to carry out our regular services over the lockdown period. Our current social enterprise business goes out 5 times every fortnight to Creamline Dairies in Manchester. Here we clean Creamlines fleet of milk floats and vehicles to a high standard, and Creamline have reported missing us greatly over the past few months! We're very pleased to be up and running again and are looking forward to continue working with Creamline, as well as the potential new opportunities

For more information on Cre8 Facilities, or if you'd like to offer new work opportunities for our social enterprise project, please do please get in touch:

jonathan.aiken@cre8macclesfield.org



Music

Our music project is still going strong! Recently we ran a video instrument exam session, allowing 3 young people to show their progress on their instruments. The results for this are pending, and we're looking forward to receiving them.

We've been carrying out online music jam sessions with our young people, recently focusing around interesting themes such as: societal issues, Zoom problems, and cheesecake disasters! These sessions have helped us regain some of the collaborative aspect of face to face drop-ins that make them so rewarding and spontaneous.

Now we're in the run-up to the traditional Cre8 Summer Concert time and are putting together a project that will allow us to showcase our young people's talents online. As well as this, we have started doing Learning Plus music sessions back at the building, and are hoping to do some group activities in the garden soon to provide a music activity in a safe but fun format.

All of this, as well as our outreach work, music quizzes, and songwriting

may be able to do in the coming months with our young people.



Thank You

We'd like to give a big thank you to everyone who's donated to us or provided us with equipment to allow us to start up our projects again.

From Macclesfield Town Council and Cheshire East for providing us with social distancing banners, to our volunteers helping run our projects and activities, and those who made face masks for our staff. As well, we'd like to thank those who have purchased items for our youth work team from their Amazon wish list, to enable them to carry out fun activities with our young people.

Without these acts of kindness, we wouldn't be able to do what we do. For more information on how you can get involved and help us, visit our website: www.cre8macclesfield.org

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