



# Newsletter Summer 2 2024

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## Employability through Social Enterprise.

This half term has brought out the best in Plan B students employability aspirations. For our students this means developing the capability to move self sufficiently within the labour market to realise potential through sustainable employment. For our older students, this is a core aim we work towards on a daily basis. Whether that is carpentry, boat building, music, catering, retail, engineering, watersports and more, the basics remain the same. That is one of the many reasons we are forming partnerships and working with other commercial and charitable organisations to provide experience and opportunities. With this in mind, we were delighted to be invited to the Anchored in Gosport Young Peoples market and the catering team went full steam ahead to prepare delicious savoury snacks of sausage rolls, Jamaican patties and cheese straws. Not only did these go down a treat, but for our 3 young people who worked the stall for the day, confidence grew and fantastic experience was gained. Meanwhile, back in the carpentry department, the students were designing, measuring and constructing outdoor picnic benches. They prepared a cutting list, sourced the materials, priced the job, got to work, and what a good finished product they created. Some of our students will go on to be self employed, and this shows they are learning the skills and discipline to manage in that competitive arena.



## Carpentry, Girls and college.

What a half term this has been for our carpentry and boat building students. Fresh from the completion of the Romney 2.2 build, they have got stuck straight into their next boat building project of a Medway 10'9. This will be our second Medway (stich and glue) build, and we are pleased to report that the first boat is still happily rowing around the harbour and Solent, with a very happy owner. Students have been using bevel gauges to calculate angles and making lots of templates to ensure it all fits together well. We have seen two of our amazing girls getting stuck in and have helped fit and trim the gunwales to her port and starboards side, giving strength and shape to the vessel. Our girls have excelled in the workshop and completed plenty of other carpentry tasks this term. And just to keep things interesting, trainees have also designed and built a 'patchwork' seat for her, out of some of the offcuts of hardwood we have in the workshop. We hope to see her on the water this Autumn. We are proud to say that one of our Post 16 students has been accepted on a carpentry course at City college Southampton. Charlie was referred to us by the local authority having struggled in secondary education. He has been training with us this year as an entry level student and really enjoyed the wood work side of things and decided he wants to take this further and is ready to progress into a mainstream college. Well done Charlie. On a more musical note, we are delighted to announce success for 2 of our fabulous year 10's students looking to access college in the Autumn term. They have been accepted on an entry level music course at Havant and South Downs college. They both passed their interviews with flying colours, and the experience they have gained with Plan B was cited as being a large factor in their success.





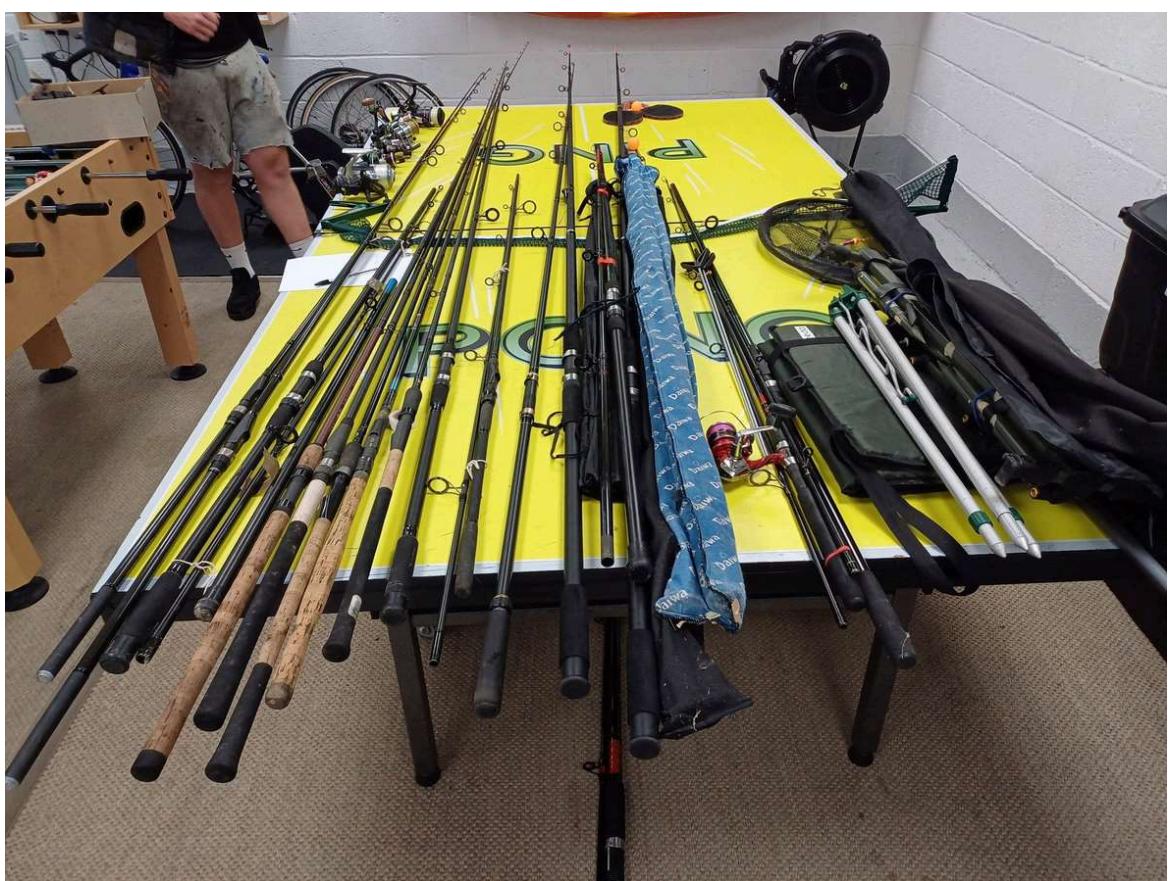
Pizza

Barista & front of house



## Donations and gift in kind

So much has happened on and off the water this term, and helped as always by our amazing friends, supporters and partners. Our new 'Fatstick' paddleboards have been put to the test and the feedback is, "they are great". They are good quality, easy to inflate, come with loads of extras and proving an easy way to get more students on the water and a learning opportunity from the get go. A huge thank you goes out to this amazing company for supporting us which in turn directly supports the young people we work with. We have had lots of bike donations this term. Some that are and easy to clean up, service and 'turnaround' to give out to one of our students, supporters and/or community members. Others have been beyond repair, but this presents an opportunity for students to get some tools in their hands to strip off the reusable parts for spares which are always needed, or create a hybrid bike which presents problem solving, adaptation, fabrication and thus, learning in abundance. And the food keeps coming, thanks to UK Harvest once again for their ongoing support we have received weekly deliveries of fresh and frozen food that students have not only prepared, cooked and eaten, but has also been taken home as pre made dinners ready for families to warm and eat, or redistributed as food hampers to help 'top up' the weekly shop. And this term would not have been the same without support from JJ and the Last cast saloon. We now have so much fishing equipment that not only can we meet our own daily need, but we have been able to donate rods, reels and much more on to our students, which helps give them viable summer activities once again stretching our reach beyond the school day and outside of term time.





## A day out at Marwell zoo

To continue in the above and beyond theme of this term, and thanks to the Rotary club of Whiteley, our students were lucky to be invited for a day out at Marwell zoo. This excellent invite was extended to 10 students and 4 staff who arrived extra early to also meet the zookeeper. We were chaperoned throughout by the lovely Rotary club representatives who fitted in with the Plan B bunch well and from Penguins to Giraffes, there was never a dull moment. Even lunch was provided and afforded a much needed break and refuel before continuing the excursion in the afternoon and with a last push, we managed to get around almost everything to see and feedback from everyone was that maximum fun was had by all. We know this because the email we received (below) the following day made us more proud than ever...

'just to let you know what an absolute pleasure it was meeting everybody. All the kids were so well behaved, polite when they needed to be, but it was also nice to see them just being kids.

You should be very proud of them all, they were an absolute credit to Plan B.

We had a fantastic day and I can only hope the kids enjoyed it as much as we did'





## This term, we have also...

Taught maths with an abacus. Competed in the Round the Island race. Hosted many local volunteers, Partners and friends to lunch prepared by our students. We have rowed, canoed and kayaked. Caught and released lots of fish including a 15lb carp. Refurbished a box trailer. received large donations of fresh and frozen food and donated lots on to families, and cooked with plenty too. We have taken apart an electric guitar-painted it in shocking pink and re built it. We have repaired, serviced, and maintained many bikes, some brought in by students, their families, staff members and many that were donated to us. We have made cakes, been to the beach, played lots of chess, drums and guitar. We have 3D printed lots more useful items, and lots of fun ones too

Thanks to... The Mayors office/GBC, Martin Glanville, UK Harvest, The Worshipful company of Saddlers, Trash Cafe, The Gosportarians, Asda Community Champion - Rachel, Last Cast Saloon & MAA. Also a huge thanks that has spilt over from summer 1, to Patrick and Alexi for running the Brighton marathon on behalf of Plan B, their efforts in running and fundraising are hugely appreciated.





## **This term we owe even more gratitude to all this great bunch...**

Treebeard Trust. Howdens Insurance. Britannia Corporate Events. Haslar Marina. Fairview Sailing. Penelope Holdings. Trafalgar Property Consultancy. Howden Joinery. Langstone Adventure Rowing. Peas in a Pod Consulting LTD. Boatfolk. Dauntsey's School and Jolie Brise. Churchers Solicitors. YouBoat Chandlery. ATRacing. GBC. Dame Caroline Dinenage DBE MP. Councillor Jamie Hutchinson. Flick Drummond MP Hampshire CC. Councillor John Beavis MBE. Councillor John Gledhill. Hardway SC. The Alverbank Hotel. Wessex Resins. Cromwell Tools. Dream Yacht Charter. Inclusion Hampshire. British Marine. Open Awards. British Rowing. British Canoeing. Boatshed IOW. Lyn Hill Designs. MCO sailing, Phil Hadley. Nowmarine. Minerva Technical and MinervaEurope. The Royal Yachting Association. STANLEY Smallcraft, Alex Ward AKA Mini. Councillor Zoe Huggins. Councillor Lesley Meenaghan. Gosport Borough Council. The Friends of Hardway. Music Matters. The Luna Foundation. Gosport Road Runners and the Gosport Half Marathon fund. Mary Montagu-Scott. Jonathan Cheshire and Sail Training International. Malcolm Hicks and Family. Jon Carver. Chris Best and the Mound Close. ASDA foundation. Councillor Martin Pepper. Lord Mayor Councillor Richard Earle. Pitt Street Indoor Skatepark project. Moreland Motors. The Marine Advertising Agency (MAA) RS Sailing. UK Harvest. The Trash Cafe. Able Steel. Marvels and Meltdowns. The Worshipful company of Saddlers. Martin Glanville. Last Cast Saloon. XW Rigging. Greene King. Hays travel foundation. The innkeepers. The KFC foundation. Land Securities. Our esteemed Members, and all our fab volunteers who have helped us so much so far...



**TEAM PROFILE: We are excited to announced a new staff member coming onboard in September in a new role at Plan B...**

**Watch this space...**

All will be revealed in the Autumn 1 Newsletter



## STUDENTS PROFILE: Charlie A

**A Post 16 year at Plan B has helped Charlie get ready to take on the world, but is the world ready for Charlie???**



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For further information contact:

## Plan B

40 – 42 Park Street

Gosport, PO12 4UH

Tel: 023 9400 8561

Mobile: 07973 838858

[www.theplan-b.org](http://www.theplan-b.org)

[Contact Us](#)



The Plan B AP CIC, 40 – 42 Park Street,  
Gosport, PO12 4UH  
023 9400 8561

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