

Gaiety ACT Out! – Summary Impact Report 2014-15

Overview

Gaiety ACT Out! is Ayr Gaiety Partnership’s community theatre initiative for young people and older people across South Ayrshire. The first year has been funded by The Robertson Trust, Ambition for Social Enterprise and South Ayrshire Place Partnership.

“Fun. I liked getting to do singing and drama games for the first time, it made me more confident. You need to come back again soon!” – Sophie Gaudie, young person at the Domain Youth Centre

“I wasn’t expecting that...and it was perfect! It was very, very nice.” – Anna, 93 year old resident at Cunnor Hall Care Home

Numbers: 370+ engaged, 356 hours, 22 jobs, £11K in kind support



Participation by **250** young people aged 8-19 and **121** older people.

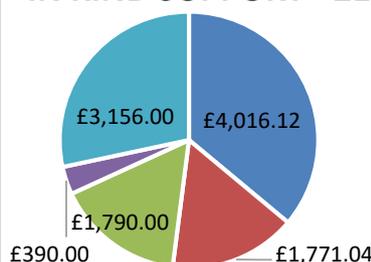


356 hours of drama workshops delivered in **16** projects over 15 months.



22 jobs created (2 FTE), including 21 drama worker roles - building the skillset of the local sector.
10 student volunteer roles.

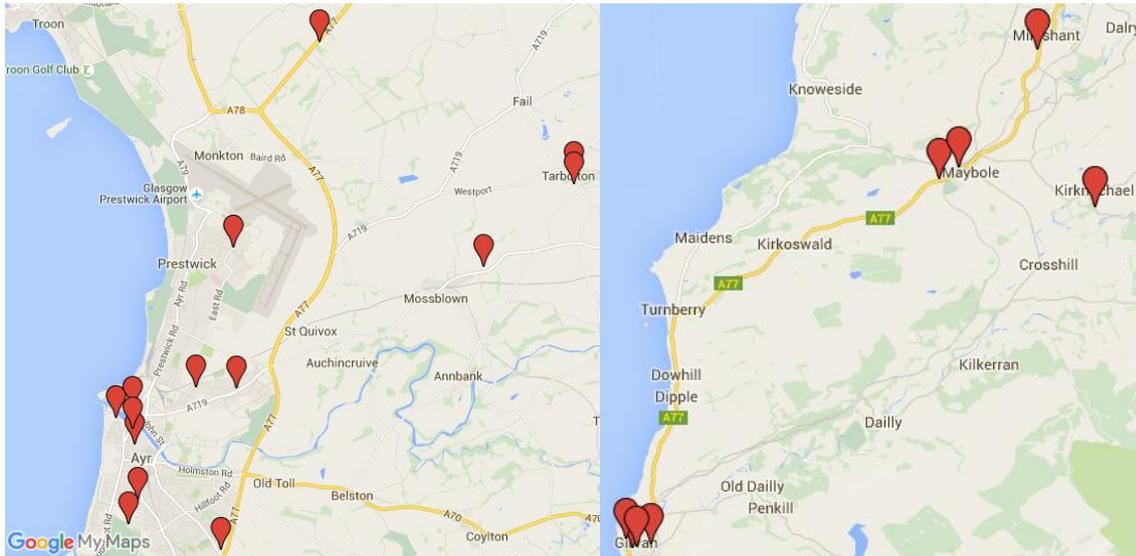
IN KIND SUPPORT - £11K



- Youth workers, facilitators and coordinators
- Student facilitators and volunteers
- Venue hire
- Equipment, props, costumes
- Teacher time and resources in school

£11,123.16 in kind funding from our delivery partners – increasing the output of our work by **over 25%**.

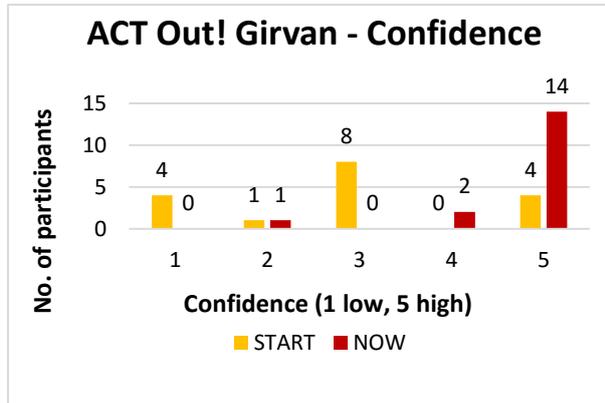
Geographical Social Impact: 21 different venues



Activity delivered in **Tarbolton, Mossblown, Symington, North Ayr (Dalmilling, Lochside), Ayr, Prestwick, Maybole, Minishant, Kirkcubbin, and Kirkcaldy** – rural, deprived and marginalised areas where individuals are excluded and most in need of help to access these experiences.

Young People Social Impact: Increased wellbeing, confidence, skills, behavior, youth achievement

Work in **5 primary schools** with disengaged and mainstream students. This provision **increased confidence, problem solving, decision making, ability to work with others, social skills, trust, self-worth, sense of belonging, sense of purpose, community cohesion and classroom behavior.** Students achieved several Curriculum for Excellence outcomes which they may not have otherwise met, saving teaching time and resources.



Established **5** weekly ACT Out! drama groups – engaging **145** young people and increasing confidence, creative capacity, positive aspirations, social skills, behaviour and health.

Around **70%** of participants engaged in an ongoing drama related activity for the first time.



20 Dynamic Youth Awards

13 Awards of Ambition

2 Saltire Awards



Older People Social Impact: Reduced loneliness and isolation; improved dementia, mental health and disabilities



Work in **3** care homes and established **2** drama groups at Hansel focusing on singing, storytelling and reminiscence. Provided a better quality of life for those living with dementia and learning disabilities by **increasing wellbeing, positive outlook, mental performance and socialisation.**

Budget: £39K spend

ITEM	COST
Development Officer/Coordinator	£10,500
Drama workers (facilitation fees and travel)	£23,400.95
Marketing (branding, design, printing, filming)	£2,749.35
Venue Hire	£1,059.70
Admin (expenses, memberships, transport, training)	£1,464.25
Total	£39,174.25

Impact Statements: In people's own words

"I'm so glad I got the chance to be involved. I loved everything about it ... I knew I was learning new skills but it felt more relaxed and enjoyable than in class ... I wish it was going on for another ten weeks ... When I go to the Academy I am going to get involved in drama. ... It felt different and special ... I loved being on stage." – **Students from Gardenrose Primary and Cairn Primary Schools**

"Many of the young people we are engaging require additional help and support with different aspects of their personal development. The opportunities that the Gaiety offer enable local partners to engage these young people using theatre to develop communication and socialising skills. It has also greatly assisted in building confidence and self-esteem and the activity exposure for the youngsters to new adult role models." – **Ronnie Sinclair, CLD Team Leader, South Ayrshire Council**

"This alternative approach to the curriculum has provided our pupils an opportunity that we would have struggled to manage on our own. They developed key social, educational and personal skills, and in particular provided them with a vehicle to develop their self-esteem, self-worth, mental health and sense of belonging as young learners engaged in the educational process. With this overwhelming success, we'd be keen to see this rolled out further across South Ayrshire." – **Bobby McPherson, Depute Head Teacher, Gardenrose Primary**

"Due to Tarbolton's rural location they often miss out on a lot of opportunities that young people who live more centrally have, so to be given the chance to do something of this nature in their own community is a great benefit. It's been a confidence builder for them - several of the members seem to be more outgoing and it's had a positive effect on those with health and behavioural issues." – **Christine Sinclair, Employability and Skills, South Ayrshire Council**

“It’s been so great for them, you really notice the difference that it’s made to them. They both love coming!” – **Lynn Milligan, parent of two ACT Out! Girvan participants**

“It was fun, individual to us and brought us all together! ... We learned creative skills and how to work together as a group ... We improved our confidence to try out new things and stick through with something until the end by overcoming challenges ... Some of us would never have felt confident to do anything like this before!” – **Students from Minishant Primary and Kirkmichael Primary Schools**

“Our partnership with Ayr Gaiety has been fantastic. The community theatre workshops have been great at raising the confidence of our customers and passing on new skills. In such a short space of time there has been a marked difference in their levels of ability. Our older customers are sometimes not well catered for in terms of social activities so it’s been fantastic to witness the impact that the older people’s group has had on those participants with dementia who transform and start to interact with those around.” – **Chris Colvin, Baird Centre Facilitator, Hansel**

“I love Act Out, it makes me happy every week ... I was not very brave when I first came here but it’s made me more confident ... The facilitators listen to us.” – **Young people from ACT Out! Girvan**

“The project has been positive ... Fun, engaging and interdisciplinary rich experiences for the children. The pupils have gained so much from it – improved confidence, teamwork, collaborative learning, leadership and developing an ownership over their views. One student with autism gained tremendous confidence to perform the song in front of the whole school. He would never have done this before, it’s a real achievement.” – **Karen Butchart, Head Teacher, Minishant Primary School**

“The young people we support are often hard to engage with initially and even harder to retain, but the week had fantastic retention rates. What really impressed me was that we had a young person attend who usually just hangs around outside causing trouble, but she joined in with the workshops and requested that the Gaiety come back to do some more drama workshops! It has been a very effective and worthwhile week with the young people learning new communication skills and team building!” – **Karla Clark, Youth Worker, Domain Youth Centre**

“The drama programme was twice as effective at improving confidence and communication skills as a classroom based programme. It’s clear that some of the young people gained a lot of confidence from taking part.” – **Jamie Tait, Employability and Skills Team Leader, South Ayrshire Council**

“The Gaiety provides our residents with precious present moments, steeped in musical memories alive in our hearts once more. A gift of being temporarily transformed to yester year, all done with warmth and inclusiveness. It’s fab!” – **Wilson Merideth, Manager, Cumnor Hall Care Home**

“I was impressed by how interactive the students were. People joined in who wouldn’t normally, especially one who has autism and some from our Supported Learning Centre with mild learning difficulties.” – **Ms Brodie, Queen Margaret Academy**

“All our residents really enjoy the session, they look forward to it all week. A big group of over 20 take part and socialise. It gives them a sense of purpose. They’ve improved their overall wellbeing and their mood has had massive increases.” – **Jess Clark, Matron, Temple House Care Home**

Future: Increased sustainability

Following the success of this first year, we’ve now begun to improve the sustainability of the initiative. Along with additional fundraising, we’ve attracted match funding from our delivery partners – some schools, care homes and Hansel – to continue and expand our work with them.

