



# VOLUNTEER IT YOURSELF

YOUNG PEOPLE LEARNING CONSTRUCTION TRADE SKILLS WHILST HELPING THEIR COMMUNITY

Q3 UPDATE - JULY - SEPTEMBER 2021

## OVERVIEW

After a brief hiatus during the holiday season, we're back with a round-up of our activity across the summer. It's been a busy time, with the arrival of our cohort of team members from the Kickstart scheme (thanks to our gateway provider Travis Perkins plc), and helping grassroots sports venues hit the gold standard, ready to inspire fresh new Olympians inspired by our medal rush from Tokyo 2020. From rugby clubs in Bude to urban barns in London, to supporting new Olympic teams like Skateboard GB, we can see the next generation's future is bright.

## Kickstarting our Kickstarters



We're extremely proud to be part of the government's Kickstart scheme, designed to support young people aged 16-24 at risk of long term unemployment into six month work placements, gaining valuable skills & experience to 'kickstart' the next step in their career. This is all thanks to Travis Perkins plc for being our Gateway Provider to access this scheme, helping to process and manage our scheme.

In this edition we meet Jada Sandy & Konradas Rukas, two of our very first Kickstarters/Junior Skills Mentors. Largely based on projects in London, they support with hands-on skills development with young people on our projects. Jada's keen on expanding her field in carpentry, whilst Konradas has college qualifications in plumbing and gas engineering and is looking to perfect his carpentry skills here with us at VIY. They're both doing fantastic work already, we're grateful to have you with us!



## VIY'S TRACK RECORD TO DATE



666  
PROJECTS



12,550  
YOUNG LEARNERS



4,854  
ENTRY LEVEL CITY &  
GUILDS QUALIFICATIONS



1,130  
TRADE MENTORS



1,725  
EMPLOYMENT,  
EDUCATION OR TRAINING  
PROGRESSIONS

SwitchUpNotts, Twitter:  
"Thanks for the opportunity to give our young people from our @YF\_Foundation employability project the chance to volunteer & gain vital skills & experience which will help them be ready for the world of work! @VIYproject we look forward to building on this partnership."

# Tools and even more projects with Toolstation



Toolstation fired up their second project with us, their funds fueling the training, skills accreditations and mentoring of the young people on the project.

YMCA Dickerage is a sport and community centre in the New Malden community, Surrey. Untouched for 20 years, the project has a heartfelt connection to the people of the centre. Now with new brightly painted rooms thanks to donated paint from Dulux, a converted storeroom into media room and new cafe area, "it is more multicultural and multi-generational than ever before", Dan, YMCA Centre Manager for over 20 years, explains.

560 hours were spent in total on the project, with a whopping 38 City & Guilds accreditations achieved by to the young volunteers from the centre and The Amber Foundation.

Thanks to Toolstation for making this project happen for the community of New Malden, along with materials donations from Travis Perkins.

A young volunteer and resident with The Amber Foundation, one of our key youth referral partners, really enjoyed the experience: "It was nice to learn about the different tools and how to do the markings on the wood before cutting and drilling. I'm looking forward to doing more work with VIY as I learnt some useful skills I could use in the future when working in and around my home and possibly in a workplace if I choose to pursue a career in carpentry."

Dan Slocombe, Centre Manager, YMCA Dickerage: "I wanted to say a massive thank you from Allison, myself and the whole community. The centre has been transformed from a tired, boring and uninspiring building to a fresh, clean, all-singing, all-dancing community hub. I have already been contacted by the local policing team to use the new kitchen for a growing and cooking project with young people over the half term holidays. We have started to use the inside this week and have had so many wows and positive comments about the transformation. The space is far more usable now with dedicated spaces for the café, media/homework room and the main activity hall, the community will see the benefits for many years to come. Watch this space for a running community café, toddler stay+play sessions as well as a homework club and continued support for the young people and the community. Can you pass on my thanks to all the volunteers with a big shout-out to The Amber Foundation for their amazing contribution. I hope they enjoyed coming as much as we enjoyed having them."



# Leaving a Skateboard Legacy



Our VIY x Skateboard GB partnership sought to improve the quality and accessibility of skateboarding in Nottingham, working with specialist skatepark builder 414 Skateparks to carry out the works, supported by Persimmon Homes, Travis Perkins Nottingham, Skateboard GB and Sport England.

30 young people aged 14-24 took an active role in the renovation of the park's indoor ramp area, which involved 25% reclaimed timber from the previous site. The project has helped the young people develop new employability skills and gain their Entry Level 3 City & Guilds accreditations in practical trades such as joinery.

As part of this, we also ran a carpentry workshop for our young people. Assistant Branch Manager for Travis Perkins Nottingham, Arron Martin, came along to visit the workshop and those participating too, following generous timber donations for the skatepark.



Mentor Mention: @VIYProject, Twitter - A big thank you to Zenon, Contract Manager at @PersimmonHomes Nottingham. He's been doing a fantastic job of mentoring young people on our @SkateparkFlo project. We're so grateful to you and Persimmon for your support in mentoring the next generation.

James Hope-Gill, CEO, Skateboard GB, Twitter: "Really pleased we've been able to support a number of skateparks with refurbishment with @VIYproject #skateboarding #SkateMoreSkateBetter"

@travisperkinsco on Instagram: Here's what 8 weeks of skate park renovations look like, in under a minute. And while we provided the materials and guidance, it was the team from the @viyproject who helped put 30 young volunteers in a position to get this work done, finally reopening the Flo Skatepark in Nottingham and really making a difference to their community. Great job guys. #MakeADifferenceDay





## Summer of Sport

Whilst our Olympics and Paralympics GB teams were doing us proud in Tokyo, so were the young people volunteering on our Sport England match-funded projects.

26 City & Guilds accreditations, including painting & decorating and carpentry, were earned whilst transforming Bude RFC on the Cornish coast, alongside Swindon RFC too.

We've also been helping to restore a former Victorian barn at Clitterhouse Farm into three new affordable workshop spaces for hire for independent traders, as well as the creation and installation of a disabled toilet and storage facilities for a local community in North West London.

Local young people referred via Hertfordshire Police and the local DWP helped make Hertford Wellbeing Hub a more breathable space for sport, physical activity, mental and social wellbeing, with fresh heating & air con, entrance, kitchen and toilets and a refreshed garden space.

We can't do what we do, changing the lives of our young people & communities, without the support of our trade partners. Thanks to Dulux, Travis Perkins and GAP Tool Hire for kindly supporting us with products across these projects.



Joseph, young volunteer at Clitterhouse Farm, pictured top right: "Working on this project was good as I gained experience in things such as painting and carpentry [and] health and safety while on an active construction site; the ability to learn the function and being able to use different tools. Overall I enjoyed working on this project as the team were nice to work with and we were tested on our ability to analyse current situations and surroundings."

A video tour of the newly renovated Bude RFC, thanking all partners and helpers, Facebook:

"Well here is the finished project! It has took a massive effort from lots of people, but as you can see it's been well worth it! This wouldn't have happened without the funding and help from VIY, NatWest Rugby and Sport England..."

Hereward College, in response to our Coventrians RFC project: "Our students had a fantastic time being involved in this project with @VIYproject. It was amazing to see all the work they did! #SomethingConstructive"





## CONTACT US

If you're interested in finding out more about how you can support or get involved in VIY or one of our many projects, please get in touch:



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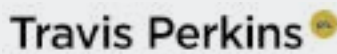
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## THANKS TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

Our projects over the past month have been delivered with the brilliant backing of major national and regional partners; City & Guilds, Dulux, National Lottery Community Fund, Toolstation, Sport England, Travis Perkins, Travis Perkins plc and YFF.



Thanks also to our local project partners from July - September: 414 Skateparks, Amber Foundation, GAP, Hertfordshire Police, Persimmon Homes, Switch Up Notts, Skateboard GB, Youth Futures Foundation and YMCA.

