awen

Ymddiriedolaeth
Ddiwylliannol
Cultural Trust

QUARTER 4
PERFORMANCE REPORT

for Bridgend County Borough Council

2025–26

This report summarises activities undertaken by Awen Cultural Trust during **Quarter 4** of 2025 / 2026 in support of Bridgend County Borough Council's Corporate Objectives. It includes a summary of our key performance measures as well as some case studies and customer feedback that help illustrate impact.

Quarterly Summary:

LIBRARIES

During Quarter 4, Awen Libraries continued to play a central role in supporting literacy, wellbeing and community connection across Bridgend County Borough, whilst also progressing key sustainability and inclusion priorities.

Funding from Welsh Government was secured to deliver a Safer Internet Month project in February. This included Safer Internet information posts on social media and face-to-face safer internet sessions led by Barclays Bank. Sessions were delivered in Pyle, Porthcawl and Betws Libraries.

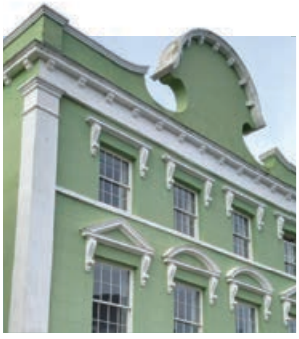
The award-winning 21 Book Challenge concluded in March, with 326 people signing up and 106 completing the challenge. Once again, the challenge proved highly successful, with participants commenting on how it encouraged them to read books they might not otherwise have chosen, and visit the libary more frequently.

Thanks to a Libraries as Sanctuaries grant, funded by Welsh Government and administered by the National Library of Wales, a range of Polish, Ukrainian, LGBTQ+ and Braille books was purchased for adults and children, providing communities with access to books in their native language. Social media posts, including some translated into Polish and Ukrainian, were used to promote the new resources.

Financial support from the Regional Integration Fund, which aims to improve health and social care services, was used to host a range of activities and events in libraries for older people living with dementia. The project ended in March with two reminiscence walks in Maesteg and Bridgend, led by the Local History Library team. Participants shared memories of visiting the towns, recalling former shops and buildings. These walks marked the conclusion of a successful project that supported people to reminisce and connect through shared experiences.

March saw the launch of Ogwr Unlocked, a new project focusing on preserving, digitising and sharing historic items, as well as welcoming new contributions to the collection. An interactive, local history exhibition will travel around the county borough over the summer, followed by Ogwr History Month in September. We will be delivering a programme of 35 free events, including walks, talks, films and performances, designed to inspire and inform both adults and children about their local history.

FIRST WINNERS OF
21 BOOK CHALLENGE



REMINISCENCE
WALKS

SARN LIBRARY

Thanks to ongoing support from St Brides Minor Community Council, Sarn Library has had another successful year. In early 2025, Awen invested in a small library makeover with new shelving and a fresh coat of paint to create a brighter, more flexible space for people to browse the books, use the public computers and enjoy the many groups and activities on offer.

The library has seen an increase of almost 18% in borrowing and a significant growth (+121%) in event attendance since reopening. Over 1,400 children from local primary schools either visited the library or had sessions at school delivered by the community librarian during the year. Earlier this year, Sarn Library received a bequest, which allowed Awen to replace some of the carpet and purchase new boardgames and jigsaws.

LOCAL HISTORY LIBRARY

The Local History Library at Maesteg Town Hall houses the principal local and family history collection for Bridgend County Borough.

In 2025/26, the Local History Library welcomed around 1,075 in person visitors for research support, enquiries and donations. Around 525 phone and email enquiries were received during the same period. The library also supported 240 school children with local history sessions and welcomed around 160 visitors to Maesteg Town Hall for history tours and Heritage Open Day events. The funded Voices of Freedom interactive Remembrance exhibition at Maesteg Town Hall in November attracted around 1,660 visitors over four days. In addition, Ogwr History Month 2025 engaged 2,060 people across 41 free events delivered county borough-wide in September.

LOCAL HISTORY LIBRARY AT MAESTEG TOWN HALL

"I've really enjoyed today, it was lovely to meet other people and share our memories of the town."

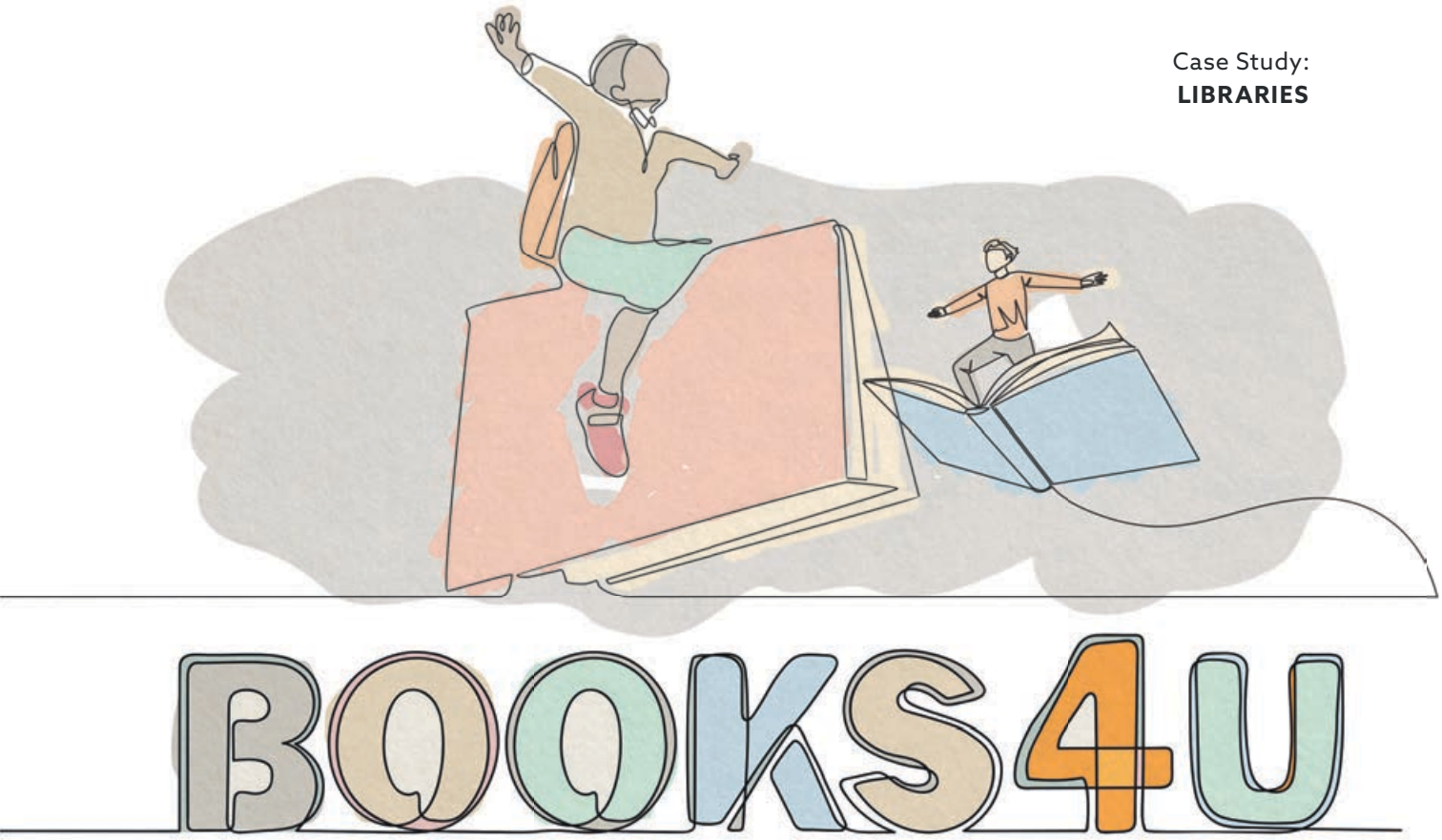
Reminiscence Walk participant, Maesteg

"I have loved the challenge this year. I read books that I wouldn't normally look at. I wasn't sure about the audiobook, but I enjoyed listening to it on holiday."

21 Book Challenge completer

"Thank you, you've given me great advice on how to keep my accounts safe, and I know I can come into the library for help if I need it."

Safer Internet Month Barclays workshop participant



Books4U is a South Wales interlending scheme managed by Awen Libraries, which brings together 14 library partners across the region. Funded by Welsh Government, the scheme enables library users to borrow books from across local authority boundaries, significantly expanding access to stock at a time when public library book budgets are under increasing pressure. Books4U works by sharing book stock between partner authorities, allowing customers to reserve and borrow items from libraries across South Wales. The scheme is underpinned by strong digital infrastructure, using the new shared Library Management System in Wales, which makes reserving, tracking and transporting books simpler and more efficient.

In 2025/26, 37,714 books were loaned across participating local authorities, giving thousands of readers access to titles their local library would not typically stock. The scheme supports lifelong learning, wellbeing and enjoyment of reading, particularly for people who might otherwise be excluded from accessing a broad range of books.

Library members have said:

> "The Books4U Scheme is vital to me as the titles I like are not aways available locally. I cannot afford to buy books, so getting them from other areas helps me a lot."

> "Without the scheme I would not be able to get hold of many of the books that our service would not think to buy – particularly sci-fi, fantasy, history and cross-genre books."

By sharing existing stock rather than purchasing new books, the Books4U scheme has delivered significant environmental benefits. It is estimated that over 138 tonnes of CO_2 (the annual energy consumption of up to 27 homes) have been saved through reduced production, transport and waste associated with new books. This directly supports sustainable service delivery and responsible use of resources, key commitments in Awen's five-year strategy
and Welsh Government's Priorities for Culture.
The scheme demonstrates how collaboration can deliver better outcomes for customers, communities and the environment.

LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES: B-LEAF & WOOD-B

Throughout Quarter 4, B Leaf and Wood B trainees took part in a wide range of supported volunteering, cultural, creative and vocational activities designed to build confidence, improve wellbeing and develop employability and life skills, while contributing positively to the wider community.

Trainees Ryan, Jack, Ethan and Ellen volunteered with Bridgend Youth Theatre, assisting with their production of Grease at Maesteg Town Hall. Working in a professional theatre environment, the trainees helped the venue's technical team, engaged with audience members and supported staff with the post show pack down. This provided them with valuable work based experience, boosted their confidence and offered employability skills.

Cultural engagement was further supported through a Dawnsio Gwerin (Welsh folk dance) event held at Y Nyth in Bryngarw Country Park to celebrate St David's Day. Delivered in a safe, supportive environment, the session allowed trainees to engage with Welsh culture and physical activity at their own pace. Trainees followed instructions from an external performer, learned simple Welsh phrases and basic folk-dance steps. The activity improved wellbeing and social cohesion while supporting pride in national identity in an inclusive and accessible setting.

Nine B Leaf and Wood B trainees enjoyed a group trip to watch a Cardiff United Rugby Championship match at Cardiff Arms Park (see case study below). This provided a unique opportunity to access a professional rugby match that trainees would not usually experience. Trainees successfully navigated a busy public environment, socialised with peers and practised patience when queuing and waiting for transport. The experience promoted social integration, confidence and belonging. They all had a great time!

The trainees also participated in structured art classes where they created prints to decorate the classroom at B-Leaf and to take home. Working with an external artist, the trainees followed instructions, practised turn taking and patience, and experimented with natural materials and mixed media including sticks, flowers, card and fabric. The sessions provided an opportunity for self-expression, allowed them to enhance their learning environment and gave them a great sense of pride and achievement.

To capture and evidence long term impact of B-Leaf and Wood-B, independent Welsh film production company It's My Shout was commissioned to make a short documentary showcasing the experiences of trainees and their parents. The film, which will be premiered in Quarter 1, gives trainees Gavin and Jack a 'voice' to truly capture what makes B-Leaf and Wood-B so special to them. The trainees enjoyed working with the film crew and are looking forward to seeing themselves on the big screen.

In addition to their day-to-day grounds' maintenance work, the trainees participated in two environmental and horticultural projects at Bryngarw Country Park. Supported by the Welsh Government Weather-Proofing Fund, trainees and staff worked together to deliver high quality improvements to the park's infrastructure and pathways, helping to ensure safe, all-weather access for visitors. Trainees also carried out a dedicated landscaping project within the Japanese Garden, gaining specialist horticultural skills and demonstrating precision and care in maintaining this key heritage asset within Bryngarw Country Park.

Customer Feedback:
LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES

"I had heard about B-Leaf from a friend who recommended buying our plants here. I was not aware that it was a charity and that it did such good work. I wanted to purchase some compost, and I was helped to put them in the car by a few of the adults. It is fantastic that they have so much pride in their work and the garden centre is giving them a true purpose."

Caroline, Bridgend

"I have visited B-Leaf many times, I am a keen gardener, and I have recently started a vegetable patch. B-Leaf vegetable plants are excellent value for money, and when buying them, it enables me to support a great cause. Keep up the good work!"

Daniel, Aberkenfig

ROUTE
32 - 13
ROUTE
DRAGON SIGNS
FireRite
FireRite
FireRite
WindowSolutions
02920 490797
CHALLENGE CUP

GREASE I

GREASE

SUSAN, B-LEAF

Trainee Susan secured a volunteer placement with a charity that supports people through food donations. As a passionate home cook who enjoys experimenting with food, Susan was eager to become more involved in the charity's kitchen. However, she lacked the required food safety qualifications, which left her feeling anxious that she might not be able to continue volunteering.

Susan joined The Bridge's six week programme, where she developed customer service skills, achieved a Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Catering, and gained hands on kitchen preparation experience. Completing the programme not only gave Susan the vital qualification she needed to progress into the kitchen at her volunteer placement, but it boosted her confidence.

Susan feels motivated to continue building her skills in food preparation and cooking basic meals, both for herself and for others. She is extremely proud of what she has achieved. With continued support and new challenges, Susan is committed to building her skillset further and growing in confidence as she moves forward.

STUART, B-LEAF

Over the last year Stuart had encountered some serious health issues which impacted his eyesight and hearing. Stuart had lost confidence and was scared to go out to public places, particularly anywhere that he was unfamiliar with.

After medical intervention, it was important that Stuart received help to regain his confidence. Alongside small, familiar journeys, it was discussed that a trip to a Cardiff regional rugby match could be beneficial.

Stuart was able to attend the rugby match, hear and see it clearly, manage his anxiety and rebuild his confidence by walking in unfamiliar places with minimal support. Stuart had never been to a live sports event and was very happy to have the opportunity.

Quarterly Summary:

BRYNGARW COUNTRY PARK

Bryngarw Country Park successfully retained its Visit Wales Visitor Attraction Quality Assurance Scheme (VAQAS) accreditation, reflecting the consistent high standards maintained across the park and the effectiveness of ongoing improvement work. This achievement demonstrates that Bryngarw continues to meet rigorous national criteria, ensuring a high-quality visitor experience while strengthening its reputation and profile within the regional tourism market.

A major conservation initiative saw the planting of a diverse native hedgerow at Bryngarw in partnership with the I Dig Trees programme. Volunteers worked consistently across multiple sessions to deliver high-quality planting and achieve a wide species mix, including hawthorn, blackthorn, dog rose, hornbeam, hazel, elder, rowan and crab apple. Saplings were donated by The Conservation Volunteers, with over a thousand trees planted. This work will provide a significant and sustainable food source and habitat for birds, mammals and invertebrates, while also supporting the physical and mental wellbeing of volunteers through meaningful, hands-on conservation activity.

Community engagement remained strong through a collaborative 'Tidy Up' event in partnership with the Pencoed Trailblazers. A high volunteer turnout and effective teamwork enabled large areas of the park to be cleared within a single session, focusing on litter picking, pathway maintenance and general site improvements. This activity enhanced the overall appearance and safety of the park for visitors, reduced environmental risks to wildlife and strengthened relationships with local community groups, demonstrating the value of partnership working in maintaining high-quality green spaces.

Further volunteer-led conservation work included bramble clearance and sapling management to create dead hedging, guided by Bryngarw Ranger's team. This work improved woodland accessibility as well as immediate biodiversity benefits through the creation of habitats for birds, insects and small mammals. The strong collaboration enabled participants to develop practical conservation skills, reinforcing the wider social and environmental value of the volunteer programme.

1. SATURDAY VOLUNTEERS
2. I DIG TREES
2. PENCOED TRAILBLAZERS

"Congratulations, you're doing a brilliant job"

Kathryn,
Pencoed
Trailblazers

"So much good work going on at Bryngarw Country Park at the moment"

Keith,
Cefn Cribwr

"You all do an amazing job."

Alison,
Bridgend

STEVE, BRYNMENYN

Steve, who lives in Brynmenyn, loves visiting Bryngarw Country Park as a place to relax and connect with nature, but increasing mobility challenges meant his visits became restricted to the most accessible areas. Uneven terrain and persistent mud along many of the park's trails created significant barriers, effectively preventing Steve from reaching the quieter, more natural parts he wished to visit, and limiting his experience to the car park or paved areas.

Using a Welsh Government Weather-proofing Grant, the ranger team, supported by the trainees and staff from B-Leaf, led a programme of targeted infrastructure improvements designed to address these barriers. By upgrading pathways and tackling issues caused by mud and uneven surfaces, the team has significantly improved accessibility of key routes within the park. These enhancements were carefully planned to ensure that more visitors, regardless of mobility needs, can navigate the site safely and comfortably. The impact of these changes has been transformative for Steve. He is no longer confined to a limited section of the park and can now explore areas he had previously been unable to reach, including quieter green spaces he had not visited in years. Regaining the ability to move freely throughout the park has restored his sense of independence and confidence, allowing him to enjoy nature without concern about slipping or getting stuck.

This renewed access has also had a marked effect on Steve's wellbeing. Being able to spend more time immersed in the natural environment has supported both his physical activity and mental health, enabling him to fully benefit from the therapeutic value of the park. His experience highlights the wider importance of investing in accessible infrastructure, ensuring that green spaces are inclusive and welcoming for everyone.

> "I've been coming to the park for years, and these new paths are amazing because I'm discovering areas of the park that I've never been able to go down before. Great job Park Team! And to find out it was the B-Leaf guys that built them is outstanding!"
>
> Steve

Quarterly Summary:

THEATRES & COMMUNITY CENTRES

MAESTEG TOWN HALL

Maesteg Town Hall delivered a diverse and impactful programme of cultural activity in Quarter 4, demonstrating strong audience engagement and community participation. Curtain Up Youth Theatre presented We Will Rock You, achieving increased ticket sales compared to their production at the same time last year and receiving excellent audience feedback. The production provided a platform for young performers, many of whom are from the Llynfi Valley, giving them the opportunity to perform in a professional theatre environment supported by an experienced team. This experience played an important role in building confidence, developing skills and nurturing local talent.

The venue also played a central role in supporting the Maesteg 200 celebrations, providing exhibition space in-kind and helping to facilitate a highly successful programme of community activity. The Maesteg Town Hall exhibition, held in the main hall, welcomed 1,352 visitors in its first four days, including visits from all local primary schools, with pupils also given the opportunity to perform in the foyer space. This activity benefited the whole community by bringing people together, strengthening civic pride and deepening understanding of Maesteg's heritage, while helping to ensure that younger generations developed a strong connection to their local history.

In partnership with GraceNotes Choir, Maesteg Town Hall hosted the inaugural Festival of Female Voices, bringing together 11 choirs and approximately 300 participants. The event received excellent feedback (see below) and has already generated interest from additional choirs wishing to take part in future years. The festival created valuable opportunities for participants to network, learn from professional performers and practitioners through workshops, and celebrate the cultural importance of female voice choirs, which are often less prominently recognised than their male counterparts. The success of the event highlights the appetite for this kind of collaborative, inclusive programme and its potential for growth.

The venue also presented Meet Fred by Hijinx, one of Europe's leading inclusive theatre companies delivering a small-scale but highly impactful performance. While audience numbers were modest, feedback was very positive, reflecting the quality of the production. Hijinx's work with performers with learning disabilities provided an important opportunity to challenge perceptions, encourage greater understanding and promote inclusion through the arts. At the same time, the production offered an entertaining and engaging experience, demonstrating how accessible programming can both educate and delight audiences.

BLAENGARW WORKMEN'S HALL

Blaengarw Workmen's Hall has continued to deliver accessible and inclusive cultural and community activity, with Midweek Melodies' audiences growing in numbers. Pupils from the local primary school have started to attend, giving the children an opportunity to experience live performances by professional musicians at no cost and at their local venue. This has not only widened access to the arts for younger audiences but has also created a valuable intergenerational opportunity, with children and older residents sharing the same cultural experience (see case study).

The venue has also supported the ongoing delivery of Citizens Advice Bureau services by providing space in kind for regular drop-in sessions. These sessions have generated good footfall and are an essential resource for the local community, particularly in an area where access to services can be limited. By hosting Citizens Advice, the Hall enables residents to seek guidance and support close to home and is helping to reduce barriers to access.

In addition, Blaengarw Workmen's Hall has hosted Into Film screenings, offering free cinema experiences for children and young people in the area. These screenings have attracted strong audience numbers and have been particularly valuable for families who may not otherwise be able to afford a cinema visit. By removing financial barriers, the Hall has enabled more young people to enjoy shared experiences, supporting social inclusion while fostering a love of film and storytelling within the community.

Customer Feedback:
THEATRES & COMMUNITY CENTRES

"I felt I really had to mention how fantastic the Festival of Female Voices event that that was held at your venue was; what a fabulous day and evening I had with you. The way the team handled and produced the event was magnificent. 300 women with audience, staff and musical conductors etc. all seemed to run smoothly, professionally and efficiently. l am now looking into all Maesteg Town Hall's future events to attend. I'm also passing my experience on and suggesting we arrange frequent group outings with my WI, friends and family. I do so hope this will become a yearly event. What an experience, you should be so proud of your staff and the management team, I hope they get the recognition they deserve."

"Wonderful venue for Maesteg and wider area."

"A really lovely venue, with a wonderful selection of cinema and shows, most of which are sensibly priced. Lovely, relaxed atmosphere. Thank you."

"Proud of our Town Hall."

1. MIDWEEK MELODIES: ANGHARAD JENKINS & PATRICK RIMES
2. MIDWEEK MELODIES: RAGSY
3. CURTAIN UP YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTED WE WILL ROCK YOU
4. FESTIVAL OF FEMALE VOICES
5. MAESTEG 200
6. MEET FRED BY HIJINX, ONE OF EUROPE'S LEADING INCLUSIVE THEATRE COMPANIES

MIDWEEK MELODIES

Children and young people living in the Garw Valley have historically had limited opportunities to experience live music performances locally, particularly in environments suitable for younger audiences. Recognising this gap, Blaengarw Workmen's Hall has strengthened its partnership with Blaengarw Primary School to ensure that all pupils can regularly access high-quality live music experiences.

Through the delivery of free Midweek Melodies sessions, the Hall now provides a welcoming and accessible space where children can engage directly with live performance. These sessions introduce pupils to a wide range of musical styles and artists, from acapella groups, classical violin and piano duos to contemporary folk performers, many of which they may not otherwise have had the opportunity to see. By removing financial barriers and bringing performances into a familiar, community setting, the initiative ensures that all children, regardless of background, can enjoy and benefit from live music.

Experiencing live performance at an early age can be both inspiring and transformative, helping to spark creativity, build confidence and broaden aspirations. The shared experience of attending these sessions also strengthens social connections among pupils and other audience members and contributes to a positive learning environment beyond the classroom.

> "The children have been fortunate enough to attend three different sessions. Each a different genre of music. They have enjoyed the music but the interaction between the artists and the children has had the most impact. The children have enjoyed going back to school and learning about the different instruments and hearing the stories behind the songs written by the artists."
>
> Miss Page

> "We have thoroughly enjoyed attending the Midweek Melodies sessions. The opportunity for our children to experience live music in such a welcoming community setting has been incredibly valuable. They have loved listening to a wide variety of musical genres, helping to broaden and enrich their experiences in a meaningful and memorable way. The sessions have also given us a wonderful opportunity to play a positive part within our local community. It has been lovely to attend alongside members of the public and to see the joy on everyone's faces as the children engage so enthusiastically with the performances. The warm atmosphere and sense of togetherness make these events truly special, and we are very grateful to be part of them."
>
> Class 3 children

CREATIVE WELLBEING SITS OUTSIDE OF OUR MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL. IT IS FUNDED THROUGH A RANGE OF GRANTS AND OTHER SOURCES AND ADDS VALUE TO COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE AREA.

CREATIVE WELLBEING

Awen's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion has been further strengthened by the recruitment of a new cohort of Associate Artists. Over 20 applications were received from artists currently underrepresented within the sector, including those from queer, global majority, disabled and Welsh-speaking backgrounds.

Three artists, Emily Rose, Tia Callimari and Tumi Williams, were selected to take part in the programme, with additional applicants engaged through one-off opportunities wherever possible. This approach ensures that a wide pool of talent continues to benefit from Awen's networks and opportunities, while providing regular freelance employment and professional development for the selected artists. This not only supports their creative growth and financial stability but also enhances Awen's work through the lived experiences and perspectives they bring.

Awen delivered a series of carers' respite events at Bryngarw House, providing much-needed opportunities for rest, enjoyment and social connection for those with ongoing caring responsibilities. Specially curated events, including a St Dwynwen's Day lunch accompanied by soprano Jessica Robinson and a St David's Day afternoon tea with harpist Megan Morris, offered high-quality, welcoming experiences designed to feel both relaxing and celebratory. Around 40 carers attended each event through partnerships with Bridgend Carers Centre and Inclusability. These events created a rare opportunity for carers to enjoy time for themselves, connect with others in similar situations and experience a sense of being valued and appreciated, contributing positively to their overall wellbeing.

The Associate Artist programme also played a central role in delivering creative engagement with children through Mari Lwyd craft and storytelling workshops. Delivered in primary schools across Bridgend, as well as the Bridgend Home Education Group, these sessions brought Welsh culture to life in an engaging and accessible way. Children took part in hands-on creative activities that helped them develop practical skills while also building a stronger sense of cultural identity and belonging. The involvement of professional artists was particularly valued by schools, many of which have limited resources to fund external visits. By connecting young people with Welsh traditions through immersive and creative experiences, the programme supports both educational outcomes and cultural preservation, ensuring that heritage feels relevant, accessible and inspiring for the next generation.

This was a particularly busy and exciting period for Bridgend Youth Theatre, with both the senior and mini/junior productions staged at Maesteg Town Hall. The BYT senior production of Grease in February attracted audiences from across Bridgend County Borough, with over a thousand people attending to see the talented cast bring the musical theatre classic to life. This production included a BSL matinee performance, interpreted by Emma Horton, helping to make the show accessible to a wider audience.

"Thank you for such a lovely St Dwynwen's lunch today for local carers. The soprano was stunning and it felt so special to know she was Wales' winner for Cardiff Singer of the World as well! We attended last year and it makes such a difference to have these lovely opportunities to take time for ourselves."

"Thank you for bringing artist Naz Syed to Heronsbridge Special School to work with our children and celebrate Mari Llwyd! Authentic experiences are essential to our learners, not only from an educational point of view but a social and sensory exploration point also. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the session perfectly catered to all of their needs. They all posed happily for photos with their creations! The session helped meet their emotional and well-being development, develop motor skills and cultural awareness. It was brilliant thank you."

"I wanted to send you a sincere thank you for helping make our first Dads and Lads Event at HMP Parc a resounding success. The dads and sons really engaged in the activities you provided, reaching an often hard to engage group of pre-teen and teenage boys. The feedback from the fathers and sons who attended was incredible. There was 100% agreement that these events should be recommended to others. The consensus is that these days are essential for maintaining family ties and providing a "beautiful" experience for children visiting their fathers in custody. Thank you again for supporting us to make this happen."

CARERS' AFTERNOON TEA, BRYNGARW HOUSE

A couple who recently attended a carers' afternoon tea at Bryngarw House highlighted the powerful impact of Awen's respite programme on those balancing significant caring responsibilities. Carol is a carer for her teenage son, who is on the autism spectrum, while her husband also provides care for his mother following a recent bereavement. Although they are in a position to organise and fund their own respite, the reality of day-to-day caring means that their own needs are often deprioritised, leaving little time to focus on their wellbeing or spend meaningful time together as a couple.

As their son has grown older, he no longer engages with activities designed for children with additional needs, reducing opportunities for social interaction with other parents and increasing the sense of isolation that can come with caring. The carers' event at Bryngarw House provided a gentle but important prompt to step away from these responsibilities, offering a rare opportunity to relax, reconnect and spend time with others who understand their experience. In a warm and welcoming setting, accompanied by live harp music, the couple were able to fully switch off from their usual roles and enjoy a shared moment of calm and indulgence.

> "It made us feel so special and validated, that our roles as carers matter, that we are both seen and heard. Whilst not looking for recognition I can't express how important this felt, especially when caring for someone can feel so lonely and isolating. I know I speak on behalf of myself and my husband, and also the other carers who attended, how grateful we are for this and other opportunities that Awen fund and organise."
>
> Carol

STRATEGIC PROGRESS

OUR STRATEGY 2025-30

Our vision is to create culturally vibrant communities where everyone feels they belong.

A healthy environment where future generations will benefit from a cleaner, more resilient and better understood planet.	Vibrant places to live and work with growing local economies, a proud sense of identity and where everyone has the opportunity to achieve their potential.	Everyone with the opportunity to feel engaged and a sense of purpose, with access to skills, support and help when they need it.	Healthy communities where everyone has the chance to lead healthy lives.	A sustainable organisation with Awen viewed as a responsible, fair, trusted employer and partner of choice.

The Q4 update above clearly demonstrates Awen is making significant progress towards its 2025-30 strategic aims by:

- ✔ improving lives and wellbeing;
- ✔ reducing isolation and supporting vulnerable people;
- ✔ enabling learning and creativity;
- ✔ protecting and developing valued cultural and natural spaces;
- ✔ providing inclusive, accessible experiences for all;
- ✔ strengthening community resilience through partnership working; and
- ✔ supporting employability and skills growth.

Ymddiriedolaeth
Ddiwylliannol
Cultural Trust

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Rhif gofrestredig / Company number: 09610991

Mae Ymddiriedolaeth Ddiwylliannol Awen wedi'i chofrestru yng Nghymru fel cwmni cyfyngedig drwy warant.
Awen Cultural Trust is registered in Wales as a company limited by guarantee.