



YOUTH FORUM NEWS

A Quarterly Newsletter by Mencap NI Youth Forum

WHAT'S INSIDE

**When DIY SOS came to
Bangor - Ben
McCreight page 2**

**My Space- Cora Bogue
page 3**

**Youth Forum
Recommends for
summer page 4**

**Behind the scenes of
our Fashion Shows
pages 5-8**

**Coming up-
Summer Events pages
9-10**



Welcome to the third Youth Forum News

We have some more stories that we hope you will enjoy. Since our last issue we have been planning our Fashion shows. We have had our Trash Fashion show in Belfast and are still working hard on our Fab Trash Fashion show in Enniskillen. We will give you the full run down of both shows in our next newsletter but for now we will share the behind the scenes from the planning. As well as this we have been busy outside of youth forum.



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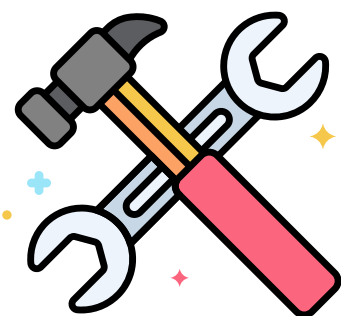
When DIY SOS came to Bangor

by Ben McCreight

About 3 years ago mum applied for DIY SOS. When Nick Knowles and DIY SOS came they made the house better. Before it was terrible and bad for mum, mum couldn't go down the stairs. They were really nice and put in a lift. It was really good and helped us so mum could get down the stairs more. When they came I went to Grannies with mum and my sister Kara while dad stayed in the caravan with the dogs.



They had to turn away people as so many people wanted to help. Some people helped by making the workmen tea and coffee. We watched it on TV as a family. I also watched it in school with my class. It was good seeing myself on TV but was weird hearing my own voice!



My Space

By Cora Bogue



After my 18th birthday, I got someone to build me a wooden shed. I love arts and crafts and I wanted a relaxing space to make cards and complete other art and crafts activities. I especially enjoy making cards for occasions such as weddings, christenings and births.



My shed is a safe relaxing area for me to listen to my favourite country music. I am a massive country music fan and love Nathan Carter!



(An example of a recent card I made in my shed)

Youth Forum Recommends

Belfast: Titanic Museum by Jonny, Riona and Ross



We recommend visiting the Titanic Museum because it tells you all about how the Titanic sank. There is also a ride that tells you how it was built that is really good.

Fermanagh: Erne Adventures, Hydrobikes by Ciara, Clodhna and Cora



We recommend visiting Erne Adventures Hydrobike experience in Enniskillen. The hydrobikes provide a low-impact, gentle aerobic workout! You can cycle the bikes all around lower lough erne and admire the beautiful scenery including Devenish Island.

Belfast Trashion Show



by Aisling, Ben, Ethan, Riona and Ross

We are having a Trashion show to raise funds for Mencap and to raise awareness about trash around the world. We want to bring awareness on climate change and how this affects people who don't have homes. We learnt about this with Habitat for Humanity. Trees, the ocean and air are all important for keeping the earth clean and we want to tell people why.

Why are we using pre loved clothes?

Because people throw away brand new clothes in the dump when they don't want them anymore. People can give them to other people and charity shops instead to stop the planet from getting worse. By using recycled clothes we can reuse them and they won't go to landfill.



Making recycled bird feeders for earth day



Meeting Mencap CEO , Edel Harris, and telling her all about our trashion show

As well as wearing preloved clothes we also wanted to make some costumes. To do this we used crisp packets, tinfoil, sponges, rubbish bags, old clothes, socks, toilet roll, cardboard, recyclables and donations.

We made car costumes to show how electric cars are better than regular cars for not polluting the planet. The sea monster was to spread awareness



Deep in thought planning all things Trashion

on fish and creatures eating plastic in the sea and the importance of reusing plastic if you have to use it at all. We will show off the pics of all our costumes in the next newsletter!



At our rehearsal in Belvoir Studio Theatre



Making our raffle prizes

Fab Trash Fashion

We are so excited to host our "Fab Trash Fashion" event to raise funds for Mencap. We wanted our title to reflect that fashion does not have to be new, up to date or expensive to be fabulous. We feel passionately about up styling, reusing and giving old clothes a new home.

We are all super excited about our individual roles within the fashion show. Some of us are collecting ticket sales money and selling some of our recycled clothes. We also have members of our youth forum modelling items of clothing and other members of our group are helping with hair, makeup and outfit changes.



Here are some of our fabulous members of Fermanagh Youth Forum modelling items of clothing for the event

What We Are Excited About!



Firstly, we are very excited about raising money for Mencap! Many of us have been in various programmes within Mencap in the past and have gained so much from the organisation. We also are very excited about raising awareness regarding the importance of recycling clothing and the impact that can have on our environment.



Clíodhna

"I am most excited about up styling and modelling the donated clothes. I love fashion and would like to have a career in this area in a few years time!"



Gregg

"I am most excited about helping sell tickets for the show and helping behind the scenes with outfit organisation and signposting. I also am looking forward to modelling some of the male items of clothing. I feel passionately about recycling clothing and giving them a second home."

Summer Events



Mencap Youth Team Celebrate Belfast Pride Festival



Pride Party

Wednesday 27th July 5-9pm

Mencap Centre Belfast

Pride Parade Saturday 30th July



Please contact julie.graham@mencap.org.uk if you are interested in attending the pride party or parade



Mencap Youth Summer Activity Days

10am-
3pm

Omagh: 25th – 27th July

Fermanagh: August dates tbc

Carrickfergus: 9th –11th August

Belfast: 16th – 18th August

16-24
year
olds



£5
per day

To register your interest please
complete this [form](#)

