CAN DO!

PAINTING IT POSITIVE
TRANSFORMING THE CANVAS OF CARDIFF

People Around Here
Community Mural Projects
Why community murals?

‘It’s stunningly good... It’s given the building a new lease of life. A really outstanding piece of art that really fits this building; it tells a story, it relates to the community... well worth the grant.’ - Former First Minister Rhodri Morgan AM.

‘The results are... vivid, lasting, and a real asset to the local community. This coming together of people is to be congratulated, and highlights the wealth of talent that lies often untapped within our communities.’
- The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of Cardiff.

‘I think the mural’s really important - it’s really changed the feel of the area.’ - Dave Horton, Ely Communities First

‘They’re all saying ‘oh it looks wonderful!’ and it does, and hopefully it will achieve what we wanted it to do where people will feel a sense of ownership and pride in their building.’ - Gloria Yates, Healthy Wealthy and Wise.

‘If each of us can do our little bit (fix that one window when it gets broken, pick up that bit of litter even when we didn’t drop it... or indeed paint a colourful, creative image on a shabby, tagged wall) this little bit can lead to a big change in our community and our experience of living there. A few people making an effort to keep a place tidy can create a snowball effect. If we start to feel like we can influence the circumstances of our lives, we feel less powerless and our self-esteem increases... Slowly our community starts to look cleaner and more looked after and we feel safer. Now it’s more difficult for the window breakers and litter droppers to operate because their actions stand out.’ - Extract from ‘Broken Windows’ on our website: www.peoplearoundhere.com
Llangedeyrn Primary School
2006-2008
'Noah's Ark', 'Woodland' and 'Bus' murals in playground.
Commissioned by - Elaine Matta
(then at Llangedeyrn Primary, later at Community Focused Schools) and Head Teacher.
Pupils involved in design and painting of murals.
Above: ‘Stained glass’ mural at St. Anne’s Church in Wales Primary School, Roath, 2008. Commissioned by Head Teacher. Designed with pupils.

The Court Special School, Llanishen, 2006-2010

Bike sheds mural painted by local volunteers.
'Castle' and 'Pirates' murals on external school walls, with design ideas from pupils.
Projects commissioned by Peter Owens, Head Teacher.

Peter spoke at our 'CAN DO' launch event (March 2010) about the positive impact of projects.
RUNDOWN sheds at a special needs school have been transformed thanks to a local artist. A bike shed and PE storage shed at the Court School, Llanishen, Cardiff, have been covered in colourful murals.

Artist Bill Taylor-Beales, 41, from Roath, has set up a charitable trust called People Around Here to help artists work with community groups, and his team were behind the school's facelift.

It took the team of 10 volunteers six hours to paint murals at the school, in Station Road, Llanishen.

Peter Owen, head teacher of Court School, said staff and pupils were delighted. He said: "One child spent his whole playtime sat on the grass looking at them, he was so fixated."

Mr Taylor-Beales is holding a free charity gig and art auction this Friday to raise money for the Marie Curie hospice in Penarth, at The Gate Arts Centre, Kepnock Street, Roath, Cardiff, at 7.30pm.
Bishop Childs
Church in Wales Primary School, St. Mellons, 2010

Woodland scene corridor mural
Designed with pupils including a competition (winner helped paint).
Commissioned by Angela Davies (Head Teacher). School fundraising.
Roath Park Primary School Playground, 2011

Commissioned by the school. Designed with the school council. Voluntary project as part of the Made in Roath festival. Local community helped to paint.

Glyn Derw High School Community Garden, Ely, 2011

Commissioned by Ruth McDonald, funded by Community Focused Schools. Transition project - mural painted by year 6 pupils from 3 primary schools and year 7 pupils from Glyn Derw together.
ARTISTIC youngsters will take part in an innovative new project to transform tired communities.

Cardiff-based charity People Around Here launched its Can Do! initiative during a special event last week.

Young and old joined forces at the Gate Arts Centre in Roath for an evening of music, art and video.

Folk singer Martyn Joseph performed live and was accompanied by 15-year-old Molly Holt, who made her debut stage appearance.

Can Do! is an intergenerational project which uses the power of the paintbrush to bring colour and positivity into people’s lives.

Organisers hope to mobilise participants from a number of different backgrounds to “paint it positive” across the city.

Charity principal Bill Taylor-Beales said: “We believe in the potential of the arts to inspire, encourage and educate, to build community and to help people to realise their potential.

“We had been gathering stories from Cardiff people about the places they live, the struggles they face and their hopes for the future. We are seeing an enormous impact in disadvantaged communities through people working together to create something they can be proud of.”

Since 2006, People Around Here has worked with around 2,000 children and young people across Cardiff and the surrounding area.

The group brightens up schools, subways, parks and estates by mobilising communities to work together.

In one of their recent makeovers, volunteers designed a dragon mural at the Court Special School in Llanishen.

Charity worker Becky Matyus said the Can Do! launch was very well received.

She added: “Two young men from Ely performed a rap they had written themselves, inspired by the stories of older people never giving up but persevering through difficult times in life and drawing on family and friends for support.

“Live graffiti art, video and music added to the presentation from People Around Here to launch Can Do! and more than 60 people were inspired to be part of the project in some way.”

South Wales Echo, March 2010.
Maindy Leisure Centre, Cathays, 2006

Project commissioned by Maindy Leisure Centre and Elaine Matta, funded by Community Focused Schools.

Transition project with design competition with year 6 pupils from 4 schools. Judged by representatives of local press and Cardiff Council.
2006-2008  (Above, Below, Right)

Maelfa Community Centre, Llandeilo
Abersychan Youth Hut (Princes Trust)
The Gate Arts Centre, Roath
Tremorfa park
Splott, 2009

Mural on the bike container owned by Communities First. Project initiated by ourselves, funded by a grant from Communities First Trust Fund.

We worked with a local youth group and the Youth Service to design and paint the mural.
Subway in St. Mellons, 2010

With St. Mellons Communities First and Cardiff Youth Service. Funded by Awards for All.

Part of an intergenerational project with 3 primary schools, a coffee morning and gentlemen's bowls group. Mural designed and painted with St. Mellons Youth Club. Public consultations with Rhian Anderson (Communities first) and Cllr. Ralph Cook.
Children put their art into new-look subway

YOUNGSTERS have turned a graffiti-covered eyesore into a brightly coloured work of art.

Cardiff-based charity People Around Here organised a transformation of the subway off Jenkins Way in St Mellons.

Seven local youngsters worked with city artist Bill Taylor-Beale to create a mural of inspirational messages.

But schoolchildren and pensioners also had an input into the Can Do! intergenerational project, which uses the power of the paintbrush to bring colour and positivity into people's lives.

Volunteers from St Mellons Community Education Centre drew up the designs themselves, inspired by the life stories of those around them.

Charity principal Mr Taylor-Beale said: "This project has been a powerful example of how the arts can be used to bring generations together in a struggling estate.

"The young people were truly inspired by the passion and determination of their older neighbours. Living in a neighbourhood that feels neglected and unsafe has an impact on a person's perception of themselves, their neighbour and their community.

"It can leave residents feeling anxious. The Can Do! initiative is proving that through simple creative acts, we can help communities to regain a sense of empowerment and transform tired estates into proud, engaging communities."

Helper James Attard, 11, said he was looking forward to the next makeover after four hours of painting.

People Around Here is hoping to carry out similar work on the area's three other subways.

Charity worker Becky Matyas said the Can Do! project had been very well received.

"It was a great day, the weather was fantastic and the young people worked really hard," she added.
POTV (Power of the Voice)
intergenerational murals, 2010/11

Two separate mural projects (this page and opposite) with young people from POTV and older people from Rumney Healthy Wealthy and Wise Group and Cardiff Older People’s Forum working together to design and paint murals on boards for mobile exhibition.

Commissioned by young people, with Cardiff Youth Service, funded by EU.
(Funding applied for by young people).
2010
Project commissioned by Cardiff Youth Service. Community mural, painted on shop property with permission from owners.

This is still graffiti-free, even without any preventative coating applied. The Youth Service have since invited us to lead a proposed mural project in Gabalfa subway.
Mural makeover for Cardiff community space

Residents in Ely, Cardiff, have transformed the outside of their community centre by working with an artist to create a large mural.

The building, which sits in the centre of the community, is a focal point for residents.

The former Trelai library is now home to Age Concern's Healthy Wealthy Wise project which runs activities for the 50+ age group.

Artist Bill Taylor Beales helped residents create the artwork.

Former First Minister Rhodri Morgan AM and the Lord Mayor of Cardiff officially unveiled the wall mural at an event on 14 September.

The idea for a community mural came from Age Concern Cardiff and Vale who own the building. It’s been funded by the Welsh Assembly Government’s Local Environmental Quality Improvement Projects Grant Scheme.

They asked the community arts organisation People Around Here and artist Bill Taylor Beales to get involved as they’d had previous experience of creating community arts projects.

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When Bill started working with Age Concern he asked local people what their priorities were in terms of design. As the centre is situated at the heart of the community they wanted a design which had input from all ages and reflected what community meant to them.

Everyone living locally was invited to workshops at the centre to discuss ideas for the mural design.

Bill said: "One of the ideas that came out was the ice cream van, the idea that it something that goes around the area, it's part of your neighbourhood, everyone remembers it. It was about finding symbols that represented what community means to people.”

Over the August bank holiday members of the community, older people, local residents, artist and volunteers from Cardiff’s People Around Here community arts charity picked up paintbrushes and covered the three outside walls of the library with the mural.

Bill says that the mural has raised the profile of the building in the area and that people are asking about what happens in the centre.

"It’s a central hub for the community, it's on the roundabout everyone drives around it you can't help but see it and not be uplifted, especially when you know the community were involved in creating it. It'll help bring the community closer together.”
Old Trelai Library
Ely, 2010

Commissioned by Age Concern (who own the building) and funded by a WAG Local Environmental Quality Improvement grant.

We worked with the Healthy, Wealthy and Wise group, young people from the Dusty Forge and local residents to design and paint the entire outside of the building.

This was officially opened by the Mayor (Cllr. Keith Hyde) and Rhodri Morgan in September 2010. After one small tag in October, the mural was repaired and the building has remained graffiti-free since then. Age Concern and Ely Communities First have had continuous positive feedback about the mural.
Community transforms old building

This community building in Ely, Cardiff, has been transformed by a striking wrap-around mural designed and painted by local residents. Members of an art group, which meets at the Old Dalri Library on Bishopton Road, teamed up with local youngsters, volunteers, residents and community artist Bill Taylor-Bailes to transform the outside of the building, which is home to Age Concern's Healthy Wealthy and Wise project, into a colourful work of art.

Gloria Yates, project manager for Healthy, Wealthy and Wise, said: “It’s absolutely fantastic. The whole outside of the building has been transformed.

“It’s very much a community project.

“What they tried to achieve is art reflecting a vibrant community.

“It was very much an intergenerational project, which is very positive.”

A series of art workshops were held to explore thoughts and views about the community, the building and the mural. The project was funded by Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and the building received a £15,000 grant from the City Council’s．．．

South Wales Echo  Wednesday, 15 September, 2010
'Megan’ murals in Adamsdown, 2011

Part of our Anti-Dog Fouling Campaign. One mural in Anderson Fields and another in Fox Lane bearing the slogan: 'Any bag and a bin, scoop it, tie it, drop it in'. Commissioned by Adamsdown Communities First, Funded by Tidy Towns. Cllr. Nigel Howells involved in schools competition as part of the campaign.
Changing Rooms, Ely, 2011

Project commissioned by Ely Garden Villagers after seeing the Mill Road mural. Funded by Ely Communities First. Building was previously heavily graffitied. We worked with North Ely Youth Centre and the football teams to design and paint the mural. Cardiff Council applied an anti-graffiti coating to protect the artwork from tagging.
Parc Coed Y Nant Underpass
Pentwyn, 2011

Subway mural by Pentwyn Lake behind the leisure centre. Commissioned by Cardiff Council (Neighbourhood Regeneration Team and Countryside/River Corridors Teams). Funded by Tidy Towns. Designed with pupils from Llanedeyrn primary, older people, mums and toddlers at the Powerhouse cafe, and painted with local community volunteers and year 5 pupils. Very positive feedback from passers by. The Neighbourhood Regeneration Team worked with council departments and local Councillors on consultation. We also held a public consultation in Pentwyn Leisure Centre.
Pupils turn dingy underpass into colourful countryside
Commissioned by Cardiff Council and funded by Tidy Towns. We collected design ideas from all ages in the local community, including:
100 children from three local primary schools (St. David’s, St. Bernadette’s and Glan yr Afon), the youth group at The Dome Youth Centre, Pontprennau Community Centre Arts & Crafts, 100+ local residents, the local police and Clirs. Diane Rees and Jane Rogers.
Most of these groups also helped to paint the 300m² mural.
Over 5 days we had fantastic comments from dog walkers, etc. and requests to paint other community murals in nearby locations.

The design brings together the biodiversity in the countryside and wildlife of Pontprennau with the diversity of community life, with individual designs painted on trucks (the subway runs under the A48). Monitoring with local community and councillors will be ongoing.
Mural brightens up city subway

A HUGE mural designed to cover up graffiti and bring together members of the community has been completed in a city subway.

The project, on Church Road, Pontprennau, was led by community arts charity People Around Here.

The group collected designs from local school children, residents, youth groups, and the police.

The ideas were brought together into a final design by artists Bill Taylor-Beales and Mark Alexander.

The design, which features eight trucks bearing an image of one of the community groups, brings together the biodiversity of the countryside and wildlife of Pontprennau with the diversity of community life.

Mr Taylor-Beales said: "When areas are left covered with graffiti it creates an invitation for more crime, such as fly-tipping. "This mural sends a vi
How it all happens...

“An effective community mural belongs to the whole community.”

Community Mural Projects Process:
1. Ensure permission has been obtained from the owner(s) of the public space.
2. Meet with all interested parties to discuss project. This could include Councillors, council departments, schools, public services, local police, community forums, youth groups, etc.
3. Gather design ideas through workshops in local schools and other community groups.
4. Artist creates design from locally generated ideas. Public consultation on design, incl. all interested parties.
5. Any amendments made. Final approval obtained. Local community, incl. schools, invited to join in and paint the mural together with team of artists.
6. Anti-graffiti coating applied to mural.
7. Press launch to share success.
8. Community encouraged to report graffiti or litter and continue to monitor their mural’s ongoing effectiveness.
www.peoplearoundhere.com

People Around Here deliver Community Arts Initiatives to educate, enable and inspire. For more information about community murals and other projects incl. film making, music videos, school transition projects, etc. please contact: info@peoplearoundhere.com / 07989 713696 / www.peoplearoundhere.com
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