



Launch Event

Tuesday the 17th of June saw the launch of Enterprising Minds, our ground breaking project, in partnership with North Ayrshire Council and Ayrshire and Arran NHS, which will support people living with learning disabilities or autism to explore their gifts, talents and ideas towards designing creative new meaningful community activities through enterprise.

75 people attended the event at Menzies Hotel in Irvine;

were inspired by stories of enterprising individuals told by Angela Catley of Community Catalysts; wowed by Alexander Warren of AJP Dreams and his notion of flamboyant dreaming, and enthused by members of The Hive, a group of people living with learning disabilities who are setting up their own community social group.



One of the highlights was the Big Brother video booth which gave people one, very popular, way to answer the burning questions of the day: what do you care about? what are you good at? what is your idea? Our thanks to Eileen Frater, of Prancing Jack, who edited the footage in record time so it could be viewed on the day. Everyone took part in workshops looking at talents, interests and ideas which could become enterprises, either to generate personal income or on a voluntary basis to provide meaningful activity for themselves and their peers and to contribute to their community. The room was buzzing with energy as people shared their ideas - from dog walking to crochet, film clubs to IT tuition.

Alyson Miller, the project's coordinator, will now work to harness those talents and help people develop their ideas. If you missed the launch - don't worry, it's not too late to get involved. Just contact Alyson on [07764774133](tel:07764774133) or alyson.miller@hansel.org.uk.

We are also looking for community members - people, individuals or businesses, with assets, skills or connections which could be helpful to the entrepreneurs as they hone their ideas and develop their enterprise. If this could be you Alyson would love to hear from you.





North Ayrshire Community Hive



The Hive is a new club for people to get together every Wednesday from 7pm till 9pm in Erskine Hall, Kilwinning. It is open for anyone with a learning disability, over the age of 16, living in North Ayrshire. The Hive was set up by a group of people with learning disabilities, getting support from Hansel NASL and Hansel Enterprising Minds, although the club will be completely independent. The Hive is run by members, for members. There will be a range of activities on offer, but The Hive want the members to choose what they want to do. Suggestions so far include 5 a side football, learn how to make jewellery and to have a slimming group.

The Hive are having an opening night on Wednesday 30th July, 7pm till 9pm at the Erskine Hall in Kilwinning (across from Ayrshire College). Refreshments and a raffle will be available on the night!

If you want more information, or feel you have a skill or talent you want to share with The Hive please get in touch!

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Are you a business or community member who would like to get involved? Contact Alyson on 07764774133 or alyson.miller@hansel.org.uk

Stay in Touch!!!

If you would like to receive regular newsletters and keep in touch with Enterprising Minds please send your details to Alyson on alyson.miller@hansel.org.uk