



# Founder Patron Newsletter February 2025



Welcome to the February edition of our Founder Patrons Newsletter, and the first of this year! 2025 will be an exciting year for The Dome – from starting construction to building community partnerships, there's a lot going on behind the scenes. Throughout it all, we're looking forward to working with our fantastic Founder Patrons to deliver this transformative project for young people in Crewe.

-Stuart Manifould, CEO

# INTRODUCING CHELSEY ROBERTS, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

Chelsey runs The Dome's Young Person's Development Group, tailoring sessions to the requests of the group, like mental health workshops or the chance to try something new, like learning how to DJ!



Before joining us at The Dome, Chelsey ran expeditions to the mountains for young people, giving them the chance to build skills and resilience in ways that they can't normally access. She still loves organising climbs in the mountains, though, whenever she gets the chance.

On what she was looking forward to about the Youth Zone, she said: "I think The Dome will be an inspiring and visionary place. There's lots of things happening behind the scenes that will really make The Dome outstanding in its field in terms of what it offers to young people. I feel very excited about that!"

# WELCOMING NWF AS OUR NEWEST FOUNDER PATRON



NWF Group is a UK-based specialist distributor operating in three key sectors: fuels, food and agriculture, and The Dome will be based near the Group's head office and many of its business operations

On our partnership, Chief Executive Chris Belsham told us: "Becoming a Founder Patron of The Dome reflects our passion to support the communities where our colleagues and their families – and our future colleagues – call home.

The people of Crewe are fundamental to the success of our Group and, given that three of our businesses; NWF Fuels, Boughey Distribution and NWF Agriculture have considerable presence close to Crewe, we hope that our support of The Dome can make a real difference to young people's life chances."

#### **BUILDINGS UPDATE**

If you've passed by our site recently, you might have noticed that work is underway! Our archaeological survey uncovered a surprisingly intact, Victorian chapel, complete with kitchen and fireplace as well as some glass bottles. The archive photo (top left) from the late 1800s even shows us the chapel's congregation.

The findings will be cleaned, documented and removed from the site. Click <u>here</u> at 1:38 to listen to Stuart, our CEO, discuss the site on BBC Radio Stoke.









## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEVELOPMENT GROUP - MEET OUR CORRESPONDENTS!**



YPDG Members at The Dome Brand Launch

We're Dante, Aimee, Chloe, Jasmine, and Will. We've been a part of the YPDG since last March.

The YPDG is a group of young people who meet weekly and design parts of the Youth Zone, like the brand and hoardings for the building site.

Since we've joined, in these ten months, we have sorted out the name 'The Dome' by means of elimination – first by us, until it was down to two names, and then it was down to the general public.

Once the name had been chosen, we then started with design and colours which best represents 'The Dome'. We decided on pastel colours and monochrome, as it stands out but still sends a cooling vibe to the Youth Zone.

In each edition of this newsletter, our wonderful YPDG correspondents will be delivering the latest on their activities, plans for The Dome, and perspectives on life as a young person in Crewe.

### **SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

OnSide's recent <u>Return on Social Investment report</u> is in! This means we can measure our impact by what matters most – the difference Youth Zones make to young people and their communities. The report shows that an incredible £13 of social value is generated for every £1 invested in a Youth Zone.

The report found that what young people most value about their Youth Zone is having somewhere to go where they can have fun, having a safe space, and the confidence boost they can help provide.

# NEWS FROM THE NETWORK: BURBERRY INSPIRES

Last month, the OnSide Network's partner, Burberry, hosted sixty young people from twelve Youth Zones in their Leeds office for their Burberry Inspires event, where they had the chance



to hear industry insights and pitch their own creative ideas. Take a look at <u>this video</u> to find out more!

Partnerships like these open doors for young people, giving them the confidence and inspiration to fulfil their potential. The Dome is looking forward to doing the same for the young people of Crewe, thanks to your support!



The Dome Youth Zone



@thedomeyz



The Dome Youth Zone



<u>@thedomeyz</u>

#### **NEWS FROM THE NETWORK**

Video: Mala's Story

Mala shares her experiences as a Youth Zone member, and how it helped her improve her confidence and look after her mental health.



Measuring What Matters in Youth Work OnSide's CEO, Jamie Masraff, reflects how we measure the impact we can have on young people.

Barnsley Youth Zone Branding Revealed!
After a vote by over 3000 young people in Barnsley, the new Youth Zone has officially been named Base71!

Cindy Ngamba on Youth Sports
Former Youth Zone member Cindy shares
her story about becoming the first medal
winner for the Refugee Olympic Team.

#### RESEARCH UPDATE



We were thrilled to attend Motherwell's research update, investigating the ways in which young women engage with youth provision. We're so excited to implement the findings into The Dome to make it as welcoming as possible for young people.