

Lloyds Bank and Bank of Scotland Social Entrepreneurs Programme



Graduation Booklet

Celebrating 10 years

• 2021/22 •

North West



Impact & successes

The Lloyds Bank and Bank of Scotland Social Entrepreneurs Programme is run in partnership with the School for Social Entrepreneurs (SSE) and jointly funded by The National Lottery Community Fund.

The programme supports social entrepreneurs at different stages of their social enterprise journey to develop the skills, strengths and networks they need to make a positive difference and tackle society's biggest problems. Each social entrepreneur engages in a comprehensive 12-month learning programme that is inspiring, action-based and accessible. There are three entry levels - Start Up, Trade Up and Scale Up - within the programme, which includes a Match Trading® grant and a mentor from Lloyds Banking Group.

This is the 10th year of support and we are proud that nationally:

- Over 2,600 entrepreneurs have been supported by the programme since 2012
- Just under 2 million people benefited from the social enterprises on this programme

In the Northwest

- 375 entrepreneurs have been supported by the North West programmes since 2012
- Just over 200,000 people benefited from the social enterprises on these North West programmes.

About Match Trading grants

Lloyds Banking Group and The National Lottery Community Fund were pioneers of the Match Trading® grant innovation as part of this programme. These grants support the trading ambitions of organisations in the social economy and match pound-for-pound an increase in income from trading.

Launched in 2017 and created by the School for Social Entrepreneurs (SSE), 650 social enterprises and community businesses have received Match Trading grants so far.

Want to know more? Visit: [matchtrading.com](https://www.matchtrading.com)





A message from the CEO



Alastair Wilson

It's our 10th year of graduations and our social entrepreneurs continue to inspire us on this programme. They are creating social, environmental and economic impact in a world where deep systemic inequalities cannot be solved by a traditional top-down approach.

Armed with the vision, networks, skills and entrepreneurial mindset, our graduates are uniquely placed to bring about the change they want to see in the world. I cannot wait to see what they do next.

We hope this programme continues to support entrepreneurs at all stages of their journey. It's a lonely road being a social entrepreneur and they need funding and support now more than ever.

A message from the Head of SSE Northwest



Lisa Mairah

It's been an absolute honour and privilege to support the social entrepreneurs over this past year and see them rise to the challenge of making a difference in our communities.

The commitment, passion and determination they've shown to start and develop your businesses has been inspirational to see. We're excited to continue supporting them as SSE Fellows and can't wait to see them and their social enterprises go from strength to strength.

Thank you to our funders and partners for making this programme possible and to everyone who has contributed to our work, we truly appreciate you.





Lloyds Bank Social Entrepreneurs Start Up Programme





Ali Wilson

Every Brain



"Plan your breaks and keep to them. No one can build anything on an empty stomach."

About the organisation

Every Brain supports, platforms and commissions neurodivergent artists and promotes the benefits of neurodiversity to the creative sector. In 2021 Every Brain launched a guide for organisations on how to support neurodiversity in the work place, and established a training offer which has been delivered in arts organisations across the country.

What has SSE taught you?

SSE has given me a solid understanding of mission, values and purpose to running a social engagement project. I have gained insight into the challenges of this kind of entrepreneurship and understand how to critically evaluate activity as it builds.





Ayisatu Emore

Idaraya Life CIC



"Be clear on why your work is necessary and find a core group to support you from the beginning."

About the organisation

Idaraya Life CIC is an inclusive and holistic health and wellbeing service providing access to physical and mental wellbeing activities to women in Wigan. We are centred around the experience of women from racially marginalised communities and work hard to host safe spaces for cross-cultural and multi-generational connections while building up physical activity.

What has SSE taught you?

That I can dream big and make a real difference in my community. Between understanding the value of relational connections, networking, strategic planning and fundraising, I have been able to develop confidence, clarify my values and keep focused to support our community through our work.





Chrisie Byrne

Walton Hall Park CIC



"Learn from each other."

About the organisation

Walton Hall Park is a beautiful 130-acre park in North Liverpool. It's loved by everyone that lives both in the surrounding area and the wider community. It's such a vital space, offering a beautiful and much needed sanctuary in a built-up area where the many terraced homes don't have their own gardens or green spaces to enjoy.

Walton Hall Park CIC was born out of The Friends of Walton Hall Park group which was first formed in August 2014. The park has a long history but in recent years it was left to decline, so local residents chose to come together to make a difference. Their work has gone from strength to strength, saving the park from the threat of mass development, opening up an onsite community café, as well as providing a range of education and wellbeing workshops such as cycling, walking, beekeeping and yoga.

What has SSE taught you?

The SSE course has been a real opportunity to learn from people who know their stuff. It's been an opportunity to learn and achieve with other entrepreneurs and to now go on to make a difference to my community.





Elanor Gordon

Little Bats Learning CIC



"Aim high, be ambitious, and also make sure you have the right tools, expertise and people to make it happen."

About the organisation

Little Bats Learning CIC is based in East Bolton. We are passionate about both people and planet's needs being understood, to ensure we all have the opportunity for optimal human development. We do this through the delivery of quality forest schools. We work with parents to support building healthy foundations; we work directly with children to give them the space to pursue their own need to play, learn by doing, be physical and get active.

We value the whole person's needs; embrace diversity in people and nature. We are qualified forest school leaders and trained volunteers, and develop continuously; we walk alongside our young learners, open our minds to learn from them – we are reflective practitioners; we follow the science of how the brain works and model healthy ways to behave; we are run for families by families – we share our lived experience to help others.

What has SSE taught you?

Without the input of the SSE, I wouldn't have gained clarity on our purpose, our vision, our direction. I have gained all the key tools that we need as an organisation to make ourselves visible and relevant. Hearing from those who've gone before us has been invaluable to give me the confidence that we can and will achieve our aims. I've loved working with our cohort, and know we will forever be each other's cheerleaders.





Gillian Seale

Tailored Yarn Memories



"Sort finances first and find people you trust with experience to guide you on your journey."

About the organisation

We support bereaved families by preserving memories in artwork and stories for children. We work closely with hospices and deliver legacy painting training for staff. Our stories help bring comfort and healing to children while encouraging conversations about loved ones who have passed away.

Our work also takes us into local schools and we have created educational material based around our first published book, Postpixie Missing in Action.

As a Community Interest Company, our board of six, our volunteers and all our stakeholders are striving to address diversity in literature and are working to ensure we see more characters with disabilities represented in children's literature.

What has SSE taught you?

About successfully building partnerships with other social enterprises. We've also learned a lot about creating, measuring and reporting on social impact.



Hayley Coggins

Shine Programme



"Always remember why you started and allow your passion and creativity to shine the way forward."

About the organisation

The Shine programme has evolved and flourished over many years and is an innovative product of Hayley's dedication to mental wellness in education, empowering children to build their confidence, wellbeing, self-esteem and aspirations through expressive arts and holistic wellbeing interventions.

Shine engages children of all ages and of all abilities and is currently reaching large numbers of children across five Lancashire primary schools. The creative elements of the programme enable children to thrive by utilising an abundance of recycled materials to ignite children's imaginations. The programme naturally guides children on a reflective and transformative journey to build their resilience and self-worth.

In addition to group workshops Shine encourages children to create meaningful works of art which are exhibited to inspire and mark empowering international days in big spaces including Waterstones Ormskirk, John Lewis Liverpool and Wayfarers Arcade in Southport. Shine is featured in the press as an inspiring success story and we are so excited for our next chapter!

What has SSE taught you?

SSE has been an empowering journey and has enabled me to strengthen and grow my business whilst cementing my belief in becoming a confident and successful social entrepreneur. Having focused time to connect, share and reflect with like-minded people has been so encouraging and inspiring. The depth of business knowledge and skills covered by SSE has been so valuable and taught me the most effective ways to approach investors as well as ways to sustain my business.





Jennifer John

Liverpool Sings CIC



"Dream big, plan well, ask questions and collaborate."

About the organisation

Liverpool Sings is a community interest company spearheaded by award winning composer, choir leader and music mentor, Jennifer John.

The aim of the company is to develop links with community groups, housing associations, performance artists, creative organisations, faith groups, community choirs and individuals who are interested in vocal expression in order to nurture a deeper understanding of the cultural diversities that exist across the Liverpool City Region. It will do this through the facilitation of large scale singing projects that gather the stories of marginalised individuals and groups within those communities and transforms them into original choral compositions. Those composition will be performed by choirs and community groups throughout the city region.

The participants will learn new skills, build confidence and will experience increased social cohesion through singing workshops, collaborations, live performances and recording opportunities.

What has SSE taught you?

It has taught me that there are ways of engaging with communities which are non traditional. This model of enterprise, although business driven, is all about people. It's all about how to empower people and communities. It is about caring, community cohesion and equality for all people.



Jernice Easthope

0483 Limited



"Turn up, make friends and enjoy the journey. Its the best place to keep on track and develop your business from idea to action."

About the organisation

The aim of 0483 Limited is to guide, provide a path and empower Black Creatives within the media and music sector.

What has SSE taught you?

SSE has taught me to understand:

- The power of communication, listening and applying action.
- The fundamental aspects of business and the avenue a start up business can take.
- How not all businesses fit in to the same box, but having a strong clear vision can lead you in the right direction.





Katy McGunigle

Perception of Time



"We live what we do so make sure you look after yourself!"

About the organisation

Katy McGunigle is a Liverpool based Health and Social Care specialist who works to address health inequalities faced by the Deaf/deaf community when accessing healthcare. She aims to give the Deaf/deaf community a stronger voice when working with health practitioners, specialists and agencies responsible for policy and accessibility.

Katy has also developed Perception of Time, an audio play based on true events. It is used as an education tool to help inform and educate audiences about the cancer journey from a patient's perspective.

What has SSE taught you?

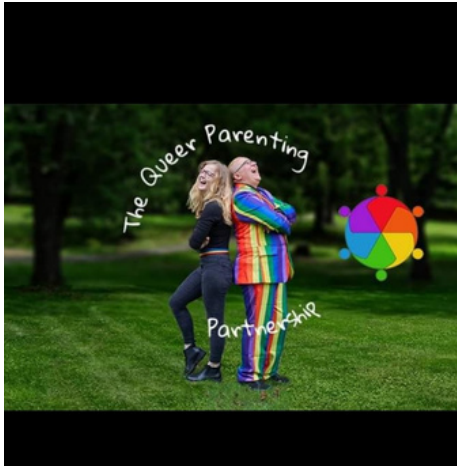
This journey has enabled me to share my skills around what it means to truly be inclusive. It's also enabled me to reflect on all I've achieved and what still needs to be done.





Kayleah Logan

The Queer Parenting Partnership



"Surround yourself with those that uplift and inspire you."

About the organisation

LGBTQ+ families are underrepresented in research, education and clinical care. We intend to raise awareness of the needs of LGBTQ+ families in perinatal care and support these families in whichever way they need us. We educate practitioners on the needs of families and we advocate for them. We also hold a safe space for families to network and learn about their own pregnancies, babies and bodies.

What has SSE taught you?

SSE has inspired me to look at obstacles from different angles and to create innovative approaches to expand my organisation.





Kevin Hartley

Veterans Tribe CIC



**"Sharing is caring
Superstars."**

About the organisation

Veterans Tribe CIC promotes the value of creative and therapeutic activities for individuals and their family members, to achieve positive mental health and well-being. We will deliver 12 creative informal fun sessions in the Greater Manchester area. The activities will include arts and crafts, model making, watercolour painting, rock painting, creative workshops, well-being sessions, cooking, creative writing, reading, and a monthly book club. All activities will provide a relaxing environment, and introduce new skills to challenge and develop, which improves mental health and well-being.

What has SSE taught you?

It's been great to work with superstars in all genres that want to change lives and empower people. Sharing tips, and ideas to support disadvantaged people. It has taught me a lot about the behind-the-scenes work and planning needed to be a successful entity.





Mike Richards

Talk About It Mate



"If you don't do it...
who will?"

About the organisation

What is the impact of being seen, heard, valued and understood? Talk About It Mate delivers spaces where people can connect and support each other using the power of peer support. We believe each individual is an expert in their own life and they can bring this lived experience with them to our groups. We deliver community groups for men, mixed groups, walking groups as well as a growing range of corporate services. We go one step further than raising awareness of mental health and wellbeing, creating a platform to do the work. Our aim is to provide people with greater self-awareness, coping skills and a place to belong, supported by our core values of courage, compassion and connection.

What has SSE taught you?

SSE has taught me to be persistent and keep going as I try to create grassroots change. From the very first day, I was struck by the idea of being a disruptor. I have wrestled with this ever since and my confidence has grown as a leader and also as an individual. I have had to acknowledge that often my own anxieties, lack of confidence and impostor syndrome has made me fearful of growth. Now I'm equipped to manage that.





Natalie Denny

Skywriters Ltd



**"Embrace the challenge.
Everything taught won't be
for you but you have to know
the rules to break them."**

About the organisation

Established in 2020, Skywriters Ltd was borne out of the heartache of a pandemic in an attempt to lift heads and hearts. The organisation's mission is to use creative education, training and consultancy as a catalyst for uplifting personal and social impact experiences for individuals, communities and businesses. Some of our work includes:

- Working in partnership with Halton Borough Council and ELLA supporting children and adults with disabilities to access creative writing workshops and showcase their stories in a community exhibition.
- A Book Treasure Hunt for families.
- Working with Curious Minds and National Museums Liverpool supporting Black young people to produce a book and celebrate Black History Month.
- Advising FACT Liverpool on their Open Call Recruitment practices and formulation of their organisational EDI Glossary.

Skywriters is an award winning social enterprise, crowned Merseyside Independent Business Awards Best Start Up of the Year in October 2022.

What has SSE taught you?

The importance of peer support and development. Understanding what business strategies and tools are best for you. Knowing when to say no. How vital the Theory of Change is in underpinning and dictating your business model.





Paula Thompson

Spectrum Connect CIC



"Take your time in the planning phase, this will help with the journey ahead."

About the organisation

We empower adults with Less Complex Needs Autism (LCNA) to connect with others to reduce isolation, build confidence and self-esteem and look at what matters to them as individuals. Our activity/support/ peer mentor programme offer hope, a happier future and a chance for adults with LCNA to be who they are and to be proud of that.

Before our intervention, all parents/carers of the adults we support highlighted that their offspring were socially isolated and had no friends, which caused daily anxiety and stress for not only their offspring, but themselves and the wider family unit. Our dedicated staff, volunteers and peer mentors help the adults we support to make friends, access community activities safely which builds their confidence and self-esteem, builds on their social skills, promotes independence and reduces mental health issues. I know that together we can create the best outcomes for adults with autism and their families.

What has SSE taught you?

I particularly enjoyed the Action Learning sessions with other cohort members, and I have been inspired by my fellow cohort members and other social entrepreneurs who have been on a similar journey. I have learnt to take some time out to reflect when I feel under pressure which has helped me.





Rachel Waite

Holistic Harmonies CIC



**"Don't try and do it alone -
find another business similar
to yours and share the
journey!"**

About the organisation

Holistic Harmonies uses music, movement and song to promote positive wellbeing and togetherness for the family and wider community across all lifespans. Based in Liverpool, Rachel Waite (Director) established Holistic Harmonies in 2018 and has created a vibrant community in the city region. Since March 2020 this work has relocated online ensuring a continued source of support and education. This has enabled them to reach a growing national and international community via:

- Singing Mamas for women of all ages (accompanied children welcome)
- Music & Movement sessions in the community for children and adults
- Singing For Wellbeing Groups and workshops
- Family social events
- Targeted projects linked to developing cross-generational practice within social care settings

What has SSE taught you?

- I've learnt to look after myself first and foremost
- To keep coming back to my WHY; it underpins everything
- To understand my value in both the charitable and corporate worlds
- It's ok to ask for help

Peer support is invaluable and necessary for self development and business development





Rebecca Brooks

3D Interact



"When you're feeling overwhelmed reflect on what you have achieved."

About the organisation

3D Interact is a Liverpool based theatre company and practitioner that empowers our clients and helps audiences and participants to direct/write/be part of the message it is telling. We believe that art can change the world and we work to empower people by giving them a voice through live performances and interactive theatre workshops. These platforms allow for the sharing of community stories, messages, histories and lessons.

We pride ourselves on working with the client, getting to know them, to make the experience as bespoke as possible and this has led to strong relationships with the likes of British Commercial Vehicle Museum, The Spider Project, Liverpool Down Syndrome Society and Mencap.

Our performances usually highlight important subjects through fun interactive theatre methods such as community, the environment, belonging, friendship, togetherness and positivity.

What has SSE taught you?

To have procedures and contracts in place to help with difficult situations. They have taught me to believe in my cause and to reflect on what I have achieved and the difference I have made.





Tia Morris

Calderstones Touch Tennis CIC



"Understand your values and ensure your company stands by them"

About the organisation

The organisation was set up with an ambition to make tennis more accessible and inclusive in our community. We do this through delivering touchtennis to communities, a simplified version of tennis with sponge balls and small rackets and a court.

We deliver coaching blocks to SEN schools, Young Leader programmes, charitable organisations, refugees, asylum seekers, some of which are in the most deprived areas of the city. We also run community sessions open to anyone and have funded children who can't access tennis to join the programme. Our main goal is to break down any barriers and engage with hard to reach communities so more people can experience the positive impact of sport.

What has SSE taught you?

SSE has really helped me with the business side of things such as business planning, strategies, marketing and pitching. All of the important things, aside from delivering, that can add to the success of the business.





Lloyds Bank Social Entrepreneurs Trade Up Programme





Amanda Elwen

The Emily Davison Centre



"Be brave, work hard, realise your ambitions."

About the organisation

The Emily Davison Centre (EDC) is a 7000 square foot new build in East Lancashire and is home to 5 Ending Violence Against Women and Girls charities. The services in the centre provide support to 10,000 victims of abuse, exploitation and / or violence per annum. We have 33 frontline staff members provide the direct services.

Services include refuge and safe house accommodation, therapeutic services, children and young peoples support, legal and benefits, stalking and harassment and specialist by and for services for Black, Minority Ethnic people, Transgender and Non Binary people.

In addition to direct services the EDC also provides office space, conferencing facilities, paddle boarding and water sports and training.

What has SSE taught you?

To be more confident in trading. SSE has increased my skills and knowledge so I am no longer afraid to trade as a business. It helped me make the shift from thinking as a non profit to a profit making enterprise.





Asumani Susho

Bradford African Community (BAC)



**"Network, network, network...
build up a pool of supporters
you can trust."**

About the organisation

Bradford African Community (BAC) aim to promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people, in particular (but without limitation) African refugees and asylum seekers residing in Bradford and Yorkshire, from becoming socially excluded. We provide the following services which relieve the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assist them to integrate into society:

- Education and training in the English language.
- Homework support classes.
- Social and recreational facilities and events

Our objective is to encourage those granted legal status to remain in the country to engage, participate, adapt, integrate and contribute fully to British society.

What has SSE taught you?

I've learned so many skills and tips that are helping me grow my social enterprise. I had no idea how to negotiate a tender, set up and maintain relationships with key stakeholders, however through the program I gained the ability to become tender-ready. Knowing what matters most to the contracting organisation and also understanding key differences between public and private sectors. Thank you SSE for empowering me!





Chris Paul

Wythenshawe Community Media



"Don't ask, don't get. It's all about compelling stories. And most of all the way we tell them."

About the organisation

Wythenshawe Community Media is an independent not-for-profit enterprise which aims to educate and entertain community members as volunteer presenters and listeners in Wythenshawe, one of the most multiply deprived neighbourhoods in the whole of the United Kingdom. Wythenshawe FM has been broadcasting for more than 20 years and under our own charity since Autumn 2010.

In 2014 our volunteers won a Queens Award for Voluntary Service and we continue to build partnerships with institutions and businesses in Manchester and particularly Wythenshawe.

We have found the move from a reasonably well funded organisation with a full staff team through funding cuts to a more volunteer-led and trading based format tricky. The Lloyds Bank Trade-Up came at just the right time as we helped our community through the Covid pandemic and resolved to trade back to a stronger enterprise to enable us to give more people opportunities and to contribute more to our area. Our turnover all but doubled between 2020-21 and 2021-22 but it will need to double twice more to get back to equal our peak activity.

What has SSE taught you?

40 years ago I managed a 7-figure budget. Ten years ago 9- and 10- figure budgets. This year as a Trustee I steered a £7m project. 650 workers. 7000 volunteers. Nonetheless achieving small grants and contracts to grow a social enterprise can be just as challenging and satisfying. Our Trade Up cohort know a good deal. By shining our lights on other leader's projects we learn what to do to transform our own.





Christy Acton

Standing Tall



"Once you've proven your model, commit to it and grow it."

About the organisation

Standing Tall matches people experiencing homelessness into stable jobs and safe homes helping them to move away from the streets for good. And it's working - 80% of the people we help are still off the streets and in the same job one year later.

We match the people we help into stable real living wage jobs with our employer partners in construction, hospitality, manufacturing and transport. We generate our traded income by charging our employer partners a matching fee.

We understand that a stable job is often not enough. It's important the people we help have safe accommodation too. Our Amici Hosts are people with a spare room. They are supported and paid by us to welcome a person into their home for 6 months. The person can then prepare to get their own place. We are currently working in Birmingham, Manchester and London aiming to help 60 people move away from the streets in the next 12 months.

What has SSE taught you?

I have learnt a range of new skills to build Standing Tall in the next few years.





Claire Buckle

Ability Consultancy (NW) Ltd



"Everyday is a learning day, it may be a rollercoaster ride at times, but anything is possible! "

About the organisation

Ability Consultancy was established in 2019 by the award-winning Claire Buckle who has Cerebral Palsy. We are a not-for-profit Social Enterprise, with a vision to change perceptions and reduce the stigma of disability and disabled people.

We deliver a range of services including online and in-person courses in a range of topics around disability, diversity and para-sport. We are the only place in the North-West to deliver Frame Running sessions (the newest Para Athletics event) and we also run a community session for people with Neurological conditions in Preston.

In 2022, Claire and Ability Consultancy won an Innovate UK Women in Innovation Award to build an interactive disability awareness app which is launching early 2023. Watch this space for a major development to the Ability name in 2023!

What has SSE taught you?

It has opened up my eyes to what is possible and trust in my own instinct and not let anyone tell me I can't! I have learnt to say "No" (I am still learning how to do this all the time!) Being in a group of like-minded individuals has allowed me to think of alternative ways of working and doing things, which has had a positive impact on my business over the last year.





Claire Teeling

Grow Outside CIC



"Build a support network; find your people wherever you can, don't do it alone."

About the organisation

At Grow Outside we use environmental education and the benefits of connection with nature as vehicles for enabling individuals and communities to fulfil their potential and improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing. We offer horticultural, craft, and wellbeing activities to promote health and to facilitate social inclusion. Working at our own venue and in communities around Derbyshire, we help to establish growing projects and run programmes and bespoke workshops on a range of themes. These are all related to nature connection, skills development and health-promoting activities.

Those not currently accessing the physical and mental health benefits of greenspace are a particular focus for us, as is widening participation from those communities least connected to nature. We believe that people are only able to connect to and feel responsible for protecting nature and the environment when they are empowered and equipped, personally and socially, to take care of their own needs. We share traditional and ancestral skills and promote simple and sustainable living for the benefit of the environment as well as our participants.

What has SSE taught you?

That my definition of success doesn't have to be the same as everyone else's. It doesn't matter how small I think our impact is, it all counts, and things could be changing in ways we don't realise. The main thing is to do something.





Gemma Barton

Mind Train CIC



"People want to help, so don't be afraid to ask."

About the organisation

Mind Train CIC empowers children and families to survive and thrive through positive wellbeing. It was founded in 2018 by two teachers – Gemma Barton & Clare Hales, who wanted to support themselves, their families and the children in their class to cope with life's ups and downs.

We work with schools and community organisations to create opportunities that enable children and families to connect, learn and have fun. Our workshops, courses and clubs are based on the '5 Ways to Wellbeing' and teach skills that children and families can use to live happy, healthy lives. We are currently piloting High Five Clubs for schools and community groups, which is train-the-trainer programme to teach mindfulness and wellbeing to children from KS1-5. We are looking for KS3-4 settings to take part, so please get in touch if you could support us. Mind Train CIC has worked with hundreds of children, young people and families across the Northwest of England and our mission is to ensure wellbeing for all.

What has SSE taught you?

SSE has taught me to put the things I care about at the heart of what I do. They have given me a network of incredible people to collaborate with, learn and draw inspiration from.



John Maguire

ArtsGroupie CIC



"Keep learning & looking for new ways of working. Ensure you take time to reflect and write about the journey."

About the organisation

ArtsGroupie promotes and provides access to the arts in the North West and beyond. We achieve this through developing our own touring theatre and music productions, and by facilitating educational workshops for both adults and children in creative writing and spoken word.

Our productions are created in collaboration with local artists to champion North West talent. We then take theatre and writing showcases to overlooked areas where access to the arts is limited. This has previously included Liverpool's most deprived areas and rural areas nationally.

Our workshopping and educational opportunities for the community have previously been taken to schools and community hubs in Liverpool. As an organisation we have a particular interest in producing and promoting work that champions women, older people and the LGBTQA+ community, and our work promotes positive attitudes towards these groups.

What has SSE taught you?

I feel a part of a tribe of like-minded socially responsible entrepreneurs and have valued the time to work on the business and not just in the business. It's given me time to reflect and to learn from other people's experiences and to apply immediately what I have picked up and see the results.



Karen Haworth

Brain Health Breakthrough CIC



**"Take time out to plan on
your social enterprise
instead of being busy in your
social enterprise and social
impact reporting is key"**

About the organisation

Brain Health Breakthrough CIC offers a range of support programmes and events for people who are dealing with social isolation, mental health difficulties and those living with long term illness and family crises.

We carry out activities which benefit the community, specialising in a peer support approach and specific support programmes for children and young people. Our work reaches people for whom statutory support and traditional methods have failed

We work with people in Lancashire from multiple backgrounds, with multiple needs, enabling them to increase their mental health and emotional resilience, to have a choice to thrive, to develop coping strategies, and to foster social connections that impact their wider community.

What has SSE taught you?

- To write a 3 year business plan, write our values and vision and mission statements
- To be more strategic in planning for the future of Brain Health Breakthrough CIC
- Innovative ways to expand trade up income
- Focus on trade up income





Katie Charlton

Starling



"Don't be afraid to ask for what you need."

About the organisation

Starling work across Greater Manchester to provide creative wellbeing projects for neurodivergent young people aged 13-25. We support young people, parents/carers and professionals to understand and embrace neurodiversity through creative workshops, training and consultancy, led by lived-experience experts.

What has SSE taught you?

- Be bold and brave!
- You have more resources at your disposal than you think.
- Stick to your values and you will be rewarded





Mhairi McCann

Youth STEM 2030

"Your work as a social entrepreneur makes ripples and waves of change that go further than you realise."



About the organisation

At Youth STEM 2030, we're on a mission to empower youth globally to use science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) to tackle the world's biggest challenges. Our authentically youth-led programmes enable young people to gain the skills, tools and networks to develop STEM-based solutions to real-world problems.

Aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), our programmes include the Youth STEM Summit, which brings together young people to be inspired, gain skills and take action for the SDGs, catalysing their journey as a changemaker. Youth STEM Changemakers (launching 2023) is our new programme of learning and skills development, where youth design STEM-based solutions to real-world problems. Youth STEM Matters, our youth-led scientific journal, gives young people a platform to share their research, ideas and innovations to advance the SDGs.

By creating an ecosystem of the opportunities, support and platforms that empower young people as STEM changemakers, Youth STEM 2030 is empowering youth, creating a more diverse and socially-aware STEM sector, and tackling global challenges like climate change, poverty and inequalities.

What has SSE taught you?

Through the Trade Up programme, I've grown in confidence as a social entrepreneur, and have been able to increase both Youth STEM 2030's impact and our trading income. I learned a lot from the other (amazing!) social entrepreneurs in my Action Learning Set, and our shared focus of working on the business, not just in the business. I found the session on corporate partnerships especially useful, as collaborating effectively with businesses is key to growing Youth STEM 2030's social impact.





Minna Alanko-Falola

Compost Works (UK) Ltd



"Do your research really well. Network. Don't run from the uncomfortable. Take holidays."

About the organisation

Compost Works aims to inspire people to compost their food waste instead of throwing it in the bin. We do this by setting up and managing community compost sites across Liverpool City Region. To date, we have set up 22 community composts across the region that have a combined capacity of 850 household users, diverting over 60 tonnes of food waste a year. We run training sessions to teach people to compost at home, and give presentations for schools, businesses, housing associations and other agencies to raise awareness of the environmental benefits of composting. We work in partnership locally and nationally to champion composting as a crucial part of circular economy and sustainable future for all.

What has SSE taught you?

SSE has been a crucial part of the development of my business (I have also done Start Up). It's been an unparalleled source of information. This year, we've had excellent speakers and presenters that I've found inspirational. Whilst the online element at the start of the course hindered getting to know my cohort properly, we've made up for lost time at the later sessions and formed strong links. The peer support element is important. I also got an excellent mentor.





Rachel Daley

The Positivitree



"Actively nurture the connections, networks & opportunities presented to you through your relationships with other social entrepreneurs."

About the organisation

The Positivitree is a charity that supports families raising children with disabilities, long-term illness and special educational needs. We are on a mission to eradicate social isolation and prioritise the rights, mental health and wellbeing of these families.

What has SSE taught you?

- The importance of diversifying income streams.
- How priceless peer support from other social entrepreneurs will be to your success.
- That your organisation will evolve beyond all your expectations if you accept the opportunities.
- That a problem is never as big or scary as you think it is after you've presented it to your action learning set





Rachael O'Byrne

Creative Spaces Co.



**"Starting is the hardest bit,
everything else you'll pick up
along the way."**

About the organisation

We animate spaces with storytelling, creative play, book clubs, and writing workshops helping to build stronger communities, improve people's health, promote lifelong learning and create more active citizens.

What has SSE taught you?

Behind every great social entrepreneur, there's a great bunch of people ready to read that funding bid, collaborate on that project or help out at your big event. Be ready to help and be ready to ask for help.





Rhondell Stabana

YADA Collective CIC



"Prioritise time to work on your business not just in it."

About the organisation

We are on a mission to reimagine the night-time economy, removing the coercive culture surrounding alcohol to a culture of connectedness and common interest. YADA is an alcohol-free bar in the heart of Derby city centre - an inclusive social environment for the sober, sober curious and those who just occasionally feel like a night off alcohol.

What has SSE taught you?

SSE has given me the confidence to think strategically and be more forward thinking and creative when finding new solutions to increasing trade. It has also taught me the value of making time to reflect as a leader.





Rosie Ashton

Make CIC



**"Share ideas and ask for help
- partnerships are priceless!"**

About the organisation

Make CIC is a purpose driven, socially trading organisation, with the mission to help people turn their passions into prosperity. We have a particular focus on the creative economy, but we'll support anyone who wants to join our community. We do this principally by providing community workspaces in Wirral, Liverpool and Knowsley.

Make is a place to share skills, make, fix and create; to learn and to teach; to try and tweak. We combine high tech ideas with traditional crafts; experienced hands with new skills. It's a place to collaborate and create; a magnet for creatives, makers, dreamers and doers.

What has SSE taught you?

To ask my peers (on the trade up programme) for support, advice and to help develop new ideas. Getting outside perspectives has been incredibly helpful and provided insight into areas I was stuck on!





Sureya Gulzar

The MindKind Projects CIC



**"Be kind to yourself and
surround yourself with like
minded leaders."**

About the organisation

Our organisation seeks to help people lead the healthiest happiest life possible. We do this through services designed with our community, for our community across the West Midlands. We work with partners in the Integrated Care Board (ICB) to support system change whilst building on the social and mental capital of our communities.

What has SSE taught you?

- How to scale our services and take on good partners
- How to make the most of corporate support.
- Promoting our service through impact reporting
- How to measure our social value.





Yvonne Hardman

ATOMS Education CIC



"You have the power to change the world. Don't be scared, give it a go!"

About the organisation

We are a collective of women who love education, who understand how broken the system is and want to do our best to rebuild the love of learning in our children and young people. The current system is broken and narrow and all about high stakes testing, it's overloaded and as a teacher I know how difficult it is to do the job I have been trained to do within that environment.

ATOMS stands for Arts, Technology, Oracy, Maths and Science and we work to embed these skills in all of the sessions we run with young people. We work both in the community and in schools providing curriculum enrichment opportunities and real life learning. We also provide CPD courses for education professionals and are keen to work with ITT providers.

What has SSE taught you?

SSE has taught me to be resilient and not be afraid to change things that aren't working. It has shown me the importance of working on the business and not just in the business and to be confident in my judgements.





Zoe Rivers

Beyond Barriers CIC



"Find your tribe– they'll prop you up through the challenges and remind you of your achievements"

About the organisation

Beyond Barriers was created for individuals, organisations and communities. We provide therapeutic services, training and staff support, and promote lived experience roles and partnerships.

Beyond Barriers brings together Clinical Psychologists, Lived Experience Practitioners, Yoga & Bodywork therapists and Nutritional therapists, who all feel passionately about improving access to affordable, compassionate, non-medicalised mental health support. We believe that this can be achieved through:

- partnerships with specialists in this area who do not normally get the opportunity to work together in traditional mental health services,
- valuing professional and lived experiences,
- creating therapeutic communities in which we can heal.

We are about empowering people to have agency in their own recovery; feedback from people with valuable lived experiences is consistently integrated into the way we function. We are also working hard to develop trauma-informed partnerships with local businesses & community groups to support our aspiration of 'Therapeutic Towns'.

What has SSE taught you?

The sessions were brilliant, and came at a great time for me, especially the Managing Pricing session. It was particularly useful because we worked through costing calculations and having a workbook after the session was invaluable.





A message from Lloyds Banking Group

Lloyds Banking Group have been very proud to support the School for Social Entrepreneurs over the last decade, recognising the unique and significant contribution that social enterprises make both to local economies and to the many individuals that they support.

At a personal level, having been involved in the programme as a mentor for many of those years, supported the selection panels for several cohorts, and watched a number of entrepreneurs graduate, I have seen first-hand the passion and commitment that it takes to take an embryonic idea for social change through to a self-sustaining social enterprise. It is so encouraging, also, to see the ongoing friendships and support networks that arise from participation in the Entrepreneurs programme.

I wish the SSE class of 2022 every success in taking their enterprises on to the next stage and would say to all of them “huge congratulations in graduating this year – Well done indeed!”

David Rowsell, Head of Community Engagement, Lloyds Banking Group

A message from the National Lottery Community Fund

“We are delighted to fund this successful programme, now in its 10th year, which empowers social entrepreneurs to make an even bigger impact in their communities.

Thanks to National Lottery players and in partnership with the School for Social Entrepreneurs, we have supported over 2,500 social entrepreneurs and distributed over £9.3m in grants directly to those leading change and making a difference. The impact on individual learners and their enterprises is invaluable.”

Faiza Khan, Director of Engagement and Insight at The National Lottery Community Fund



Get in Touch

3D Interact	3dinteract.co.uk
Ability Consultancy (NW) Ltd	ability-consultancy.co.uk
ArtsGroupie CIC	artsgroupie.org
Atoms Education CIC	atomseducation.co.uk
Beyond Barriers CIC	beyondbarriers.uk
Bradford African Community	bradfordafricancommunity.co.uk
Brain Health Breakthrough CIC	brainhealthbreakthrough.co.uk
Calderstones Touch Tennis	twitter.com/CalderstonesT
Compost Works (UK) Ltd	compostworks.co.uk
Creative Spaces Co	wemakecreativespaces.org
The Emily Davidson Centre	emilydavisoncentre.com
Every Brain	everybrain.co.uk
Grow Outside CIC	growoutside.co.uk
Holistic Harmonies CIC	holistic-harmonies.com
Idaraya Life CIC	Idaraya-Life.org
Little Bats Learning CIC	littlebatslearning.org.uk
Liverpool Sings CIC	jenniferjohnmusic.com
Make CIC	makecic.org
The Mindkind Projects	themindkindprojects.com
Mind Train CIC	highfivewellbeing.org
The Positivitree	thepositivitree.com
The Queer Parenting Partnership	parentingqueer.co.uk
Shine	twitter.com/ShineProgramme
Skywriters Ltd	skywriters.uk
Standing Tall	standingtall.org.uk
Starling	starlingcio.org
Tailored Yarn Memories	tailoredyarn.com
Talk About It Mate	talkaboutitmate.co.uk
Veterans Tribe CIC	veteranstribe.co.uk
Walton Hall Park CIC	twitter.com/wallyhallpark
Wythenshawe Community Media	wfmradio.org
YADA Collective CIC	yadacollective.co.uk
Youth STEM 2030	youthstem2030.org

Lloyds Bank and Bank of Scotland Social Entrepreneurs Programme



It's not really goodbye!
Stay in touch?



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