

# A DIFFERENT KIND OF LOVE



ROAR PURSUITS CIC

FEEDBACK  
TESTIMONIALS  
AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENTS



**I've always pushed for things where I've seen injustice. Our not for profit, Roar Pursuits is a prime example. I grew up in an abusive home and then in Institutional care from age 12-18 and at 18 was kicked out. I found myself living in nursing accommodation, part way through my degree and needing to get a job pronto!**

**Life has been a collection of ups and downs, abuse, neglect, love, laughter. But its main theme and purpose has been about supportive relationships, and to now take those lessons I learnt to ensure care leavers get and feel supported and loved.**

**It may have come from a frustrated place of wanting to change the injustice of a broken system - wanting to support the unsupported. Born out of a night of tears and a Roar of frustration. Where I didn't want anyone to feel unloved, rejected and unsupported.**

**That Roar! Is why we exist!  
And why we are changing the world... together...**

*Nathalie*

**~Nathalie Delahaye**

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**witharoar on social**

**Roar Pursuits CIC estd 2017**

**And already gratefully & very generously Supported by:**

**The Mayor of London**


**Grant Trust**

**Human Appeal**

**Lush**

**& The National Lottery**





Really grateful to our team of mentors, supporters, volunteers and young people who come to see us completely voluntarily, because they want our support. Nearly 50% are SELF referrals.

PREPARED FOR THE

# MAYOR OF LONDON

## 12 MONTH REPORT

2018 / 2019

### **Pre-attending Roar**

Young people engaged: 42

Course starters: 37

Percentage NEET: 91%

### **After attending Roar**

Course completers: 90% completed!

YP's involved in crime: Reduced by 64%

Percentage NEET: 17% - A reduction of 74%!

A total of 84% in EET at the end of 6 months.



# WHERE WE ARE NOW

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Based on pre and post questionnaires completed by Roar Participants in Greenwich 2019

- **100% felt less anxious (76% reported anxiety in prequestionnaire)**
- **100% felt increased confidence**
- **100% felt better able to express feelings and needs**
- **100% reported a good appetite on completion (on prequestionnaire more than half reported low appetite)**
- **100% reported doing more exercise**
- **100% felt more confident in running their own home**
- **100% felt more confident managing bills**
- **100% felt they were able to think more clearly and make decisions**
- **100% felt their employability had increased**
- **100% felt more motivated to find the right jobs**
- **100% felt more able to gain employment**

**In addition:**

**84% reported an improvement in relationships to family**  
**80% reported an improvement in relationships to friends**  
**100% felt more confident dealing with conflict**  
**92% felt more in control of their mental health**  
**88% felt they could express themselves better**



# OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

National Impact

- Our online presence has included case work to a further, 10 care leavers in the UK and Scotland. This included remote outreach work to remove a YP from a gang in Birmingham. Preventing homelessness arising in two instances, re-homing in two instances, and multiple outreach calls and messages to care leavers who were lonely, depressed and suicidal.
- We have had job starts in Birmingham, Dundee and Aberdeen. All roles are well paid, with good career progression. One with Barclays Bank.
- A number of online engagers have also started education.
- In total in 2019 we worked with a variety of stakeholders, to help a total of 81 care leavers in person who were struggling. We are still in touch and continue to support them.

Our Online presence:



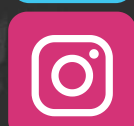
Facebook fan page: 1,295



Private care leaver support group: 142



Twitter followers: 984



Instagram: 1771

## **ONE WORD COMMENTS FROM FIRST COHORT**

**'Brilliant'**

**'Inspiring'**

**'Useful'**

**'Affirming'**

**'Positive'**

**'Interesting'**

**'Epic!'**

**'Real'**

**By the second week over half of the group were  
making their beds daily..**

**..something none of them had done before.**

**In this first group of 6; within 6 weeks..  
2 moved on into independent living, 4 moved in to  
training. 1 is working and 4 quit smoking weed.**



# VOX POP

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*"Thank you for staying in touch and contact and sorting so much. I used to never leave home, I smoked weed since I was 11.. Now I'm working, living independently, have a girl friend and I'm completely drug free. You're life savers"*

*David  
- Cohort 1*

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## **WHY DOES ROAR MEAN THE WORLD TO ME ?**

**All my life I struggled with everything that came with day to day living. This led to a whole host of issues.**

**FOR YEARS, I BECAME A STATISTIC!**

**I got into debt.**

**I have been in a police cell.**

**I couldn't hold down a job.**

**I allowed myself to be bullied.**

**I experienced domestic violence.**

**I spent many years in the homeless cycle.**

**I was groomed which led me to being exposed to the sex industry and being raped!**

**I experienced extreme mental health which had me suicidal more times that you could ever imagine.**

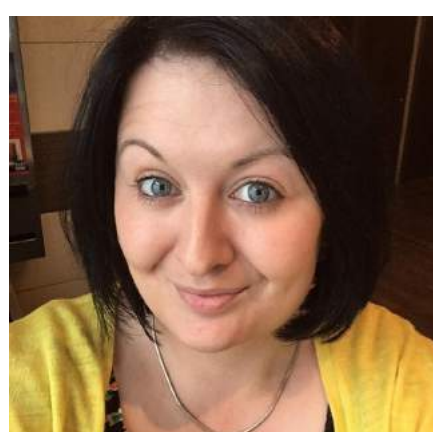
**I have felt the heart aching pain of loneliness.**

**I have drank to mask away the reality of the miserable existence I was living in.**

**That was then! But this is now! I say with a proud smile beaming on my face. I have broken the cycle of all those above life experiences!**

**But how did I do it?**

**Everything and I mean, everything Roar teaches is all the things I learnt to turn my life around. The minute Nathalie asked me to be a part of Roar it was a no brainer. I want others to get to a place that I am at now, and beyond. I know that without a shadow of a doubt, this is the way forward!**



**~Amanda Ashton-Booth  
(Roar Pursuits CIC  
Director of Facilitation & Content)**



# VOX POP

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*"Roar are like family to me. I've made and saved £6,000 since February, started my own brand and opened my first shop! Roar made me realise who I am today. Bold and Confident, and that's what I'll teach my daughters"*

*Isata  
- Cohort 3*

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## **WHY DOES ROAR MEAN THE WORLD TO ME ?**

**I'm a 39 year old mother from south London.  
I'm a qualified mindfulness teacher, horticultural therapist  
and mental health resilience educator.**

**I draw on over fourteen years experience working in the  
mental health sector and weave my knowledge of  
horticulture and mindfulness into bespoke workshops and  
training.**

**I also teach gardening and nature conservation and work  
with youth offenders.**

**I'm a care leaver, with a former history of acute depression ,  
eating disorders and drug problems. In 2006 my brother  
committed suicide. That year I decided to leave behind an  
unrewarding career in investment banking to work in the  
mental health sector.**

**I approached Roar and offered my services because I had  
never encountered a peer led initiative working with care  
leavers before. 'FINALLY!!' I screamed .**

**I'm really excited to be a part of such an enthusiastic and  
dedicated team of people.**

**~Cat Flannery  
(Roar Pursuits CIC Mentor)**





# VOX POP

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*"Since coming  
I've been less  
anxious, I  
leave my  
house! I have  
a great  
network now,  
you gave me  
confidence to  
go for and get  
a job, which I  
needed  
desperately."*

*Great  
- Cohort 5*

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## **WHY DOES ROAR MEAN THE WORLD TO ME ?**

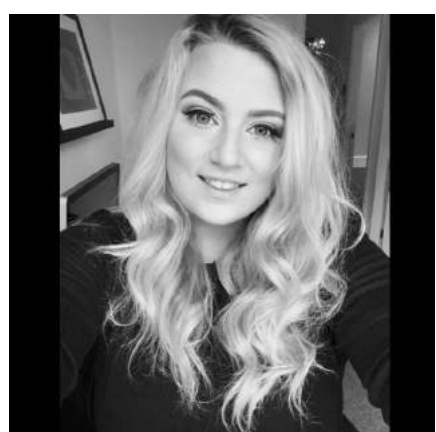
**I came from a very sheltered teenage self, not having any self-belief or trust in people. I was lonely and found it hard to make friends. But I am thankful for those times, as it made me appreciate what I was going to find in my future.**

**I wouldn't say I chose Roar, there isn't choosing something like this, you just belong. Roar found me and just connected to a piece of my heart instantly – the people involved were 'normal', welcoming and powerful within everything they did & do. Everything I thought I never could be.**

**“Roar has shown me that no matter what past experiences we have had, we can all make the journey together.”**

**I'm now a 23-year-old professional with 2 degrees in an exceptional first job within the media industry, with my own award winning short-film.**

**I am important, passionate, and slightly powerful in my nature. Everything a lioness needs to be within their pride.**



**~Tasha Hibbert  
(Roar Pursuits CIC Mentor)**



# VOX POP

*I'm gonna keep myself  
correct, and I'm going to do  
my best on a wing and a  
prayer. I will always  
remember that if it wasn't for  
Roar starting my adventure  
of learning and work... I owe  
you my life, It has been the  
best peer and biggest support  
I have ever had. I'm so  
thankful, you will never  
understand how much it  
really means to me.*

*Tyrell  
- Origin*



## **WHY DOES ROAR MEAN THE WORLD TO ME ?**

**Roar has given me hope that there are people out there, that genuinely put care leavers issues as a priority. There's a saying that you judge a society by how you treat its weakest. I'm here to say care leavers are NOT weak. We are strong and resilient but often we just need to be given a break and a chance!**

**Roar aims to do that by arming us with the further skills and experience needed for independent living. I have been stigmatised and brushed aside. But now, knowing I am part of a team that are proactively looking to make people have successful lives after care. For them not to be a rarity but a common experience, it makes me so proud. Roar is so committed, they give me hope that there are people out there who care about us as individuals and not just as stories.**

**~Coco Pemberton  
(Roar Pursuits CIC Mentor)**





# VOX POP

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*I felt so trapped and  
alone. You saw through it  
all. You made me go for  
counselling and  
understood the struggles I  
had whilst awaiting my  
twins' diagnoses.*

*Sometimes people don't  
realise it's the little things  
that go a long way,  
I'm so grateful for Roar.*

*Kelly  
- Origin*

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**Helen Grimes**  
**Department of Education**

**Roar Pursuits engage and work with some of our most vulnerable care experienced young people in South London. Care experienced young people are at high risk of exploitation by criminal gangs. This cohort are more likely to experience mental health problems and experience loneliness and isolation.**

**Roar Pursuits' unique training programme designed for care leavers by care leavers is delivering results. They have supported young people to access education, training and employment, a proven path away from gang culture and knife crime. Roar Pursuits continue to support these young people, ensuring they remain on track. The excellent wraparound and aftercare service is crucial to keeping young people engaged and focused.**

**Roar Pursuits work with a number of local agencies in the area, reaching out, building effective cohesive partnerships. With the young person always at the centre of all they do.**



# VOX POP

*"It's the first time in months I feel relief and happiness. My partner was stabbed 3 months ago. This is like no other training I've ever been to. This genuinely helps and is insightful and incredible"*

*Kerby  
- Cohort 4*



**Kathie Canavan - Community Partner**  
**Department of Work and Pensions**

**Roar Pursuits came to my attention some time ago as they were supporting care experienced Young People who attend Job centre Plus and who were referring them onto their life skills training programme.**

**Roar Pursuits are a not for profit training deliverer, with a truly incredible USP. Their training has been developed by care experienced for care experienced people and no-one else is using this approach. The team are presented with young people with the most complex needs, often in crisis, homeless, NEET, in debt, with mental health conditions and often undiagnosed disabilities.**

**They take time and care to identify and support each Young Person's individual needs, using their ground breaking approach to deliver their unique programme.**

**Roar Pursuits are producing incredibly successful outcomes as Young People are becoming empowered, building confidence and resilience, gaining independence and life skills, budgeting, breaking old habits and eating healthier. I have had the pleasure to see Young People actively making choices to transition onto pathways to employment, training and further education simply due to the fact they are being listened to by the Roar team.**

**It cannot be underestimated what Roar are achieving as their approach is not a professional led one, but a holistic one that's service user centric.**

# VOX POP

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*"You saw I needed  
help before I did, and  
I've been doing good  
since, so I have you  
to thank for that.*

*You told me;  
'remember to get  
help when you need  
it... It's not a weak  
move.. it's a smart  
move.'*

*Chelsea  
- Cohort 4*

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**Probation Service Officer**  
**Greenwich Probation Services**

**This organisation is greatly needed in our area and many others. Front line Offender Managers have an ongoing struggle with Personal Advisers due to caseloads and expectations from each organisations, there is a huge conflict in Social Services having a duty of care to under 25 year olds who were part of the care system and NPS treating them as adults because they do not have the same child protection guidelines. This can be time consuming and stressful for both parties, Roar Pursuits is a much needed mediator with first-hand experience that cannot be taught in a class room.**

**I have seen some of the work they offer and am impressed with what they offer each individual case. I believe Roar Pursuits has the ability to reduce risk posed by and to offenders in this category and are a great diversion away from gang related issues felt across the UK. NPS main focus is risk reduction and public protection in current times, which leaves many front line workers feeling that vulnerable service users do not receive the extra time required to build positive working relationships that historically are evidenced to promote desistance from crime. Roar Pursuits offer this much needed mentoring and we are glad they are here!**

## **2019 - Other highlights**

*We were invited to the launch Care Leavers Covenant, as a measure of best practice,.. We were also as at the Care Experienced Conference and other meetings with undersecretaries of parliament at the DWP and Dept of Education. We worked with probation, LA's as well as with other charities e.g. sharing our vision with Who Cares Scotland attending with Nicola Sturgeon.*

*We also worked with Barclays to improve financial support for care leavers, and with Dept of Education with work placements for care leavers.*

*We worked with an independent care home in West London: "Roar delivered something that our cohort of young people sorely needed. As well as practical and emotional support and awareness, Roar helped them to identify their strengths to produce an admirable CV at the end. We definitely noticed an up-tick in well being and engagement with ourselves."*

*Keep up to date with us on social media to see how much more we can achieve together!*

***@witharoar***



# ROAR



*time to  
show them  
what  
you're  
made of*



# PRIDE