

Young carers prove a hit in the studio

Aspiring rock stars get a chance to sing and record

their own music and video

FEATURE

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'I believe this has opened a musical door for a hidden group of young people who likely wouldn't get chance to do something like this'

brought professional musicians from Derby charity Gateway Soundz to work with the youngsters. After writing their tune in one day, they decamped to the Soundhub studio in Belper and brought in the Rock of Ages choir to flesh out their vision. All the young carers involved have spoken highly about the project, saying it has expanded their world view, having been shown behind the scenes of the music industry and the feeling of being a musician. DCA spokesman Amanda Gowing said: "This project has really tapped into a lot of elements the young carers might not get to experience."

"They are very proud of what they have achieved and to have had this wonderful opportunity to raise awareness of young carers both locally and nationally." Josh Wimbleton, 11, added: "Making music has helped me with my confidence." The whole process was filmed start to finish by Swadlincote company, Front Row Films, which then edited it into a music video which will soon be



A group of young carers have recorded a charity song, pictured are the young people with project leaders and charity staff.

available on the Young Carers DCA YouTube page. Cullen said: "We felt that by documenting the process, the outcome and the carers' thoughts, we would be able to raise the profile of what a young carer experiences, to promote the great work they do, through the therapeutic use of music. "They guided the project from the beginning through to the

end, and are now the proud owners of their own song and video." He added: "This introduction to music will hopefully inspire a creative streak in their own personal development, and maybe others." Alfie Brooker, 12, said: "I'm so proud of what we've achieved. I loved seeing myself on the video. "It's actually quite nice because I feel that if speech was counted, then we spoke out. I really enjoyed it."

Amanda said: "We would like to thank James Reader from Front Row Films, plus Dan Williams, Zara Shakespeare, Rory McColgan, Tom Carter, Teresa Williams, Joe Brown, all from Gateway Sounds, for their help."

