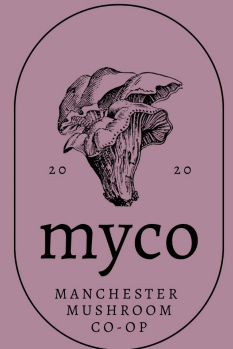


Impact Report 2024

Myco, Manchester Mushroom Co-op



About Myco

Workers' co-operative founded in 2020

Growing mushrooms at Platt Fields Market Garden

Events and workshops around fungi, nature & ecology

[@mycomanchester](https://www.instagram.com/mycomanchester) // mycomanchester.com



Events in 2024 - the numbers



47

Events delivered

900+

Folks attended our events





200

Mushroom buckets made

120

Mushroom logs created
...or 40 linear metres, the height of a
mature English oak.





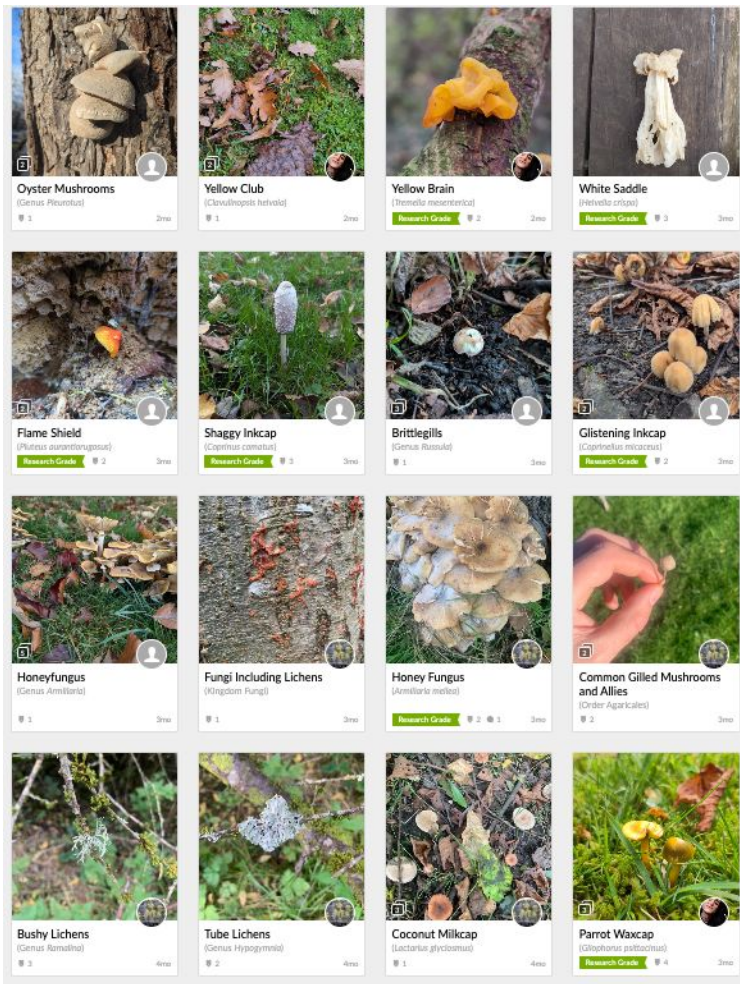
20

Wheelie bins recycled into wormeries

200+

Hours of work from our volunteers





50+

New iNaturalist records made

Memorable mushrooms



Name that mushroom!

Growing the hyphal network

Worms

Wormery building at schools and community spaces funded by In Our Nature and featured at Co-op's Eco Conference.





Mushroom logs

Logs at Ladybarn Community Hub, and
a feature on Kew Gardens' website



Wild walks

As part of an autumn mycology series at
Haigh Woodland Park



Haigh
Woodland
Park

Wigan[♥]
Council

A photograph of a three-story brick building, the Portland Basin Museum, with a semi-transparent green overlay. A white banner is superimposed over the image.

PORTLAND BASIN
Museum

Mushroom buckets

Our biggest mushroom bucket event Portland
Basin Museum, with 72 buckets made in 4
hours!

The logo for Tameside Metropolitan Borough, featuring a stylized white graphic of three wavy lines on a blue background.

Tameside
Metropolitan Borough

Mycelial miscellany



Feedback from friends of fungi

88.6%

of attendees rated our events 9 out of 10 or higher

98.4%

of attendees learned something new

94.3%

of attendees felt more connected to nature

91.1%

of attendees felt their mental wellbeing improved after attending an event

Testimonials and vibes

Creating warm and inclusive learning environments

"The space was very inclusive!"

"The trans-specific workshop was excellent as it felt like an incredibly safe space to turn up in, even though it was all new people."

"Friendly, engaging session, lots of opportunities to ask questions, explained in a very accessible way."

"Absolutely lovely people running the event who were willing to answer every question and created such a safe and welcoming environment!"

"The welcoming and engaging atmosphere made volunteering not feel like a chore at all."

Knowledgeable and passionate teachers

“Jess and Sølvi are brilliant teachers.”

"Sølvi's knowledge and enthusiasm were great, and she was really engaging."

"Jesse's passion and expertise in foraging have ignited my personal desire to delve deeper into this 'lost' art."

"The guides really knew their stuff and were so friendly!"

Accessible and thoughtful approaches to sharing knowledge

"It felt very much like the purpose was to share knowledge rather than flaunt it."

"The course material was tailored to accommodate attendees of varying levels of experience."

"Slides were lovely, and the tone was pitched well."

"Diversity of reading materials (video, audio, reading) and the casual nature of the discussion made it very accessible."

Creating opportunities for practical, hands-on learning

"It was hands-on, and everyone got the chance to work on every step of the process."

"A really nice mix of learning and doing!"

"Great scientific information and theory backed by hands-on, practical work and guidance."

"I loved that we got to take a kit home to recreate what we learned."

"Making the kimchi all together was communal and friendly, and I came away feeling very connected to my community."

Inspiring and engaging content

"Drawing comparisons to fungi and queer experiences was a very useful tool for engagement."

"The vast amount of knowledge shared with regards to mushroom cultivation was amazing."

"Jesse expertly explained each variety, how to identify them, and provided tasting notes along with creative recipe ideas."

"The introduction explained well what to expect, and the explanation about mushrooms was brilliant."

"Sølvi skillfully navigated the topic with her trademark enthusiasm, making it accessible and engaging for everyone."

Fostering community connection and inclusivity

"It was great to feel connected to the queer community."

"Gathering in little groups around found mushrooms or mosses felt communal and inclusive."

"Being queer-friendly was a huge bonus, meeting like-minded LGBTQIA folks met a largely unmet need."

"I especially loved the social element—it was lovely to meet other mushroom and wild geeks!"

Our niche in our ecosystem

46.9%

of attendees participants identify as transgender, non-binary or genderqueer.

27.1%

of attendees describe themselves as disabled—this is slightly higher than the current UK average of 24%.

95.1%

of attendees felt their access needs were met.

Myco's future

Building our mycelial network

We've been keen to review constructive feedback from all those who provided it, and have four main aims for 2025:

- Continue to provide a growing range of events, in a range of formats.
- Providing clearer guidance on where events are held and how we deliver them.
- Improving our facilitation skills so that everyone has an opportunity to participate in our events ways that feel suited to their needs.
- Working in greater co-operation with others, all across North West England—and maybe beyond?

I feel great about the co-op!
