

# Three Churches Project

## Annual Report 2007

### Beginnings

In 2000, the Ripon and Leeds Diocese of the Church of England undertook an audit, which identified the Beckhill and Miles Hill estates, together with some other Meanwood estates, as areas where churches had little engagement. These were also areas of high unemployment that lacked opportunities (and/or take-up) for personal and community development.

The audit inspired a fresh vision for the local churches work together with the local community, to see transformation in those areas. Stainbeck United Reformed Church and St. Matthew's, Chapel Allerton, already had a good history of ecumenical work. They joined with Holy Trinity, Meanwood, and the seeds of the Three Churches Project were sown.

### Vision

Gradually the project began to take shape and use of the creative arts (interpreted in its widest sense) became central to it. The vision was to set up short courses/ opportunities to learn, try and experience different things - art, music, drama, writing, cooking, gardening etc, and in this way for members of the churches and local communities to meet together on a level playing field. The hope was that the relationships formed would help both groups begin to seek ways to engage others in their communities and so to start to change.

### Community Development

On September 21st 2005, the project was officially launched, following the appointment of a full time worker in the July.

The Three Churches Project is now very much part of a wider regeneration strategy in North East Leeds, working alongside Council agencies, community groups, local residents and schools, with a desire to see real, grass-roots transformation of the area.

[www.threechurches.org.uk](http://www.threechurches.org.uk)  
[www.lcct.org.uk](http://www.lcct.org.uk)



## **Events and Activities, 2007**

At the time of our last annual report, we had just been given a substantial amount of funding to buy **hand drums and percussion, as well as digital cameras and camcorders**. These are a fantastic resource for the project.

**The drums** were first used in July 2006 when a number of people from local schools, community and churches came together to "Drum for Justice", as part of the Make Poverty History campaign. They have continued to prove very popular at fun days and events and we hope now to use them more regularly for short courses and drum circles. They attract people



of all ages and different cultures and are a good way of encouraging people to work together, whilst having fun!

**Our digital cameras** have been used throughout the year for a project with Carr Manor High School, where we created a book with a group of pupils, to celebrate the 800<sup>th</sup> birthday of Leeds as a city. We hope the idea



will catch on and birth more ideas that will see more people take advantage of this resource. We do have some good editing software and 5 laptop computers (also given to us through grants this year) to help make this easier and accessible. Photo© Matt Tullett/ReflexPictures

**Craft Club** Continues to run each week on Thursday afternoons for two hours. The club is especially appreciated by people who want to get out of their house and meet new people. The club has recently been given a grant by a local Councillor, in recognition of its place in the community. Special sessions run for the group this year include marquetry and woodburning sessions, for which we had some very welcome outside input!

This year we have also seen agencies begin to refer people to the group, where there is a very relaxed approach to help people "have a go".

## **Radio Leeds Festival Workshops.**

In April we hosted three workshops as part of the Radio Leeds 2007 festival. The group learned some techniques of radio journalism, using their own personal stories to create an audio piece. The pieces were entered for a Radio Leeds competition, which saw Jean Barker, one of our workshop participants come runner up in the adult section. If you would like to find out more about our part, or hear the pieces we created, please visit this part of the BBC website:



[http://www.bbc.co.uk/leeds/content/articles/2007/06/25/three\\_churches\\_feature.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/leeds/content/articles/2007/06/25/three_churches_feature.shtml)

**Local Stories.** The workshops were a catalyst for us gathering more local stories, a project we began over a year ago. We have now interviewed a good number of people from the local area, and recorded some of their stories and memories on CD. These will be kept with locally stored archives of the area. These stories were also available to listen to as part of the Meanwood Festival.

**Meanwood Festival, June 5-12<sup>th</sup> 2007.** This week-long festival gave us great opportunity to draw together different aspects of our involvement with the local community through the past year. As such, it proved to be a celebration of the work of the Three Churches Project, and of our growing relationships in and around the local community.

The week began with some environmental work, organised by Groundwork Leeds, on the corner of the Stonegate estate. It ended with Meanwood CE



Choir giving a fantastic rendition of the songs they were rehearsing for an upcoming concert. And in between, we transformed spaces with an interactive exhibition of stories and art at Holy Trinity Church, and a local arts and crafts exhibition at Stainbeck Church. The main focus of the festival was a family fun day at Meanwood Park, which attracted hundreds of people from the locality. In one way or

another over 500 people took part, with support (practical and financial) from the local council, agencies and residents groups and the wider Christian community of Meanwood and the City.



**Craft Parties.** We ran two of these events, at the beginning and end of the summer holiday. Sixteen children age 5-11 from the local area came to the parties, which were run by volunteers from the community as well as the Church. It was a really successful event and one which we hope to repeat on a regular basis.

### **Moortown Community Festival**

We were fortunate enough to be able to support the young women of our local Muslim IQRA centre in organising this festival. The event itself was a big success, and it opened many doors to help us build bridges across cultural boundaries in our locality.

### **SOWN (Social on Wednesday Nights)**

We are still in the very early days of this group for men and women, which offers games, activities, refreshments and special events. The groups was the vision of two people living locally, who, through their own work and lives in the area, wanted to see something on offer in the evening that could be accessed by anyone, including lonely and vulnerable people. We offer transport to those who would like to come but cannot get there alone, or find it difficult to make that first step into a new group.

### **ReFresh**

This is both a new group as well as a continuation of the work of the Two Hills Project, which had to end this year because of lack of resources. It is run by our paid worker, as well as volunteers from the local community and churches. It welcomes around 20 children each week., often from recognised needy families, and is a great link with the local community.

### **Demonstrate Day**

Our last major event of the year was to welcome Leeds Youth Cells Network back to Meanwood for a Demonstrate Day. The event usually sees teams of young people working on social action projects, for their own development as well as for the benefit of a local community. There were about 90 young people at our event, plus leaders. Most of the group



helped fill 3 skips and more on the Beckhill estate, with a smaller group leading an advent service at Bentley Court Residential Housing. Donned with bright red t-shirts the group certainly made an impact on the area, and we were pleased to have young people from ReFresh join in the clean-up.

## **Bridges and Relationships**

We continue to represent the churches at local forums and committees, where we are seen as an important connection between the agencies and local residents. As part of this work we regularly work in partnership and support of other projects, for example, running activities for youth groups and local schools, and writing for Carr Manor High's School's Community Newsletter, the Voice. The community Café running at Stainbeck Church has also proved to be an excellent way for us to connect with the local community, agency workers and members of the church. It has been a very valuable forum.

## **Financial Summary of the Year**

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

	General (not restricted to a particular project or purchase)	K Fund computers	Meanwood Festival	TOTAL
<b>INCOME</b>				
<b>VOLUNTARY INCOME</b>				
Church donations	6,250.00	0.00	0.00	6,250.00
Collections	80.00	0.00	0.00	80.00
Donor NOT GIFT AID	18.00	0.00	0.00	18.00
Grant LCCT to Internal Projects	8,000.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00
<b>VOLUNTARY INCOME</b>	<b>14,348.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>14,348.00</b>
<b>INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITY</b>				
Grants for specific projects or purchases	25,185.39	2,365.00	2,000.00	29,550.39
Income from Trading (others using our printer)	294.76			294.76
<b>INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITY</b>	<b>25,480.15</b>	<b>2,365.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>29,845.15</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>39,828.15</b>	<b>2,365.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>44,193.15</b>

# EXPENDITURE

## CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	General (not restricted to a specific project or purchase)	K Fund Computers	Meanwood Festival	TOTAL	
· Insurance	0.00	144.74	0.00	0.00	144.74
· Printing, postage and stationer					
· Postage	0.00	8.60	0.00	0.00	8.60
· Printing	0.00	1,628.00	0.00	101.73	1,729.73
· Stationery	0.00	124.70	69.25	0.00	193.95
· Printing, postage and stationer - Other	0.00	24.21	0.00	0.00	24.21
<b>Total Printing, postage and stationer</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,785.51</b>	<b>69.25</b>	<b>101.73</b>	<b>1,956.49</b>
<b>Project costs</b>					
· Software,Website,Computer costs	0.00	86.82	152.86	0.00	239.68
· Events/project activities	0.00	169.39	0.00	1,898.27	2,067.66
· Publicity	0.00	42.00	0.00	0.00	42.00
· Staff & volunteers expenses	0.00	15.98	0.00	0.00	15.98
· Resources Purchased	0.00	221.03	0.00	0.00	221.03
<b>Total Project costs</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>535.22</b>	<b>152.86</b>	<b>1,898.27</b>	<b>2,586.35</b>
· Consultancy fees	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
· Office Costs					
· Rent	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Total Office Costs</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>
· Salary costs					
· Salaries	3,711.76	14,224.60	0.00	0.00	17,936.36
· Employer's NI	1,632.55	691.20	0.00	0.00	2,323.75
· Other salary costs	96.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	96.00
· Benefit in Kind	450.00	4,950.00	0.00	0.00	5,400.00
<b>Total Salary costs</b>	<b>5,890.31</b>	<b>19,865.80</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>25,756.11</b>
· mileage and other Travel	0.00	25.90	0.00	0.00	25.90
· Telephone					
· Internet charges	0.00	204.60	0.00	0.00	204.60
· Telephone	0.00	341.82	0.00	0.00	341.82
· Telephone - Other	0.00	181.94	0.00	0.00	181.94
<b>Total Telephone</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>728.36</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>728.36</b>
· Bank charges and interest					
· Bank Charges	0.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
<b>Total · Bank charges and interest</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5.00</b>
<b>5960 · equipment</b>					
- Depreciation of office equipment	0.00	351.03	0.00	0.00	351.03
· Equipment & fixtures purchased	0.00	666.05	2,142.89	0.00	2,808.94
<b>Total · equipment</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,017.08</b>	<b>2,142.89</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,159.97</b>
<b>Total IEB2 · CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>5,890.31</b>	<b>25,257.61</b>	<b>2,365.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>35,512.92</b>
<b>SUPPORT COSTS</b>					
· Balance tx's account (s/be 0)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>SUPPORT COSTS</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>5,890.31</b>	<b>25,257.61</b>	<b>2,365.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>35,512.92</b>
	2,404.45	6,275.78	0.00	0.00	8,680.23
<b>Carried over to next year</b>	<b>2,404.45</b>	<b>6,275.78</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>8,680.23</b>

\* Accounts fall Jan to Dec but grants years have traditionally started July, due to start date of full time employee. This figure will therefore cover period Jan-July 2008, in addition to final grant amounts paid in.