

# InterACT Annual Report 2013



A member of  
Leeds Christian Community Trust



LCCT

releasing dreams and visions

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## *Introducing Luke Dean*

One of the most significant developments of 2013 for InterACT was the arrival of Luke Dean as Children and Young People's worker to Meanwood Valley Baptist Church. MVBC gift six of his hours to InterACT each week. Luke is at the youth club each Monday night and spearheaded the "Drop-Inn" (cafe-style activity group, with themed discussions for young people), which we trialled as an after-school club. This has led to developing relationships with the schools and other youth activities in the area. His work isn't limited to youth, however, and he has been involved with most of the activities detailed in this report. He has been a really great addition to the team.



## *Parenting Course*



In the spring term, we ran the first of our parenting courses, for parents of 0-6's, at Chapel Allerton Children's Centre. It was a good pilot that brought and developed good connections to families and those working with families in the area. The course has been developed by the Family Caring Trust, and Rosemary Laxton (Meanwood Valley Baptist Church) brought her own expertise, having run many such courses during her working career.

Taking part in the course can be transformative for some parents and consequently their families.

Some of the feedback we received:

“It’s making me think a lot about my behaviour and reactions.”

“I’m enjoying spending time with my children.”

“I’m learning to be more positive.”

“I’m learning this is all so normal, so calm down!”

Funding to run this pilot came as matched funding (matching what we give through staff and volunteer hours, office resources, gifts in kind, etc) from Community First funds (Community Development Foundation).

The course runs for 8 weeks and can cater for up to 15 parents. The final week looks at the spiritual development of children and is a good opportunity to discuss issues of faith and wonder.

### ***“Craft for Kids”***

We have been fortunate to have received funding, again from Community First, to allow Agnis Smallwood (Holy Trinity



Church and professional designer maker) to run two more craft “courses” for children and their carers this year. One of the best things about these is the opportunity for parents to get involved. All seem to appreciate the space, not only to be with their children but also to be with other parents, doing something both relaxing and creative.

We originally started the craft sessions because many people were reporting a lack of things to do for children age 5-8 in the area. These activities are meeting a real need and we hope they will inspire others to do the same.

## *Summer Days*



Summer events included representation at Meanwood Valley Partnership’s family fun day at Meanwood Cricket Ground. We also ran our own family event, Picnic in

the Park at Meanwood Park. This was a really fun day with lots of activities and input from the local community. It was made even better by fantastic weather. The only disappointing factor was that it happened to clash with a significant sporting event, although perhaps, for some, it was an opportunity to avoid it!



Our four-day holiday club involved a good number of volunteers from local churches and beyond. Around 30 children from Church and community took part in the games, singing, dancing and crafts. Always good fun.



### *Dark and Light*

Moving into Autumn and Winter, we ran another successful Light Party on October 31<sup>st</sup>, following a similar format to the



holiday club and reflecting on light, dark and what that means in the Christian faith.

We were delighted to take our drama group to the Narnia Experience in December, which they absolutely loved. This was a large-scale piece of community theatre and, as such, was inspiring for our group, most of whom would soon be preparing to take part in amateur dramatic group, The Stainbeck Players', 2014 pantomime. The Narnia Experience celebrated process as well as performance. As a story, it is powerful and moving. It was a very special evening for all of us.

Carols in the Park, funded in part by our Ward Councillors, was another well attended event that kick-started the

Christmas season for many. The sound of carols could be heard all around Meanwood through the afternoon's rehearsals and into



the early evening. Members of the drama group also helped out by walking around the area and inviting those they met, with the added enticement of mince pies!

### ***Not forgetting the regulars***

Together, Monday Night Youth Club (for young people age 9-16), Drama Club (7-14's) and Craft Club (anyone that can make it!) are attended by around 50 people each week and involve around 15 staff and volunteers from churches, organisations and residents in the local community. These groups have now been running for a number of years and continue to attract new people each week. They are genuine places of friendship and community as well as opportunities to develop skills and confidence. We're really pleased that they have been able to continue to grow.



## *Structure, Finances and Resources*

We're always grateful to volunteers and partners who help us continue what we do with time, skills, money, staff and gifts in kind.

In addition to individual givers, funders this year have included: Leeds Christian Community Trust; Yorkshire Synod of the URC; Diocese of Ripon and Leeds; Leeds City Council (MICE money awarded by Moortown and Chapel Allerton Ward Councillors); Chapel Allerton Community First; Stainbeck URC; Meanwood Valley Baptist Church; St. Matthew's Church and Holy Trinity Church.

InterACT is a member project of Leeds Christian Community Trust. LCCT enables, encourages and supports Christians, working in unity and in mission, to pursue their dreams and visions and make a positive difference in Leeds.

They do this by providing a legal and support structure that allows projects such as ours to focus on what we're passionate about, without forcing us to deal with the bureaucratic pressures normally associated with setting up a new initiative. In addition to this, they have provided us with 'seed funding' and development support.

You can find out more about them here: [www.lcct.org.uk](http://www.lcct.org.uk)

The church congregations that currently make up the InterACT partnership are: Holy Trinity, Meanwood; Meanwood Valley Baptist Church; St, Matthew's, Chapel Allerton, and Stainbeck United Reformed Church.

[www.holytrinitymeanwood.org.uk](http://www.holytrinitymeanwood.org.uk)

[www.mvbc.org.uk](http://www.mvbc.org.uk)

[www.stmatthewschapelallerton.org.uk](http://www.stmatthewschapelallerton.org.uk)

[www.stainbeck.urc.org.uk](http://www.stainbeck.urc.org.uk)

## *The Official Accounts*

### LEEDS CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY TRUST

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

<u>InterACT</u>	2013	2013	2012	2012
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Donations		6518		11540
Gift Aid		138		60
Grant Income		6040		3959
Fees Received for Activities		0		0
Income from Events		0		0
Income from Trading		0		0
Fundraising Events		0		0
Sales of Goods & Services		167		0
Investment Income		0		0
Other Incoming Resources		0		0
Allocated from TRUST		2000		4000
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<u>14863</u>		<u>19559</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Grants Payable	0		0	
Fundraising Costs	0		0	
Bank Charges	0		0	
Office & Admin	2851		2818	
People Costs	9831		9841	
Project Costs	2230		2488	
Governance Costs	0	14912	40	15187
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year		(49)		4372
Funds transferred		0		0
Designated fund opening balance		5818		1818
Restricted fund opening balance		372		0
<b>Total funds 31 December 2013</b>		<u>6141</u>		<u>6190</u>
Designated fund balance 31 December 2013		6141		5818
Restricted fund balance 31 December 2013		0		372
		<u>6141</u>		<u>6190</u>