

InterACT Annual Report 2017



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2017 has been a good year for InterACT, and we have moved into a season of relative stability and growth, becoming an independent charity in February.

We have lots of good stories and news to share from the year, as well as many things to look forward to as we move into 2018.

Find out more about our weekly activities (pages 3-4), special events (pages 4-5), supporters and structure (pages 6-7) and how you can give to our work financially (page 8).

Our Weekly Activities

Play and Learn

This weekly session at Meanwood Community Centre creates space for children aged 0-5 and adults to play together, with healthy snacks, messy play and singing. It's popular enough to have a waiting list, but it's still a relaxed and peaceful place to be.



Craft for Kids



Running at Stainbeck Church after school, these sessions for 5-8's and their families became so popular, we had to split the group in two.

We really enjoyed taking part in British Science Week this year and will look to do so again in future. It was great fun getting

the children to think about how making and science go together, from balloon-powered cars to boats in paddling pools.

We have now come to the end of these regular sessions and look forward to a rebirth of Craft for Kids (probably with a new name and format) in 2018.

Drama Club

We have had many brilliant years watching young people grow in confidence and skill as they took part in our weekly drama club. As our core group moved on, we decided to bring this weekly group to an end to make way for new ventures, such as the community show outlined elsewhere in this report. We are looking



forward to seeing what else we can do with drama in our local community.

Monday Night Youth Club

We enjoyed creating slime (aka making a mess!), a bouncy castle disco, pizza and quiz, apple bobbing, a photo treasure hunt and making rocky road, among many other things this year. A particular favourite was October's apple bobbing, which one young person said was the best thing they'd ever done!



Makelt!

Another group to have a facelift, we have increased the number of activities on offer through Makelt! to include board games and table tennis, in an attempt to appeal to a wider group of people. Now called Make'n'Do, we are pleased to say that numbers are increasing, although we are still working hard to make sure this remains a comfortable and safe space for all.

Special Events

Meanwood Festival

It was good to take part in this week-long festival this year, helping to create better awareness of the festival with a wider group of people in Meanwood, and vice versa.

Partnering with Leeds City Council, we organised two street parties especially for residents of those streets and the immediate surrounding area. We enjoyed sharing food and lots of fun with those who came along.



Summer Trip to Whitby

This year's annual trip to the seaside was to Whitby. A coach full of people of all ages made the trip, which had the added bonus of connecting us with some families we haven't seen for a while.

Board Games Days

We've had some great fun this year teaching new games to local residents and spending time with our regular gamers too. These events continue to be well attended and we're really pleased for such a welcoming introduction to board games for those who are new to it.



School holiday activities

We are now regular host to Meanwood Olympics – four days of active family activities. We've also run games and craft activities for families during the holidays, alongside the community café at Stainbeck Church, taken a number of families on trips, including Cannon Hall Farm (pictured here), and hosted a visit by a tortoise, owl and hedgehog (plus friends) - just to add a little variety.

A Wind of Change: Community Theatre Production

After many months planning and gathering funding, this project started in earnest in October, when participants began workshop sessions to draw



out material that will later be formed into a script. A number of professionals worked with four different groups to discover their unique take on changes that have/ are happening in Meanwood. We can't wait to

see what happens after Christmas, when rehearsals begin and we work towards production week in February.

And there's more...

Among the many other things that have been part of our year, we have been putting together a resource pack for parents based on material from parenting courses, continued to meet regularly with other local agencies, begun planning for a new community café to open in Spring 2018 and become an independent Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We are grateful for all the support we have to help make all these things happen.

Our Supporters

From practical volunteering to people who pray, to those who help us communicate across the area, there are many who give to us in many different ways.

Financially, support this year has come from: Leeds City Council (Wellbeing Fund, Housing Leeds and Youth Activity Fund); Leeds Federated Housing; Unity Housing; Leeds Inspired; GiveLoveLeeds; Gifting Leeds; Awards for All; AllChurches; Ann Maguire Education Trust; The Barn Meanwood; Leeds Building Society; British Science Association; Comic Relief; Leeds South & West Methodist Circuit; Stainbeck United Reformed Church; Meanwood Valley Baptist Church; St. Matthew's Church; and Holy Trinity Church.

We are grateful for a number of donations and standing orders from individual donors.

Structure

We were a member project of Leeds Christian Community Trust for many years. The Trust supported us with finances, structural support, training and opportunities to meet and learn with others around the city. Having

“nursed” us through our early years, we became independent on February 1st 2017. Our new charity number is 1171402 and we are still registered as InterACT Church and Community Partnership.

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

www.mvbc.org.uk

www.stmatthewschapelallerton.org.uk

www.stainbeckurc.org.uk

Can you help us?

The number of activities we now run on a regular basis has significantly grown over the years, and we are an established and well-known part of our local community. We really do rely on an amazing group of volunteers to make this happen, and we would love more people to join the team! There are so many ways to get involved, from setting up equipment to chatting to folk who attend our activities and much in between. Please get in touch.

And if you feel you can support us financially, please complete the form overleaf and send to us at Stainbeck Church, Stainbeck Road, LS7 2PP. Enclose one-off donations with this form. Information needed for standing orders and bank transfers is included, for those who prefer to set this up themselves. We’d be very grateful if you let us know you’re planning to give in this way. Thank you.

InterACT Financial Giving Form

Your name: _____

Your Address: _____

Phone and email: _____

I am giving a one-off gift of £_____ and enclose my donation.

I will be making a donation of £_____ by BACS

I am setting up a standing order mandate with my bank for the following amount £_____ per _____

I would prefer InterACT to send me a paper copy of a standing order mandate so that they can help me set this up with my bank.

Our Bank Details:

Name of Bank: CAF Bank

Address: 25 Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19

Acc. No.: 00030580

Sort Code: 40-52-40

Acc. Name: InterACT Church and Community Partnership

Gift Aid:

If you are a UK taxpayer, we can claim back 25p in every pound that you donate, making your gift go further. It can make a big difference. Please ask us for a Gift Aid form.