



Aylesbury Vale
**YOUTH
FOR CHRIST**

Annual Report

January - December 2020



Aylesbury Vale
**YOUTH
FOR CHRIST**

**We're about seeing young
people's lives changed by Jesus**



Note from the director

It's sort of hard to say anything meaningful that hasn't already been said about 2020. The clapping, the isolating, the worrying, the grieving, the takeaways, the social distance, the endless zoom. What a time to be alive.

I remember going to Nandos with the Connect Leaders in early March and

thinking "seems a bit quiet out. Probably be fine. Let's get some hot sauce."


Along with the rest of the globe, we rethought everything and enclosed in this short edition is a little insight into what we did and how we hope it'll affect the direction of travel.

As ever, if you'd like to ask or know anything more specifically, please give us a shout any time.

Thank you for everything.

With love,

Tom



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Read the whole Bible in 90 days

What should you do when the leader of your country says "you have to stay at home for the next 12 weeks"? You read the entire Bible, of course (and pace around the garden, find out what "Zoom" is, buy more chocolate than normal and finish Netflix).

It turns out the Bible is long. But reading the whole thing in a short space of time makes you realise that when Jesus appears and starts healing and teaching and provoking people, it's pretty much as if an actual superhero has arrived.

After Tom read each section he made a 2 minute round up of those 10 or so chapters, so that if you've never looked in a Bible in your life you'll have a little insight into the world of the bit you're reading. Sure, it won't win any awards for theological depth but it might just sneak a couple for bad haircuts, bad jokes and a good dose of misguided determination.

So if you'd like to discover the worst chat up lines ever, check out day 48. If you've ever wondered what else you can use a tent peg for, check out day 18. And if you want to know what happens when God becomes a man and starts wandering around on the planet he invented, just have a look at days 69-77. Or the outro video is only 2:28. That'll cover most of the bases...

It's all up on our YouTube Channel. Good luck with that.



What can we say about the Christian Youth Leaders Network? It's a beautiful thing. We've had the privilege and joy of meeting up weekly as a network of youth leaders throughout (most of) 2020 and this has been invaluable as we've wondered together what on earth was happening on the Earth.

Youth ministry can have a tendency to be quite an isolating vocation, but with all the isolating we've been doing, we have made sure we were not isolated.

Working together on Unite and Central Cell has been great, but what's been better has been a context where we could all get together, pray with and for one another and do our best to make sure we all kept some semblance of sanity throughout the challenge of 2020.

Thank you, not only to the CYLN and the associate members who joined us this year, but thank you also to the local church for your generosity in letting us work so closely with your brilliant staff members and volunteers. Anything good that has happened at Aylesbury Vale Youth for Christ has been the result of this collaboration, and 2020 has been no different. May God continue to bless and grow the relationships in this group, so we can see the kingdom of God come throughout our schools and churches.



Connect

Connect was going beautifully in January 2020. And February. And Mar... No wait, hang on.

For a couple of months young people were leading their peers in prayer and Bible study right in the heart of their school communities (you don't have to be fearless to be a Connect Leader, you just have to tell your fear to do one).

That's what our guys were doing and we were making our merry way through the prayer course, and learning how to connect with God in deeper ways.

Then, you know, Nandos. Then nothing. The memories of that Extra Hot Peri Peri chicken are still etched in our bewildered minds.

We were optimistic when Boris mentioned we'd have it licked in 12 weeks. But after an announcement that whole year groups would be bubbles and that schools were dealing with a brand new modus operandi, we thought it best to hit the pause button.

So Connect is having a snooze, but only a light one. We'll quickly rouse it once humans are allowed in the same room as other humans again. Imagine it.

Thank you to our lovely Connect Leaders and the ever brilliant Charles and Tolu. Sorry we didn't get to see out the whole year but we bet if you had done, you'd have smashed it.



Unite

Unite has continued throughout lockdown, as we've live streamed each month with a selection of games, guests, prayer ideas and the occasional powercut. Not ideal.

From toilet roll trick shots to very awkward humbug, from praying for the world to considering how much it would cost to buy a human, we've covered a fair bit of ground.

One highlight for us was the Unite Christmas Tournament, where we pitted 7 youth groups against each other with the promise of an incredible prize of a tin of Roses. That may not have been delivered in retrospect.

Like the rest of the planet, we'd love to get back in the room with real life humans and we look forward to the day when such a thing will be possible again. But until then, we'll keep doing the live streams for anyone who wants and needs them. Big thanks to the youth leaders and young people who have joined us and jumped into Unite over the course of 2020. Be kind of pointless without you.

A man and a woman are sitting in front of a wooden shelf. The shelf has several books and jars on it. The man is on the left, wearing a black shirt, and is gesturing with his hands. The woman is on the right, wearing a grey sweater, and is smiling. The text 'Central Cell Online' is overlaid on the image in white.

Central Cell Online

Last year, you may remember we had a plan to bring together the youth ministry across Aylesbury into one location each week, by launching Central Cell. It took us a little while to realise that this wasn't going to happen, we so got the CYLN together and we thought of a new plan.

We wanted to make sure youth leaders could still work closely together. We wanted to hold on to the concept of a weekly, town-wide youth ministry gathering. We wanted to make it lockdown proof and we wanted it to be accessible to anyone who might want to join us. After a few meetings with Connect leaders and youth leaders, the result was Central Cell Online (see what we did there...?).

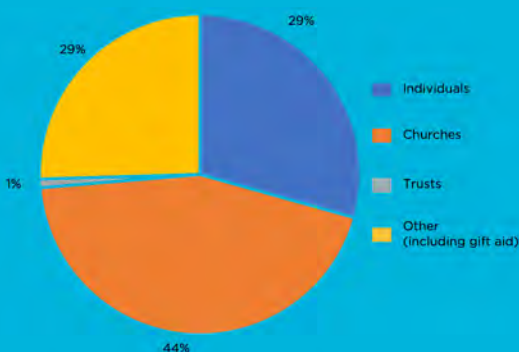
We're still convinced that the best way to grow as a Christian and to add to the Church is to have a community of people who can meet regularly and hammer out the implications of what it means to follow Jesus. So on October 20th, we did a pilot of Central Cell Online from the book of Ephesians. We live streamed onto YouTube and invited 8 local churches to tune in with their youth groups.

For the pilot, we wrote the session on Ephesians collaboratively between members of the CYLN and asked young people to film responses to questions and do the readings for us. It all seemed to work, so we're planning to continue Central Cell Online into 2021. And we can't wait to get everyone in a real life room again.

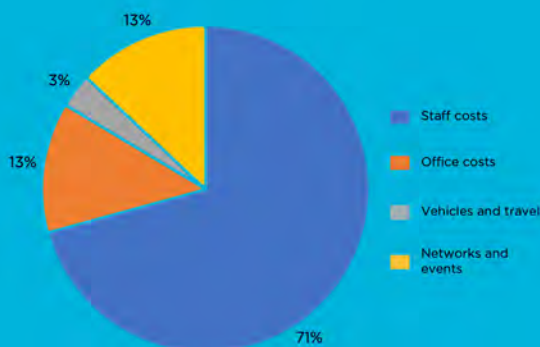
Finance



Income



Expenditure



Our total income for 2020 was **£52,004.29**.

Our total expenditure was **£51,380.00** giving us a surplus of **£624.29**.

Thank you again to our brilliant team of financial supporters who have enabled and encouraged us throughout the turbulent months of 2020. If you would like any further information on this years finances, please contact the office.

If you would like to join our team of financial supporters, all the information can be found at aylesburyvale.yfc.co.uk/donate.

Staff team

Charlie Collard
Tom Rawling

Christian Youth Leaders Network

Amelia Godden
Ben Holcombe (Associate member)
Claire Newman (Associate member)
James Henson
James Yelder
Kori Lucas (Associate member)
Lydia Yelder
Nick Collard
Toby Townsend

Council of Reference

David Graham
Karen Arnold
Lyn Burnhope
Pete Wheeler
Steve Burnhope

Trustees

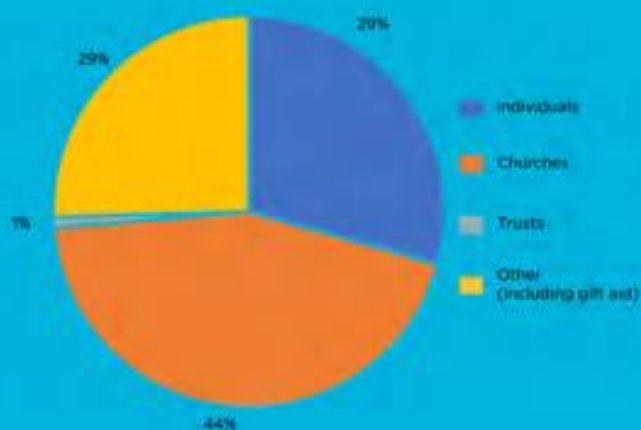
Anne Gooding
David Allsop
Geoffrey Kang'ombe
Paul Carpenter
Rachel Holmes



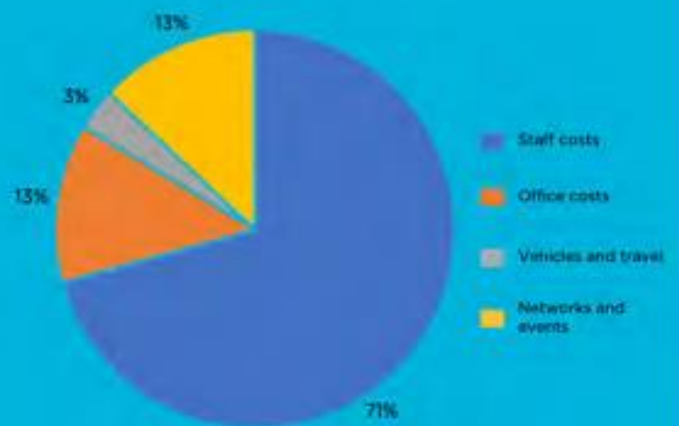
Aylesbury Vale
**YOUTH
FOR CHRIST**

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<https://aylesburyvale.yfc.co.uk>
Charity No. 1055282. A member of British Youth for Christ

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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Aylesbury Vale Youth for Christ

On accounts for the year
ended

31/12/2020

Charity no
(if any)

1055282

Set out on pages

As attached

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2020**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

10/02/2021

Name:

Jane Darbon

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

6 Gurney Close

Aylesbury

HP20 2XL

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.