



In presenting this report, the Trustees are aware of the requirement that the charity's activities should be for the public benefit. They are satisfied that the activities, available through the Centre, including the provision of work-experience placements, meet this requirement. They also always seek to ensure that volunteers and staff can take advantage of suitable training opportunities.

Core activities

The resources of the charity continue to be specifically directed to maintaining and developing the 7Corners Centre*, the Hot Spot Outreach, and various other outreach activities in Abergavenny.

- The long-term impact of the Covid 19 pandemic continues to impact on the Bridge to Cross Charitable Trust's activities over the last 12 months. Aggressive and disruptive behaviour displayed by some of the new young people has required the 7 Corners Centre to review its safety procedures to adapt to this challenge.
- The Mentoring Programme in King Henry VIII School is continuing.
- Film Night/Chip Night continues to be popular and has over the year utilised some of the produce collected via the FareShare scheme.
- The Café is seeing a diverse group of Young People attending, and staff are working hard to forge trusting relationships with them.
- HOTSPOT activities i.e., Detached Youth Work continues with pot noodles and hot chocolate still being "hot" favourites. We are also able to keep in touch with many 'older' Young People who no longer access the Centre based work.
- IYE Festival, this annual event was, due to extremely poor weather, attended by smaller numbers this year, but the Young People were undaunted and fully committed and enthusiastic in their involvement in the planning and execution.
- FareShare food donated by Waitrose and Tesco have been, due to collaboration between 7 Corners and the Saint Vincent De Paul (SVP) organisation, making weekly collections/deliveries providing support to both Abergavenny and Ebbw Vale regions. These activities, and the demands of food safety regulations have grown to such an extent that they have encroached on 7 Corners core work. Therefore, in early 2024 the reluctant decision has been made to take a break from these activities until further notice. Chip night and the celebration BBQ events will continue.

The Trustees look forward to next year continuing good governance of the charity, with particular focus on financial controls, safeguarding, user engagement and branding.

Finance

The trustees are grateful to Dorrell Oliver for auditing the accounts again this year, as well as our Treasurer submitting accounts and providing us with regular reports



throughout the year to manage financial risk. We have continued to receive generous support from many donors in the local community, who support the charity through regular giving many of whom are able to add Gift Aid to their donations. We have also continued to receive support through Donor grants from Gwent High Sheriff's Fund, Abergavenny Town Council, with whom we have established a co-operation agreement, and the continued support of local churches and business. This financial year we also received a grant from Postcode Lottery which was very welcome.

Despite the support it is always a challenge each year to maintain level of support necessary and essential costs are increasing. We recognised and appreciate the efforts of the Administrator in maintaining and securing grants needed to enable us to continue to support our community.

Trustees

The Bridge to Cross Charitable Trust has seen considerable change in this last 12 months with the Chair - Peter Nuttall, and the Chaplain - Nick Pryor stepping down. The Deputy Chair - Alison Stroud has temporarily assumed the Chair, and we have a new Chaplain from the Salvation Army, Nigel Collins. Alan Freebury as Treasurer, Michael Marsden as Secretary, and all the other actively supporting Trustees, including Sandy Greenslade, Mary Kennedy, Dr. Huw Morgan, Caroline Woollard, and Andrew Willie have recently been joined by two new Trustees, Fr. Matthew Carney and Keith Rutherford. Both are extremely welcomed by all.

Payments to trustees

There were no payments to Trustees during the year.

Employees

Mrs Julie Sussex continues to quietly, efficiently, and effectively, to support us all in her role of Administrator, giving excellent backing to the Centre Manager, Chair, and Treasurer. Her efforts have continued to ensure, through these financially difficult times, that we have obtained financial support from a wide range of donors. We are also extremely grateful that she continues to volunteer for some of the activities of the Centre

Ange Sampson continues to manage all aspects of the Centre, Hot Spot Outreach, and various other activities with her customary sensitive care and dedication. The negative effects of Covid 19 shut down's have again made her work with the young people more challenging in these last 12 months and she has benefitted from receiving confidential supervision to enable her to reflect on and rise to this challenge.



Volunteers

We continue to be extremely grateful to all our volunteers and helpers who have supported Ange in the various outreach activities and at the Centre.

Patron

Our Patron, Dame Claire Clancy, Deputy-Lord Lieutenant of Gwent, continues to be an enthusiastic proactive asset to 7 Corners. Claire's offer to write a definition of the Patron's role was particularly appreciated and has been incorporated into the 'Trustees & Patron's roles and responsibilities.

Data protection

The Centre does not retain information about casual Centre users. Appropriate data is retained for employees, volunteers and gift-aid donors in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations.

Conclusion

In the face of the desperately volatile and unsure times we live in, the charity continues to "make a difference" to the lives of the young people who seek us out. We continue to provide a safe place where the young people can gather in safety, receive support and guidance and, as opportunity offers, be encouraged to develop life and practical skills.

Chair of Trustees

Bridge to Cross Charitable Trust

**The 7Corners Centre is a project funded by the Bridge to Cross Charitable Trust and is dedicated to offering hope and hospitality to all young people and to meet the mission statement of providing 'a centre where young people can meet in safety, find help for personal development and support if in crisis.'*

BRIDGE TO CROSS CHARITABLE TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Grants	1		20,342	20,342	9,000
Donations		20,904	500	21,404	21,470
Investment Income		1,744		1,744	680
Fund raising	2	175		175	427
Other income	3	1,256		1,256	8
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		24,079	20,842	44,921	31,585
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Salaries and wages		18,448	12,556	31,004	29,513
Maintenance and equipment	4	3,514	1,419	4,933	3,931
Management and administration	5	3,731	5,335	9,066	9,419
Other costs	6	659	3,631	4,290	4,399
Depreciation					1,104
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		26,352	22,941	49,293	48,366
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		-2,273	-2,099	-4,372	-16,781
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		43,436	7,491	50,927	67,708
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		41,163	5,392	46,555	50,927

BRIDGE TO CROSS CHARITABLE TRUST

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Report to the trustees of Bridge to Cross Charitable Trust on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act). It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act.
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair'

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

E A Moore FCA
Dorell Oliver Limited
Chartered Accountants
Linden House
Monk Street
Abergavenny
Monmouthshire

