

# WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES

England & Wales · Charity number 1116603

## Details

---

Other names	WCCYM
Status	Registered
Legal form	Trust
Registered	2006-11-01
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

---

**Address** 58 Main Street  
Hardwick  
Cambridge  
CB23 7QU

**Phone** 01954211900

**Email** [info@wccym.org](mailto:info@wccym.org)

**Website** [www.wccym.org](http://www.wccym.org)

## Activities

---

**Objects:** TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS APPEARING IN THE SCHEDULE HERETO IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT AND TO FULFIL SUCH OTHER PURPOSES WHICH ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES AND ARE CONNECTED WITH THE CHARITABLE WORK OF THE TRUST.

**Activities:** Religious Activities, Children and Young People

## Classification

---

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** CAMBRIDGESHIRE
- Cambridgeshire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£71,461	£75,275	-	-
2024-08-31	£61,577	£67,179	-	-
2023-08-31	£74,110	£58,773	-	-
2022-08-31	£55,755	£55,824	-	-
2021-08-31	£45,591	£41,060	-	-
2020-08-31	£38,384	£34,637	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Nigel Taylor</b>	Chair	2018-01-17
Rev KEITH TARRING		2016-06-29
Rev William Jonathan Miller		2021-04-21

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1116603

---

# Accounts

---

# WCCYM

WEST CAMBRIDGE **CHRISTIAN** YOUTH MINISTRIES

# ANNUAL REPORT



# A NOTE FROM THE WCCYM TEAM LEADER

This year we have written the WCCYM Annual Report a little differently. We wanted to share some direct experiences that people have had with WCCYM in the last year; young people, volunteer youth leaders, parents, youth workers, church leaders. We asked them a variety of questions about their experiences, and have included their answers within this report. We have mostly included information about the academic year from September 2024 until August 2025, but some of the information has included the start of this current academic year.

We hope that all that is shared in this report will give you a snapshot of what WCCYM is like, for the different people involved.

We continue to be very grateful to all those who support us, whether that is through encouragement and support, practical help, prayer and financial giving, so thank you very much.

## WCCYM'S KEY VALUES ARE TO:

work in **partnership**  
build **trust**  
show **respect**  
bring **hope**  
be **Christ-centred**



**SUSIE  
THOMSON**

WCCYM Team Leader

# WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR OF THE EXEC.

**NIGEL TAYLOR**

Chair of the Executive Committee

## **How long have you been involved in the management committee for WCCYM?**

I was asked to join the management committee in March 2018 and became chair of trustees in June 2021 when Steve Gaze stepped down after many years' involvement with WCCYM..

## **Why did you originally want to get involved?**

Having enjoyed a long career in education (11-18 schools and a sixth form college) I wanted to remain involved in voluntary work focused on young people. I benefited greatly from Christian youth clubs and camps when I was a teenager and wanted to contribute to making this available in the local West Cambridge area.

## **What do you enjoy most about being involved in the management committee?**

Working together with Christians from other local churches; seeking opportunities to increase our funding in order to expand WCCYM activities; encouraging youth leaders as they develop new initiatives in schools as well as various WCCYM groups.

## **What do you find most encouraging about the contents of this report?**

- So many young people talking about reasons for coming to WCCYM: fun, food, friendship and exploring the Christian faith:
- Noting that two of our youth leaders began as young people attending WCCYM....we always look to the future

**WCCYM** is a partnership of churches in villages to the west of Cambridge, working together for young people in a manner that they could not do individually.



**THIRST** is our monthly youth service featuring a meal, a large group game, a time of sung worship and a short talk.

## LILIA YOUNG PERSON

I go to the WCCYM music group, which is roughly once a fortnight and we will try and work on some pieces of music. Sometimes we lead worship at Thirst, the WCCYM Carol Service and at WCCYM weekend. I really like that it's a social space and we're playing music and seeing what works and what doesn't; just trying out new stuff.

I also go to Discipleship and Thirst. I really enjoy the atmosphere that's there, and we can just hang out and learn more about God. I think it's very much stretched my opinion on things, because it's not just me saying what I think, but I'm listening to what other people think and hearing what they have to say as well, and hearing things from other people's point of view, which then sometimes will end up changing mine.

If there are young people who want to come but are not really sure, at most of the events there is free food, which is helpful to push people to come. It's really fun. We're just hanging out with a tonne of people who believe in God and want to learn more about God as well.



# NATHAN

## VOLUNTEERING FOR 7 YEARS

Last year, I volunteered at WCCYM Discipleship, which was great fun and very rewarding. The young people (and volunteers) have desserts together whilst they chat and play board games. We then split into smaller groups to discuss the session's topic and Bible study, which encouraged great discussions (on and often off topic) between the young people. It's been great to see their confidence and friendships grow as a result.

I also volunteered with the WCCYM group camping at Satellites youth festival. This involved helping to get our camp site set up, and then supporting and encouraging the young people throughout the week. We attended main sessions with brilliant worship and talks, in addition to seminars on a wide variety of topics. It was great to see the young people grow in their faith and rushing to get to the main sessions early! I've also found volunteering with WCCYM at these festivals to be a real encouragement for my own faith and a great opportunity to get to know other leaders better.

It's great seeing young people grow in confidence and faith through all of WCCYM's events. It's also a brilliant team of youth leaders and volunteers who all encourage and support each other too - a real blessing to work together with them.

It can be a challenge to understand all of the difficulties that young people face today, which can be different from my own experience when I was younger. However, WCCYM ran a 'Youthscape Essentials' volunteering training programme over the last couple of years which has been helpful in learning more about topics such as social media, gender and sexuality, and mental health. This helps me to feel better equipped to negotiate these topics if they come up in discussions.

WCCYM benefits young people by allowing them to build friendships with other like-minded young people, creating strong support groups especially for those at the end of secondary school or sixth form. WCCYM also gives them their own space to explore their faith in a setting designed for them, where their local church may not have the resources to do so.

I attended WCCYM events as a young person, which were instrumental in developing in my own faith; I also continue to have friendships now which were built during my time as a young person at WCCYM events. I love being able to give-back by volunteering and seeing the same impact on young people today.

# ABBIE

## YOUNG PERSON

In the summer, I went to Satellites, which is a festival for five days.

Honestly, I don't think there's an experience quite like it. To have so many people of faith in one place, with a common goal, all hoping to know Jesus better, and the friends that I've made there. I met two people on the day that we travelled, and now we're really good friends and see each other all the time; we had a really good time.

I come to Deeper, which is a Sixth Form session every few Fridays. We have dinner together and dessert, we play fun getting-to-know-you games, and we do more focussed sessions about faith. We watched an episode of The Chosen recently which was really interesting.

I'd say my confidence in meeting new people has grown. I'm more open to talking to new people and I've come out of my shell a bit more.

Even on days when you don't feel motivated or your social battery feels a bit low, just come along; you don't even have to talk to anyone if you don't want to, you can just kind of sit in the room, enjoy the atmosphere, eat some nice food and then who knows, you might become more sociable or feel like it later.



**SATELLITES** is a 5 day festival that encourages young people to put Jesus at the centre of their lives for the other 360 days in a year.

# CHERIE WILLIAMSON

## CHAPLAINCY LEAD

I first starting doing youth work whilst studying my Under Graduate Studies. Once I graduated I worked in several different Youth and Community work settings in Charities, Churches and the statutory sector. This led me on to study an MA in Community Education and other studies to enhance my work and broaden my understanding of working with people of all ages.

I started working for WCCYM in 2018 and I can honestly say I have loved working for WCCYM. It is great to work with a group of people who are clearly focused on serving others and following God. I mainly work as the Chaplaincy Lead at Comberton Village College and support students and staff each week, as well as being involved in a variety of other WCCYM projects, which is great! One of the things I love about the kind of work I do, is the amazing people, both young and old, that you get to meet and support. I have met some really amazing people over the years and look forward to meeting more in the future.

A few years ago, I felt led to look into becoming an 'Ordained Baptist Minister' with a particular focus on being an Ordained Chaplain. Earlier this year I completed this process and became officially ordained by the Baptist Union and I am now what they call a Newly Accredited Minister. It was great to mark this with my official Ordination Service at Hardwick Evangelical Church in October. Thank you to those of you who came along on the day to be part of the service.



**CHAPLAINCY** in Comberton Village College provides pastoral and spiritual support for staff and students whether one-to-one, in small groups or by running different workshops.

# YOUNG PERSON

## **Tell us about one of the WCCYM activities you go to.**

I go to WCCYM Music group and enjoy that we get to learn lots of new songs and it helps develop my musical skills. I also like practicing what to play in the songs, worshipping together and learning what you do to combine music and worship.

## **What other WCCYM activities have you been involved in and what has been good about them?**

I have also been to CU (Christian Union) at Comberton. It's been a nice way to chill and talk to each other and also learn about God in different ways at school with different people who I might know.

## **How do you think you've benefitted from WCCYM?**

It's helped me to understand the Bible more and keep doing Christian stuff outside of church as otherwise I might not do that.

## **What is one thing you would say to others about WCCYM to encourage them to get involved?**

You get to meet lots of people your age who are also Christian who you might not otherwise talk to.

**WCCYM MUSIC GROUP** sees a handful of young people gather to play music, improve their skills and worship God together.



# COMBERTON SIXTH FORM

We go into Comberton Sixth Form to provide pastoral support work, deliver Personal Development lessons, facilitate a Christian Union and hand out hot chocolates to students.

## **Can you tell us something about your experience of having WCCYM youthworkers in the Sixth Form?**

WCCYM play a vital role in both our Sixth Form support provision and our Personal Development Programme. The 1-to-1 wellbeing support sessions Susie and Cherie provide, gives the students they meet a safe place to share their worries, thoughts and feelings each week. This provision allows us to provide support not only to students struggling with their mental health, but also those who are going through family upset, a bereavement or relationship troubles.

## **What do you see as the benefit of having WCCYM youthworkers doing some of these activities?**

Thinking specifically about their input to our Personal Development Programme, it is hugely valuable for our students to hear from trusted adults who aren't teachers! Some of the sessions they cover are sensitive topics to discuss, such as healthy relationships and consent, and our students benefit from their knowledge and experience of working with young people.

## **Do you have anything else to add about WCCYM's schoolswork?**

We are hugely grateful for the part WCCYM plays in our Sixth Form, helping us to ensure are students are well supported. Their input into our provision helps to ensure our students leave Comberton Sixth Form as resilient young adults who are ready to make their next steps.

# KEITH

## PARENT, MINISTER AND TRUSTEE

### **How long have you been involved in WCCYM, and how?**

I have been involved with WCCYM for about 12 years as a member of the exec, then a Trustee and for the last 9 years as a parent. I've also volunteered at various things and helped out with RPE days at CVC.

### **How has WCCYM impacted your family?**

WCCYM has been so important for our three girls having spaces where they can explore faith in a bigger context. Events like the weekend away and Satellites have been significant events in their story. They have made friends with young people from other churches and schools which is good.

### **How has WCCYM impacted your church life?**

We are fortunate to have young people in our church but we haven't always had an employed youth worker. But our brilliant team of volunteers have been able to be encouraged and trained through WCCYM. Also the connections that we have with other local church through WCCYM has been a blessing.

### **Tell us something about your involvement on the WCCYM management team?**

As a member of the management team we get to hear many of the stories - and these are often a real encouragement. We also get to hear of the needs and the things we could be doing. So part of our role is to prayerfully consider how God wants us to be investing our time and resources so that we can do what we do really well without spreading ourselves too thinly. It is also important to look after our youth workers. I have some responsibility around safeguarding which involves making sure that we are up to date with training and practices and then helping work out how to respond in specific situations.



### **How would you summarise WCCYM for those who do not know much about it?**

WCCYM is an organisation that brings together local Christians and churches to help make Jesus known to local young people in our churches, schools and communities.



# ABI YOUNG PERSON

## **Tell us about one of the WCCYM activities you go to.**

I go to WCCYM Discipleship, which is a sort of small group for youth but with games and cake. 😊

## **What do you enjoy about it?**

I enjoy meeting some incredible young people, sharing our views and opinions on different matters/topics, as well as getting to grow together and learn from each other. It is also nice to get to see a very similar group of people each time, getting to know each other better as time goes on.

## **What other WCCYM activities have you been involved in?**

I also go to Thirst, WCCYM socials (including punting, bowling and games night) as well as Satellites and the WCCYM weekend to Burwell.

## **How do you think you've benefitted from WCCYM?**

WCCYM has given me some incredible opportunities to meet other, local, Christian young people. This has also improved my confidence and comfort with being around and socialising with others, particularly of my own age.

I have also dived deeper into my faith thanks to WCCYM. From discovering a multitude of different ideas and perspectives on Bible passages and theories, to WCCYM's invaluable support in getting baptised earlier this year.

## **What is one thing you would say to others about WCCYM to encourage them to get involved?**

Go for it! It is such a welcoming and loving group of people, and we would love to have you there!

**WCCYM DISCIPLESHIP** gathers young people together with desserts and games before having small group Bible study discussions on that week's theme.

# FINANCES FOR SEPTEMBER 2024 TO AUGUST 2025

It's been an exciting year for WCCYM financially – we started the year in the expectation of having to dip quite significantly into our resources to maintain the staffing and service level of the previous three years - and ended the year with only a thousand pounds to find!

Our heartfelt thanks go out to all those who have supported us financially this year whether you are one of our core local churches or an individual who cares about our work, or one of the many Big Weekend Fundraisers who put in such a tremendous effort last year to boost our coffers.

We were also successful in our bid for a grant from the Deo Gloria Trust and will keep looking for similar funding as we go forward into next year.

We continue to work closely with Comberton Village College, both with individuals, groups, and with staff, and they continue to contribute towards the cost of the services we provide.

Over half of our income comes from the generosity of our supporters – without you we would not be able to reach the number of young people that we do – Thank you! And please keep giving!

If you would like to give towards the work of WCCYM, please contact:



**info@wccym.org**

to find out how best for you to support WCCYM or visit our stewardship page

**stewardship.org.uk/partners/  
20029793**

# HERE ARE THE FIGURES:

## \* INCOME



Churches & Trusts	<b>£21277</b>
Gifts, Donations & Gift Aid*	<b>£14703</b>
Pastoral Support	<b>£20214</b>
Other income	<b>£4030</b>
Events & Activities	<b>£8177</b>
Fundraising Events	<b>£6994</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£73073</b>

\*inc. Other Income and Bank Interest

Staff/workers	<b>£52641</b>
Events & Activities	<b>£10776</b>
School based	<b>£1655</b>
Overheads	<b>£1860</b>
Staff Training & Resources	<b>£2072</b>
Bookkeeping	<b>£1666</b>
Staff Travel	<b>£1592</b>
Safeguarding & Insurance	<b>£1053</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£73315</b>

## \* EXPENDITURE



# LUCY

## YOUNG PERSON

### **Tell us about one of the WCCYM activities you go to.**

I went to the summer party and I enjoyed that, and the punting, and the Yr 6 moving up activities.

### **What do you enjoy about it?**

It was very reassuring for the Yr 6 activities, that we were talking about all of the changes and how things would change when moving up to secondary school.

### **What other WCCYM activities have you been involved in and what has been good about them?**

The punting and the summer party. Punting we just were on a punt on the river and we were put in a punt with some of our friends and we were just talking and we got pizza after. And the summer party, there was football and stuff and fun like that.

### **How do you think you've benefitted from WCCYM?**

When they did the Yr 6 activities then I benefitted for starting secondary school because they were talking about stuff you should be sure of and stuff that would be helpful.

### **What is one thing you would say to others about WCCYM to encourage them to get involved?**

That it's fun, spiritual, and you make lots of friends.



**YEAR 6s ARE INVITED** to many of our activities during the summer term and, during that time, we provide some standalone Year 6 groups to help them meet new people and talk about the challenges and changes that will occur as they head to secondary school.

# NICK SLATER

## YOUTH WORKER

Growing up as young person in WCCYM, I experienced first hand the great work this charity does. WCCYM provided me opportunities to explore my gifting and calling, especially when I began to feel a call to Christian Youth Work. The youth workers allowed me to begin volunteering and running groups for those in their early teens and gave me opportunities to lead at Thirst and other events. I looked into gaining further experience and studying Theology to better equip me for this kind of work. Five years later, I returned to the West Cambridge area with a degree and a whole bunch of different experience from churches across the country and I continued to volunteer with and support the work of WCCYM (I also became youth worker at Comberton Baptist Church for a little bit).

It wasn't until 2021 that I actually joined the WCCYM team in my current role as Discipleship and Outreach Projects Worker. Within this role I have the great opportunity to draw alongside young people at many different stages of their relationship with Jesus, from introducing them to Him for the first time to nurturing young people, and their gifts, allowing them serve Jesus in their own way. It is a great privilege to be able to invest in these young people in the same way that I was invested in as a young person myself.

I also get to do some really fun things and call it work; playing board games, eating food, making music, talking about Jesus and playing Dungeons & Dragons. This job RULES!!!





# WCCYM IN SCHOOLS

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore.

## MARKET ANALYSIS

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi.

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi.

**IN JULY**, we ran a reflection day for all students in Year 7 at Comberton Village College for the first time.

# ANASTASIA

## YOUNG PERSON



**Tell us about one of the WCCYM activities you go to.**

Thirst. It's fun... the community gathering every second Sunday, and we get to catch up with people and have a fun time. We have a meal and then we have a game and a talk and some worship.

**What do you enjoy about it?**

The talk. It's very good to hear from people wiser in Bible knowledge and also some young people who do some of the talks.

**How do you think you've benefitted from WCCYM?**

It's given me a greater sense of Christian community and Christian friends and made me more confident in faith and grown my faith.

**What is one thing you would say to others about WCCYM to encourage them to get involved?**

It's a great community.

**What other WCCYM activities have you been involved in and what do you enjoy about them?**

WCCYM Weekend away.. Because it's a longer period of time to spend with the friends and have a lot of fun and be serious sometimes, maybe not, in faith.

**WCCYM WEEKEND** saw approximately 30 young people join us in Burwell House for a weekend of games, team work, discussion, gunge and inspirational talks about the Christian faith.



# SARAH

## PARENT AND MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### **How long have you been involved in WCCYM, and how?**

I've been involved in WCCYM for about seven or eight years, as a youthwork leader in my church and latterly on the management committee, representing the Lordsbridge team of churches, and also latterly the last three or four years as a parent as well.

### **How has WCCYM impacted your family?**

It's been really positive having something for the children when they become young people to become involved in, if they want to, because it's so difficult to provide many youth work opportunities for our young people. There's only a handful in our church. It's brilliant to be able to encourage them to go to something else, to have a supportive youthwork community and a community of young people to be able to look into if they wanted to; to have more of a tribe to get together with, to worship with, to socialise with. To have this kind of ready-made group of Christian young people to get involved with, is really, really valuable.

### **How has WCCYM impacted your church life?**

Likewise, it's really helpful to have a partnership through our church. If we didn't have this connection with WCCYM, we wouldn't be able to provide many youthwork opportunities, losing the only young people from church altogether. It reminds the church, that whatever their age or their stage of their faith, that there are young people here and that they can invest in them through praying for them, through working with them, and the support that the church gives to WCCYM is really important. It allows us to have open conversations with them about young people and the vision they have. It allows us to showcase worshipping in different ways as well as thinking through how can we include young people in the church and what that might look like.

### **Tell us something about your involvement on the WCCYM management team**

It's really interesting to be involved with other ministers, youth leaders and youth workers, especially from different backgrounds as well, with a vision for serving young people in west Cambridge; wherever they are, whether they're in school, whether they're already in a church, whatever denomination that church is; it's really valuable to put any divisions aside and work together, for the furthering of God's Kingdom in west Cambridge for young people. To be able to feed into that and represent our team of churches, is really valuable.

# LUIS YOUNG PERSON

## **Tell us about one of the WCCYM activities you went to last year and what you enjoyed about it?**

I went to Satellites. The feeling of fellowship feels more like a family than friends and the fun we had playing games and talking with each other, as well as the worship and incredible sessions that taught us so much.

## **What other WCCYM activities have you been involved in and what has been good about them?**

Deeper was an amazing group of people looking at leadership and how we can be better leaders, as well as laughing at some of the awkward videos we were meant to be learning from.

WCCYM Discipleship was very fun and interesting to hear a variety of different people talking about the same subjects and how everyone takes it in differently.

At Thirst there is great food worship and talks as well as a lovely way to talk to friends as well as other people who you aren't as close with.

WCCYM Weekend is so much fun every year, real bonding experience that strengthens friendships and creates new ones.

## **How many years have you been involved in WCCYM and do you have any specific memories?**

7 years- going punting and WCCYM weekend away in Year 7 and then again in Year 13, and how enjoyable both times were even with different people. But memories made at Satellites will always be at the very top.

## **How do you think you've benefitted from WCCYM?**

It's given me incredible friendships, and memories I'll cherish forever as well as making me more confident in myself and my faith.

## **What is one thing you would say to others about WCCYM to encourage them to get involved?**

Come along because the people are some of the nicest in the world and they'll make it so easy to fit in.



**DEEPER** is our discipleship group for sixth form aged young people allowing them time to relax from the pressures of life.



# KATE

## VOLUNTEERING FOR 4 YEARS

### **How long have you been volunteering with WCCYM?**

Not sure how long I've been volunteering, I've sort of gradually added bits and pieces . Maybe 3 or 4 years.

### **Tell us about one of the WCCYM activities you volunteered with last year.**

Last year, I helped with Deeper which is the group for Year 12/13s. I loved it because it was a smaller group and we always ate a meal together so there was time for relaxed conversation and some very competitive games! We chose the meal themes - anything from pizza to beige! The discussions were honest and it was a place where young people could share questions honestly. At the pizza Q and A it was great to hear some of them talking about their plans and hopes and wanting to have their faith central as they moved on to different places.

### **Tell us about another WCCYM activity you have helped with.**

I also helped with the WCCYM weekend - a first as my children had been but I never had. Great fun including my team winning the quiz and excellent food with lots of cake, but also just really appreciated the longer time away, so the talks and the worship and the discussions could go that bit deeper with fewer distractions. A real opportunity to get to know the whole WCCYM team as well.

### **What do you enjoy about volunteering with WCCYM?**

I genuinely find it fun. The discussions are honest and unpredictable which is really refreshing. I love being part of a passionate team who do really care about the young people and about Jesus; at the end of a week at work, that can be much-needed inspiration.

### **What are some of the challenges?**

The challenges: wanting to know all the answers or be able to offer quick fixes. Sometimes being tired and not able to match the energy!! Getting to know people as well as possible when you don't see them between WCCYM things. Making sure everyone is included in a way that works for them, noticing everyone. Knowing that it can be a hard world for young people.

### **What do you see as one of the benefits of WCCYM for young people?**

Friendship. Knowing there's a much bigger group than just your church group. Having trusted Christian adults to talk to who are not always the people your family knows really well.

# A NOTE OF THANKS... IN MEMORY OF PAUL GILDERSLEVE

“Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.” So wrote St Paul in his letter to the Philippians (4:9). I’m too young to have met St Paul, the Biblical Apostle, and I’m confident all of you are as well – but I did have the privilege of knowing Paul Gildersleve who died recently after many decades of serving people in local villages and further away, in Jesus’ name. Quietly, without fuss, but with great perseverance, gentleness and encouragement, Paul (together with active support from his family) influenced many of our lives for good. As WCCYM we are very grateful for his input, and what follows are some of my personal memories as he supported and encouraged me over the years.

Paul prayed – I first met Paul in the late 1990’s at a prayer meeting for WCCYM held in Paul and Ann’s house in Baldwins Close in Bourn.

Paul gave – of his time, his intelligence, his humour, his resources, his money. Along with Stephen Terrell and Graham Daniels, Paul helped set up WCCYM in the early 1990s and for many years was treasurer. He also kindly helped provide office space and facilities to use at Manor Farm, and storage space for equipment that gradually accumulated as the organisation and activities grew.

Paul thought – he was highly intelligent but also practical; an early adopter of computer technology and the ongoing development; able to discuss knowledgeably agriculture, theology, computers and any number of interests; able to gently ask difficult questions.

Paul left us an example of life that we would do well to follow.



Written by Steve Gaze

# SUSIE THOMSON

## WCCYM TEAM LEADER



**SUSIE'S ROLE**  
includes liaising with  
local churches;  
attending meetings to  
give updates on  
WCCYM and advocate  
for young people

My journey with WCCYM started when I was in Year 7, which was in 1992, when WCCYM was started. So as a young person living in one of the local villages, I experienced the benefit of WCCYM working across the churches, and in my own secondary school, Comberton Village College.

I had a gap year and then went to University, studying Education, and started my career as a primary school teacher. During this time, I was also volunteering with WCCYM in my free time, and went to a Youthwork conference with others involved in WCCYM. I felt really inspired by some of the seminars and remember having a conversation with one of the WCCYM youthworkers at the time, asking if he thought that I could be a youthworker. This was the next stage in my journey of youthwork, as I taught for 2 years full time, before then going part-time for 2 years, also working for Hardwick Evangelical Church as their youth worker. I gained more experience by spending 18 months working in South Africa with Scripture Union, where much of this work was in schools, and running camps.

When I returned to the UK, I did an MA in Youth & Community Work with Applied Theology, alongside a youthwork placement with the Papworth Team Ministry. I started working for WCCYM in 2009 and have been ever since, with 3 maternity leaves thrown in at various points!

I love working for WCCYM. Working with young people is such a privilege, and I feel passionate about supporting them through the ups and downs of life. I also love being able to support young people in their Christian faith, and helping to support local churches in this way.

# CLARE CRONIN

## MINISTRY TEAM LEADER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AT CAMBOURNE CHURCH

### **How did WCCYM fit into your church youthwork role at Cambourne church?**

I saw our youth work at Cambourne Church as a ministry that was delivered in partnership with WCCYM. While we had our own church-based groups, working together allowed us to do more. Together we could maintain a consistent presence at Cambourne Village College; bring a range of young people we had connections with to worship together at Thirst; provide support for Year 6s as they move up to secondary school (to name just a few things!).

### **Tell us about a couple of your memories from the last couple of years with WCCYM?**

I have a lot of good memories from our trips to Satellites, from the long car journeys, to the washing up, to attending seminars together. Watching friendships grow at WCCYM Weekend was joy. Hearing young people ask and answer some big questions at Discipleship was a privilege. The chaos and commitment of Cambourne Christian Union was always a highlight.

### **You have now moved on to something new.. tell us about what you're doing now?**

I have joined the team at Cambridge & District Youth for Christ as Senior Youth Ministry Manager. I get to use the experience I've gained from being part of the WCCYM Team, to equip and resource others as we run youth drop-ins and mentor young people in schools.

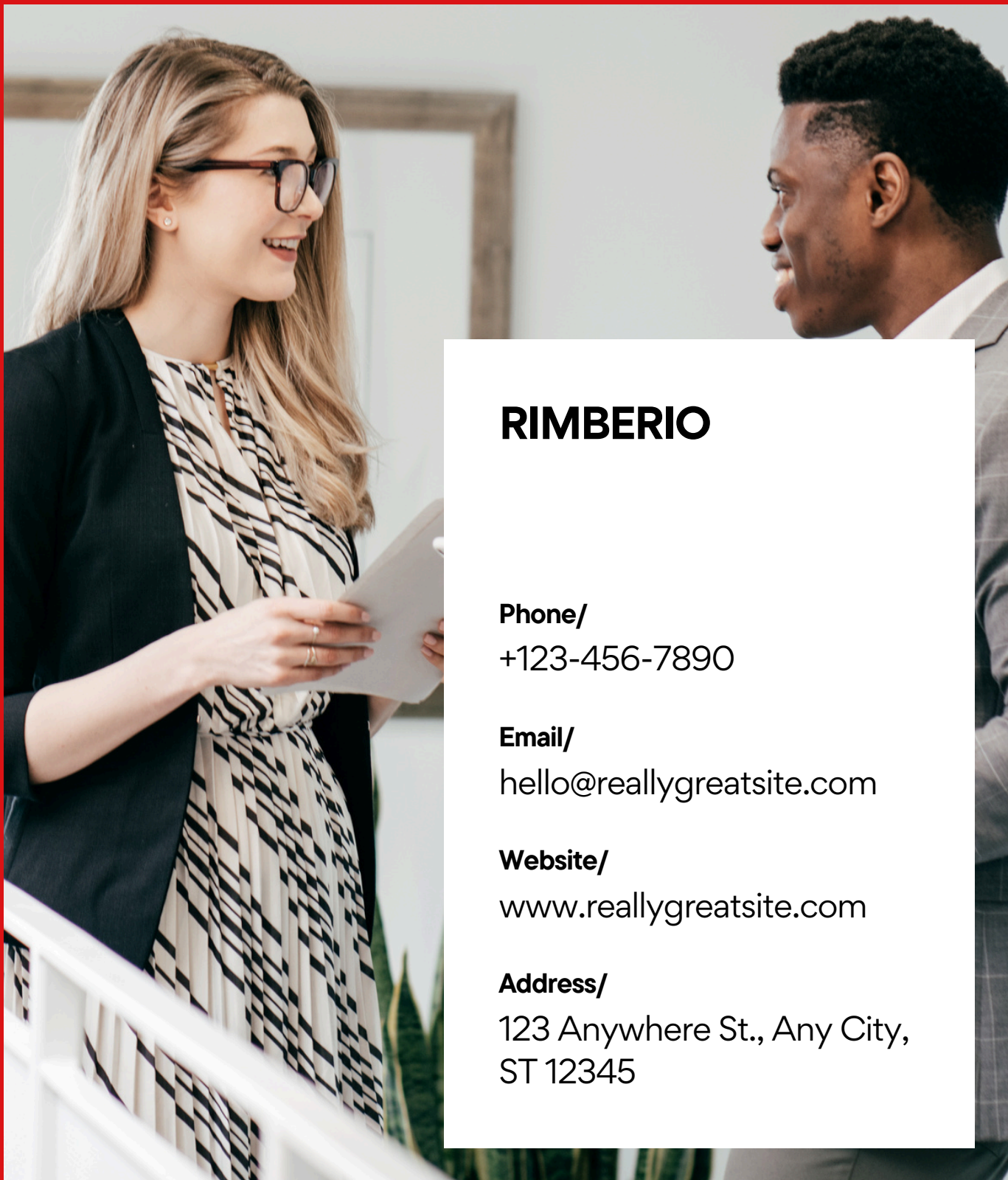
### **What will you miss most about WCCYM?**

The young people! And the wonderful WCCYM Team and volunteers.



**IN SEPTEMBER 2025,** Clare moved on from her role at Cambourne Church. In her role at Cambourne Church she was also part of the WCCYM Team. We are sad to see her go but glad she is local still and wish her all the best in her new role.

# CONTACT US



## RIMBERIO

**Phone/**

+123-456-7890

**Email/**

hello@reallygreatsite.com

**Website/**

www.reallygreatsite.com

**Address/**

123 Anywhere St., Any City,  
ST 12345

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 AUGUST 2025**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

**CONTENTS**

- 1 Profit & Loss Account**
- 2 Balance Sheet**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRY**

**PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

		Total £	BUDGET £	VARIANCE £
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
	1			
Gifts & Donations	A	12,509	11,620	889
Churches and support organisations	B	21,277	14,550	6,727
Joint Service	C	184	250	(66)
Special Events & Activities	D	7,993	0	7,993
School Service Agreements	E	20,214	19,300	914
Fundraising Events	F	6,994	3,250	3,744
Other Income	G	2,134	2,200	(66)
Bank Interest		156	200	(44)
		<u>71,461</u>	<u>51,370</u>	<u>20,091</u>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
	2			
Staff Costs	A	53,344	52,347	(997)
Special Events & Activities	B	11,256	2,000	(9,256)
School based Youth work		630	3,520	2,890
Chaplaincy		497	1,500	1,003
Service Agreement expenses		879	0	(879)
Insurances		794	700	(94)
Staff Training	C	2,072	2,800	728
Staff travel		1,616	1,530	(86)
Hospitality	D	509	560	51
Resources & PR Literature	E	791	970	179
General Office Expenses		287	1,170	883
Printing & Photocopying		118	120	2
Bookkeeping		1,666	1,500	(166)
Professional Fees incl Child Protection		432	280	(152)
Fundraising Costs		47	120	73
Sundry Expenses	F	0	40	40
Merchandise Costs		0	0	0
Bank charges		73	60	(13)
Depreciation		267	180	(87)
		<u>75,275</u>	<u>69,397</u>	<u>(5,879)</u>
<b>Net Profit / (Loss) for the period</b>		<u>(3,814)</u>	<u>(18,027)</u>	<u>14,212</u>
<b>Exceptional Item:</b>				
Write back of NEOS big top hire		1,692		
<b>Adjusted Profit / (Loss) for the period</b>		<u>(2,122)</u>		

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRY**

**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 August 2025**

	Note	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Office Equipment		2,466	
Less Depreciation		<u>1,399</u>	1,067
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors & Prepayments	3	3,254	
Bank Accounts & Cash in hand		<u>28,456</u>	31,710
<b>Less Liabilities</b>			
Creditors - & Accruals	4	3,037	
PAYE		1,047	
Joint Service Fund		<u>155</u>	4,239
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<b><u><u>28,539</u></u></b>
<b>Reserves</b>			
Reserves		30,661	
Profit & Loss Account		<u>(2,122)</u>	
			<b><u><u>28,539</u></u></b>
<b>Reserves are made up of:</b>			
Joint service fund		155	
Funds for general use		<u>28,384</u>	
			<b><u><u>28,539</u></u></b>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 which are set out on pages 1 and 2 of the Financial Statements.

**Respective responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiners 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 to keep accounting records in accordance with section 103 of the 2011 act, or, to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.



J Golding

Date: 29/5/26

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1116603

---

# Accounts

---

# WCCYM

WEST CAMBRIDGE **CHRISTIAN** YOUTH MINISTRIES

# Annual Report



2023 to  
2024



**WCCYM** is a partnership of churches in villages to the west of Cambridge, working together for young people in a manner that they could not do individually.

**WCCYM**'s Key Values are to:

work in **partnership**

build **trust**

show **respect**

bring **hope**

be **Christ-centred**



# Welcome

Thank you for picking up this comprehensive and action-packed report and for your interest in the work of WCCYM.

The 2023-24 year saw further development of our outreach and discipleship activities, with evidence of young people exploring their faith through discipleship groups, the weekend residential and the summer camping trip to the Satellites Christian festival. Young people continue to play an increasing leadership role in our monthly Thirst worship services.

We are grateful to our ongoing team of volunteers for the ability to run these events along with many social activities, as young people develop confidence and friendships as well as a growing understanding of their faith.

We have been encouraged by the positive way in which our chaplaincy work in schools has been recognised, with Comberton Village College requesting increased support for students of all ages, as well as valuing the support we offer to staff.

We remain deeply grateful for all the support we receive from churches, schools and individuals, especially in a year when a major grant fund came to an end. Your practical, prayerful and/or financial support are critical as we look forward with confidence to the coming year.

Please read on, give thanks, be encouraged and consider how you could be involved.

**Nigel Taylor**

On behalf of the WCCYM  
Management Team



# A note from the team

Welcome to the 2023-2024 WCCYM Annual Report.

WCCYM continues to have many opportunities to serve young people in the west Cambridge area, and we see it as a great privilege to work with them both in a school setting, and through WCCYM activities out of school.

We continue to find it helpful to use Scripture Union's 'Revealing Jesus' framework (Connect; Explore; Respond; Grow) as we seek to encourage young people in their Christian faith.

We are incredibly grateful to the many people who support the ministry in a variety of different ways.

**Susie Thomson**

On behalf of the WCCYM Team



# Connect

## to feel connected to a supportive community

### Socials

Social activities continue to be a great way of getting to know young people, and for them to build friendships and connections. We had a termly social activity during the year, starting with bowling in the Autumn, golf (Dinosaur golf to be specific!) in the Spring, and the annual punting and BBQ trip in the summer.

### Dungeons & Dragons

Nick has also been running a Dungeons and Dragons game with a selection of young people who enjoy table-top roleplay games. This has seen them weave together a shared story, implement problem solving and even act out/improvise scenes between one another. This has caused a strong bond to form between the group and encouraged their engagement in other activities and events that WCCYM runs.

### Social Media

We have also been using our Social Media to connect with young people in a positive way. Every week we release a Verse of the Week post on Instagram and Facebook giving the young people a short verse of scripture and a brief reflection to help encourage them in the week. This is a great opportunity to connect with young people when we are not running an event, or meeting with them in school. We often try to link the reflection to an event we have run, for example Thirst or WCCYM Discipleship, which allows young people that have attended those activities to have a deeper insight into the post. Hopefully, this helps the young people to feel connected to the WCCYM Community even when not together.



# Explore

to explore the Christian faith and learn about Jesus Christ

## Christmas Party

Our Christmas party moved to Comberton Baptist Church for this year, and the festivities included a full Christmas dinner, silent disco, mocktails, quiz rounds and firepits. It was a fantastic opportunity to get dressed up and celebrate Christmas! We had Scott Rushforth, one of the Youth for Christ youthworkers, share a Christian message during the meal. All in all, a brilliant night!

## Summer Party

The WCCYM Summer Party was held on Hardwick Primary School field, with the usual combination of team games, BBQ, craft, and a huge inflatable! Adrian Semerene (minister of Gamlingay Baptist Church) shared an evangelistic message which was well-received by the young people.



# Respond

opportunities to respond to the Good News of Jesus Christ

WCCYM's ministry during the year included a variety of opportunities for young people to respond to the good news of Jesus. This may have been at one of the particular events, or at different times across the year.

We did not have any young people who were baptised or confirmed during the year, but towards the end of the academic year, we were preparing for a baptism and confirmation group to start in Autumn 2024.

# Grow

## to grow as a disciple who disciples others and develop gifts and talents

We have asked some of the young people to share their thoughts about the different events we run, and how they have helped them grow in their faith.

### **Thirst - our monthly youth service**

We thoroughly enjoyed running Thirst in 2023-24. We saw more young people stepping up to lead; whether leading the service itself, as members of the band and even speaking at the event. We looked at a different parable of Jesus each month and had some great guest speakers help us explore them.

### **Deeper - our discipleship group for sixth formers**

*I like Deeper because it gives us a chance to connect as 6th form students. We are able to share our 6th form experiences as well as religious experiences with people who can relate to us. The games allow us to build a stronger bond within the group and the food is obviously a highlight. Overall it's a great experience and it's definitely helped me in my faith as well as 6th form experience.*

### **WCCYM Music Group**

*Two Fridays a month we meet to play music for an hour and a half. Then we play at Thirst. I developed as a musician and learned to play in a worship band with different people and instruments. It was fun learning a new instrument, the bass guitar, and playing it with other people. I enjoy playing the new worship songs and I'm working on introducing some of them at my church.*

### **WCCYM Weekend**

*WCCYM weekend away is a fun filled weekend learning about God while socialising with other young people. The weekend was filled with activities: baking, scavenger hunt around Burwell, sports and many more. I particularly enjoyed the Taskmaster challenge. The team games were to bring some friendly competition; these are fun and messy. These team activities win us points which go towards different leaders; the one with the most points at the end of the weekend gets slimed. During the weekend there are 4 sessions given to us by a speaker. There were also times for personal reflection and time to do what you want.*



## Satellites - a summer youth festival

*Satellites for me was a huge highlight of my year! I have been two times before but this time was so different as I was a volunteer with the Satellites team! I helped on the milkshake bar working 4 hours everyday which gave me time to learn all about working with the team, making milkshakes for so many customers and also making new friends but actually also to enjoy all the fun that Satellites had such as the silent disco and all the meetings and talks!*

## Year 6 Transitions

*I enjoyed the WCCYM transition sessions because we talked about what was worrying us about secondary school and were told how to overcome our worries by sharing them. We also got to meet some of the people who go to Thirst so we could have some familiar faces.*

## WCCYM Discipleship

We continued to run WCCYM Discipleship, giving young people the chance to eat puddings, play games and discuss the Bible further. This event continues to be well attended and helps young people step further into their discipleship with Jesus.





## in schools

Schoolwork continues to be a significant part of WCCYM's work in the west Cambridge area, where we work in a holistic way through the provision of pastoral and spiritual support.

Our work last year was mainly in:

**Comberton Village College**

**Cambourne Village College**

**Comberton Sixth Form**

We also have some input with local Year 6s in the summer term as they prepare to move to secondary school.

## encourage to flourish

### **One-to-one**

Cherie and Susie worked with 77 young people in an individual capacity throughout the year, providing a safe space for them to share their worries and challenges. As in previous years, for some this is a short term series of sessions, and for others it is a longer-term arrangement, depending on the need. We started the academic year with a service level agreement with Comberton Village College and Sixth Form for 12 hours a week, but for half of the year this increased to 17 hours a week, with some added support sessions for Sixth Form students. Susie and Clare also worked with some students at Cambourne Village College for some pastoral support.

### **Groups**

In both Comberton and Cambourne Village Colleges, we ran small groups for students for a series of sessions on specific issues such as managing anxiety, resilience, and settling into secondary school for Year 7s. We work closely with the pastoral teams in the schools to see where the greatest need is, and respond appropriately.

## **Sixth Form Hot Chocolates**

Friday lunchtimes were busy for the WCCYM Team, giving out free hot chocolates to Comberton Sixth Form students. This seemed to genuinely be a highlight for some young people! It was always a good chance to have a friendly chat and ask how their week was going.

## **PSHE & PD Delivery**

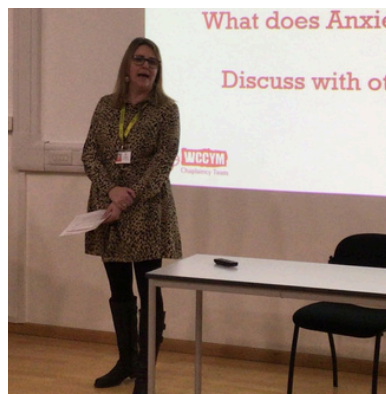
We had two visits to help with the Year 12 Personal Development curriculum, running a session on Healthy Relationships in September, and E-Safety in June (each one being a session repeated for each half of the year group). We also led a Personal Social Health Education lesson for Year 8s (repeated ten times) at Comberton Village College on Being Safe Online.

## **Year 6/7 Transitions**

In the summer term, we supported local churches to present a lesson for Year 6s in the primary schools about the transition to secondary school. We gave out copies of the 'It's Your Move' book produced by Scripture Union, and focused on Changes, Challenges and Choices. We also worked with a small group of Year 6s at Gamlingay Village Primary, to help with their transition to Comberton Village College.

## **Beaumanor Year 7 Residential**

Susie and Sophie (our Year 12 Work Experience student) went along to the Year 7 residential with students from Comberton Village College for two days, helping with different activities and spending time getting to know both students and staff. Susie then went back to Beaumanor the following week, for another 2 days, this time with the Year 7s from Cambourne Village College. This is a very valuable time for building relationships with the schools, so is well worth the time spent in this way.



# Spiritual Support

## explore spiritual development

### Christian Union groups

WCCYM has helped to facilitate Christian Union groups at Comberton Sixth Form, Comberton Village College and Cambourne Village College in the last year. We are very grateful to the school staff members who help to support these groups too.

### CU at Cambourne VC - in the words of a young person

*At CU, young people meet up at lunchtime once a week in school and talk about different Bible verses and what they mean or how God is shown through the bible. It's led by someone from WCCYM who will start with a game and then talk about God and the bible. It's a great way to meet up with other people and have fun together whilst talking about the greatness of God.*

### CU at Comberton VC - in the words of a young person

*The WCCYM Christian Union group is always really fun. We play a game and get to know the other people there and we explore a Bible story together. It has been really helpful because even if I know the story we are doing, I still learn something new.*

### Assemblies

We enjoyed taking assemblies at both Comberton and Cambourne Village Colleges. We shared about the Hope of Christmas, and on the Power of Words & Labels that we are given.

### Staff Christian Gatherings

It was a great privilege to meet with Christian staff at both Cambourne and Comberton Village Colleges a number of times throughout the year. It provided an important time to chat and pray together, while also enjoying some refreshments!



## Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

In the last year, we delivered two Year 10 RPE days at Cambourne Village College, one on the Environment and the other on Social Justice. At Comberton Village College we delivered three RPE days for Year 10 covering the Environment, War & Peace and Medical Ethics. We also did an RPE day for Year 11 at Comberton Village College looking at Sexual Relationships. Cherie helped on a Comberton RPE trip to Cambridge visiting churches and a mosque, and Susie helped on a trip to Rome. These were great opportunities to chat to students and staff, and support the department.

## Chaplaincy

The Chaplaincy work at Comberton Village College has continued to thrive, bringing together support for students and staff in many different ways. In addition to the service level agreement to provide pastoral support for students, there is also a service level agreement for supporting staff. Cherie heads up this work, and meets with a number of school staff to provide a supportive, listening space. We have helped with some staff training for Teaching Assistants on helping students with anxiety. At two points in the year, we arranged for a florist to come and lead workshops creating a Christmas wreath or summer flower decorations, to provide an opportunity for staff to relax and do something enjoyable. Once a month there are cakes available for staff, and so we help to enhance the environment in the staffroom, with tablecloths, flowers, plants, chocolates and hot drinks, allowing us to play our part in the life of the school. Again this year we distributed chocolates to every department, with a reflection card, recognising the importance that all staff have. Overall, we have continued to build good relationships with both staff and students, being an ongoing presence in the school community, and this is an important part of our ministry.



## working in partnership with local churches

### Partner Churches

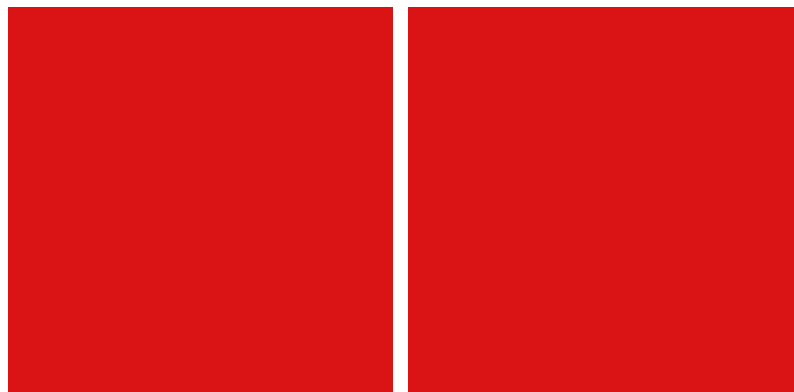
WCCYM works as a partnership of churches. We have four Key Partner churches / groups of churches: Cambourne Church, Comberton Baptist Church, Hardwick Evangelical Church and the Lordsbridge Team of Anglican Churches. Gamlingay Baptist Church is an Associate Partner church of WCCYM, and we have some strong links with other churches in the area too. We love to work in partnership with others, and find that there is strength in the unity and shared Christian faith, as well as a shared desire to serve young people. To find out more about what it means to be a Key or Associate Partner Church please get in touch.

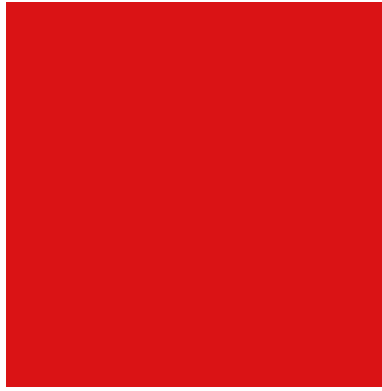
### The link with WCCYM and a local church - from Clare Cronin

*A significant part of Cambourne Church's youth ministry is delivered in partnership with WCCYM. Young people and volunteers from Cambourne Church regularly attend WCCYM activities such as Cambourne Village College Christian Union, WCCYM Discipleship and Thirst. In my role, I have the privilege of working with the WCCYM Team to plan and deliver these activities, to work with students at Cambourne Village College and to facilitate training such as Youthscape Essentials. Working in partnership gives us all - our young people, our youth work volunteers, the wider church - the chance to be part of something bigger and offers opportunities we couldn't create on our own. For that we are very grateful!*

### Volunteers

WCCYM is incredibly fortunate to have some amazing volunteers who will give up their time to chat to young people, lead bible studies, cook meals, put out chairs, wash up, play music, do some signing, play games, lead discussions, run quizzes, give talks, encourage young people in their gifts, take an interest, pray for and with young people, sweep up at the end of an evening... the list is endless! WCCYM genuinely would not be able to function in the way that it does without the many volunteers we have. So this is a huge thank you to everyone who has helped out in some way – you are a crucial part of this ministry to young people!



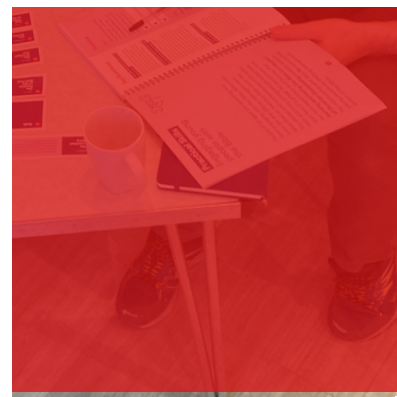


## **Training and Support for Youth Workers and Volunteers**

We have had a variety of training opportunities for youth workers and volunteers. The core WCCYM Team met fortnightly to encourage and support one another, as well as plan together. A group of nine of us attended the National Youth Ministry Weekend run by Youthscape in November. In January 2024, we launched some half-termly training sessions for volunteers, using the Youthscape Essentials material. These sessions were led by Susie and Clare, and we have enjoyed seeing a variety of volunteers from the local churches come and engage in great discussion and support of one another.

## **Year 12 Work Experience - in the words of a young person**

*Doing my work experience with WCCYM during Year 12 was a great opportunity to get a better understanding of the role of a youth worker in the community. During my work experience, I enjoyed going into local secondary schools to talk to students about their mental health. I also went with Comberton Village College on their Year 7 residential; this gave me the opportunity to learn so much about working with and supporting young people.*



# Team

## the faces of WCCYM

### **Susie Thomson**

Susie is WCCYM's Team Leader, and is employed for 24 hours per week. She enjoys doing a lot of face-to-face youthwork but is also involved with linking with local churches, youth workers and volunteers. She also meets regularly with the management team.



### **Cherie Williamson**

Cherie works for WCCYM for 23 hours a week. She heads up our Chaplaincy Team work and spends the majority of her time at Comberton Village College. She supports students and staff pastorally and spiritually, and provides an ongoing supportive presence in the school.



### **Nick Slater**

Nick works 20 hours a week, with a focus on discipleship and outreach. He heads up our Sixth Form Deeper group, and co-leads the WCCYM Discipleship group. Part of his role is to develop WCCYM's social media presence, reaching young people through this.



### **Clare Cronin**

Clare is the Ministry team Leader for Children and Young People at Cambourne Church, and is part of the core WCCYM team, serving young people in this area. She is involved in schoolwork at Cambourne Village College, and many of WCCYM's activities outside of school.



### **Adam Went**

Adam spent the majority of the year on placement with WCCYM and Comberton Baptist Church as part of his Year Out with Youth for Christ. For WCCYM, he helped with various activities including Thirst, WCCYM Music Group, WCCYM Discipleship, our socials and with our school's work mainly at Comberton Village College.



# Management

WCCYM has a management committee that meets 4 times a year to oversee the work of WCCYM. It is made up of representatives from Cambourne Church, Comberton Baptist Church, Hardwick Evangelical Church, and the Lordsbridge team of Anglican Churches. Susie Thomson reports to the management committee, on behalf of the WCCYM team of youth workers.

We continue to be grateful to the committee members for their dedication to WCCYM. For the academic year 2023/24, the management team has included:

**Nigel Taylor** - Cambourne Church (T) – chair

**Bill Miller** - Cambourne Church (T)

**Kate Gaze** - Hardwick Evangelical Church (T)

**Keith Tarring** - Comberton Baptist Church (T)

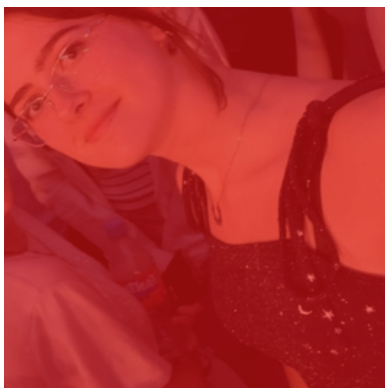
**Sarah Rittman** - Lordsbridge Team

**Sue Chase** - Treasurer

**Ruth Gildersleve** - Secretary to the Management Team

**Susie Thomson** - WCCYM Team Leader

T signifies Trustees of WCCYM



# Fundraising

We had three main fundraising activities during the academic year. In November 2023, Nick, Susie and Adam completed a 50 mile bike ride, cycling round the villages that make up the WCCYM area. This was certainly a challenge for them, but resulted in raising over £1,500 for WCCYM. We held our annual quiz in February 2024, with big thanks going to Neil and Robbie, two of our volunteers, for hosting a brilliant evening. And finally in May 2024, we created some cake boxes that we delivered locally, with many people giving donations towards the work of WCCYM.

We are so grateful to all who give financially to WCCYM. It can be very difficult to find ongoing sources of funding, and we are very fortunate to have local churches and individuals giving regularly to WCCYM. Thank you so much!

In addition to financial support from local churches and individuals, we are very grateful for a donation from the Eastern Baptist Association, and from the KIPPS Trust. We also reached our third year of funding from the Henry Smith Charity. This was an amazing blessing back in 2020/2021 when we applied for a 3 year grant, giving us over £50,000 in total. This made such a huge difference to WCCYM and enabled us to fund more work with an emphasis on discipleship and outreach, which is Nick's main focus. This last year saw an end to that grant, and we are currently doing what we can to continue to raise funds to maintain and develop the work further.

If you would like to give towards the work of WCCYM, please go to [stewardship.org.uk/partners/WCCYMFundraising](https://stewardship.org.uk/partners/WCCYMFundraising) or contact: **Sue Chase (WCCYM Treasurer), c/o Manor Farm, 14 Alms Hill, Bourn, CB23 2SH.**

Please email [info@wccym.org](mailto:info@wccym.org) to find out more.



# The Figures

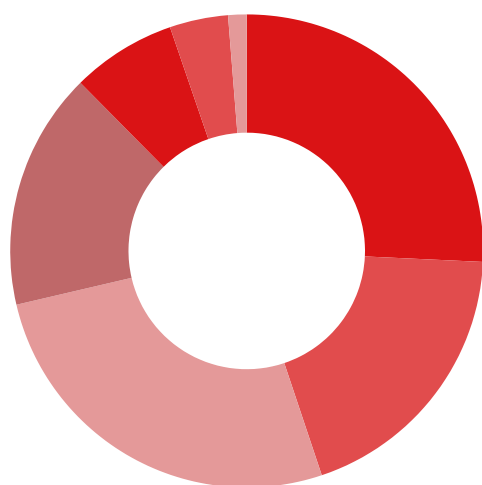
## a few words from the WCCYM Treasurer

Thanks to the dedicated support of local churches and individuals in the west Cambridge area who share our values, WCCYM has been able to maintain the high level of services that has been developed over the past couple of years when a third member was added to the team.

As previously mentioned, we have now received the final part of our Grant from the Henry Smith Charity so are looking at ways to replace that funding, be it through fundraising or further grant funding. A proportion of our 2023-24 expenditure was funded through our reserves.

Our work with Comberton Village College continues to grow and individuals, groups, and staff have all benefited from our work. The College continue to contribute towards the cost of the services that we provide.

Our grateful thanks as always to all those churches and individuals who are currently giving or who have promised to give in the future – you enable us to focus on the young people in our community which is what we do best.



### Income

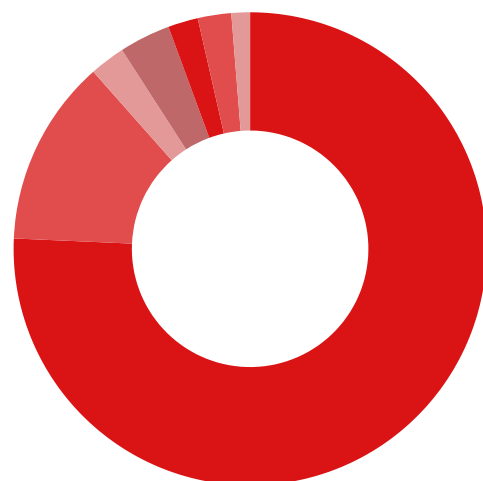
Churches	£15850
Gifts & Donations	£11774
Pastoral Support	£16310
Grants	£10000
Events & Activities	£4405
Fundraising	£2460
Other Income	£778

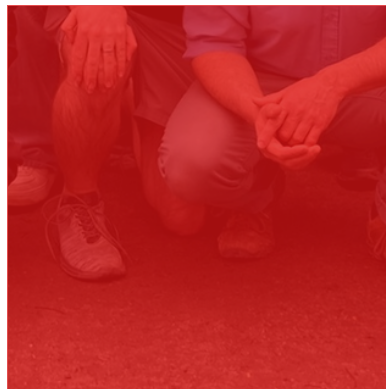
**Total** **£61577**

### Expenditure

Staff/Workers	£50853
Events & Activities	£8576
Overheads	£1630
Staff Training & Resources	£2350
Bookkeeping	£1379
Travel	£1536
Safeguarding & Insurance	£855

**Total** **£67179**





wccym.org



@wccym



facebook.com/wccym

**Charity No: 1116603**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 AUGUST 2024**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**CONTENTS**

- 1 Profit & Loss Account**
- 2 Balance Sheet**

WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRY

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		ACTUAL			BUDGET	VARIANCE
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total		
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>						
	1					
Gifts & Donations	A	11,774		11,774	10,000	1,774
Churches and support organisations	B	15,850		15,850	14,800	1,050
Joint Service	C	113		113	350	(237)
Special Events & Activities	D	4,405		4,405	0	4,405
School Service Agreements	E	16,310		16,310	14,060	2,250
Fundraising Events	F	2,461		2,461	1,500	961
Henry Smith Grant		0	10,000	10,000	10,000	0
Other Income	G	430		430	2,000	(1,570)
Bank Interest		235		235	150	85
		<b>51,577</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>61,577</b>	<b>52,860</b>	<b>8,717</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
	2					
Staff Costs	A	32,812	18,041	50,853	49,115	(1,738)
Church & Community based youth work	B1	5,218	1,708	6,926	4,790	(2,136)
Chaplaincy & school based youth work	B2	0	763	763	1,095	332
Service Agreement expenses	1E	887		887	0	(887)
Insurances		380	300	680	650	(30)
Staff Training	C	677	704	1,381	1,600	219
Staff travel		1,093	443	1,536	1,750	214
Hospitality	D	514	102	617	400	(217)
Resources & PR Literature	E	586	384	969	930	(39)
General Office Expenses		334	105	439	1,400	961
Printing & Photocopying		23	60	83	140	57
Bookkeeping		1,029	350	1,379	1,500	121
Professional Fees incl Child Protection		163	12	175	280	105
Fundraising Costs		153		153	120	(33)
Sundry Expenses	F	50		50	100	50
Merchandise Costs		(1)		(1)	500	501
Bank charges		65		65	60	(5)
Depreciation		225		225	170	(55)
		<b>44,208</b>	<b>22,972</b>	<b>67,179</b>	<b>64,600</b>	<b>(2,579)</b>
<b>Net Profit / (Loss) for the period</b>		<b>7,369</b>	<b>(12,972)</b>	<b>(5,603)</b>	<b>(11,740)</b>	<b>6,136</b>

WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRY

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 August 2024

	Note	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Office Equipment		2,033	
Less Depreciation		1,132	
		<hr/>	901
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors & Prepayments	3	6,449	
Bank Accounts & Cash in hand		27,309	
		<hr/>	33,758
<b>Less Liabilities</b>			
Creditors & Accruals	4	3,498	
PAYE		0	
Joint Service Fund		500	
		<hr/>	3,998
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<b><u><u>30,661</u></u></b>
<b>Reserves</b>			
Reserves		36,264	
Profit & Loss Account		(5,603)	
		<hr/>	<b><u><u>30,661</u></u></b>
<b>Reserves are made up of:</b>			0
NEOS restricted funds		0	
Funds for general use		30,661	
		<hr/>	
		<b><u><u>30,661</u></u></b>	

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 which are set out on pages 1 and 2 of the Financial Statements.

**Respective responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

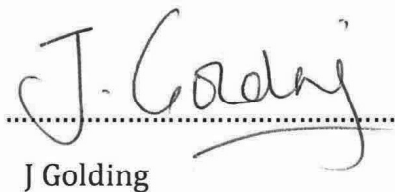
**Independent Examiners Statement**

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 to keep accounting records in accordance with section 103 of the 2011 act, or, to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.

  
J Golding

Date: 28/5/25

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1116603

---

# Accounts

---



WEST CAMBRIDGE **CHRISTIAN** YOUTH MINISTRIES

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

---

**Sept 22 to  
Aug 23**



# WELCOME

**WCCYM** is a partnership of churches in villages to the west of Cambridge, working together for young people in a manner that they could not do individually.

**WCCYM's** key values are:

To work in **partnership**

Build **trust**

Show **respect**

Bring **hope**

To be **Christ-centred**.

## WELCOME

---

Thank you for picking up this comprehensive and action-packed report and for your interest in the work of WCCYM.

The 2022-23 year saw further development of our outreach and discipleship activities, with evidence of young people exploring and growing in faith through discipleship groups, the weekend residential and the summer camping trip to the Satellites Christian festival. Increasing numbers have been attending the monthly WCCYM Thirst services, with young people playing an increasing leadership role.

We are grateful to our expanding team of volunteers for the ability to run these events along with many social activities, as young people develop confidence and friendships as well as a growing understanding of their faith.

Many people with past and present links to WCCYM came together for our 30th birthday celebrations in July 2023, which was a great encouragement.

We remain deeply grateful for the support we receive from churches, schools and individuals. Your practical, prayerful and/or financial support are critical as we look forward with confidence to the coming year.

Please read on, give thanks, be encouraged and consider how you could be involved.

**Nigel Taylor**

On behalf of the WCCYM Management Team

---

# A NOTE FROM THE TEAM

---

Welcome to the 2022-2023 WCCYM Annual Report. As you'll see, we have had a variety of opportunities to work with young people throughout the year. Some of these have been in the school setting, and we have been developing our Chaplaincy work. We have also provided many activities for young people out of school, and continue to use Scripture Union's 'Revealing Jesus' framework (Connect; Explore; Respond; Grow) for this ministry across the churches. As we have come to the end of our 30th year, we have been able to reflect on God's faithfulness since WCCYM was set up, and look forward to where He will take us as we move forward.

**Susie Thomson**

On behalf of the WCCYM Team

## CONNECT

---

### to feel connected to a supportive community

Social activities are an effective way to build community with the young people we work with. Friendships across different churches and schools are strengthened, and it is brilliant to be able to enjoy time together and have fun.

We plan for one activity each term, and last year this included a Sports and Games night in September (held at Hardwick Primary School), a bowling trip to St Neots Eat n Bowl in February, and the Punting and BBQ trip in June (which was by far the most popular again!). Inviting the new Yr 6s to the final one was a great opportunity to meet some new people and begin to get to know them.

Nick has been running a table-top roleplay game (TTRPG) with a small group of young people who were, initially, on the edge of our connections. As the year went on and more of these sessions occurred, the young people began to attend other WCCYM and church activities giving us, and the churches, a greater chance to support them.

We have also continued to push our social media presence in different ways. Verse of the Week posts went up at the beginning of each week and saw a great involvement from volunteers and we also saw an increase of followers and engagement across all platforms. We are unable to gauge the full extent of who we are connecting with on social media, but young people are sharing stories of their friends seeing our posts, helping them to share a little about us, or Jesus, in those moments.



# EXPLORE

to explore the Christian faith and learn about Jesus

## Christmas Party

We had a brilliant time at our Christmas Party, which we held at Cambourne Church. We had a variety of activities to choose from, including Christmas craft, games (giant Hungry Hippos was a popular choice), Pigs in Blankets and chip-shop chips, a couple of carols, and a Christmas message shared by Hannah Overton. It was great to bring together young people from different WCCYM activities, and we even had real snow as we were leaving at the end of the evening.



## Easter Games and Challenges Event

We followed a similar format for our Easter Event, this time meeting at the Cabin at St Mary's Church, Hardwick. We had a variety of activities for young people to participate in, including quiz rounds and different types of challenges; some more practical (e.g. using Ping pong balls, jam and bread!) and some more intellectual and solving problems. We had toasties and ice cream, and Adrian Semerene shared an Easter message with us.



## Summer Party

We had a great time at our Summer Party held at Mill Farm in Gamlingay. This was a brilliant location for our outdoor event, where we had team games, a BBQ, Zorb Ball games (thanks to Cambourne Soul and Romsey Mill for the Zorb balls!), a Gladiator inflatable, circus skills equipment, craft and candy floss! Clare Cronin (who had recently started working at Cambourne Church as their ministry team leader for Children and Young People) and Esther Moore (previous WCCYM young person now at Uni) made a great double act for a short talk while the young people ate ice lollies.

# RESPOND

---

## opportunities to respond to the Good News of Jesus

Throughout the year, we tried to provide a number of opportunities for young people to respond to the good news of Jesus. At times, this was at a particular event, but throughout our activities across the churches, we want to encourage the young people to have an active faith in God.

We were privileged to help four young people prepare for baptism / confirmation in a group together, with three sessions looking at different aspects of their journey with God and the point that they had reached to make a public declaration.



# GROW

---

## to grow as a disciple who discipless others

### Thirst

Thirst continued to go well, with an increase in numbers during the year. We moved to Cambourne Church annexe, and encouraged more involvement from young people in hosting the evenings and being part of the band. We had a variety of speakers; Bethan Ryder, Nick Slater, Susie Thomson, David Newton, Matt Farley, Robbie Thomson, Ben Ince and Bryony Green-Wood. We are very appreciative of our local partner churches for providing brilliant meals each month.

### In the words of a young person...

Thirst has been such a blessing for me as a young person. The opportunity to meet and reconnect with my Christian friends each month to eat, worship and pray together is one I love and am so grateful for. Listening to the talks from visiting speakers and chatting about it with peers and leaders has been so helpful in my faith journey.

### Deeper - in the words of a Young Person

The best thing about Deeper was being with people specifically my age and going through the same life changes and stages that I was. It helped strengthen the knowledge that I wasn't alone in my journey. The sense of community it gave. We ate together, laughed together. At times it felt like a family. It helped me to deepen my faith as I was around people of a similar, more mature age. It was encouraging to be around others who share my faith and to grow in faith with them.



## Discipleship Group

An exciting development last year, was the start of our fortnightly WCCYM Discipleship group sessions on a Friday evening. We found that the small groups from the previous year would have quite a lot of overlap of the young people who came, and we wanted to provide the opportunity for more regular Bible study. Every week we started with dessert and the opportunity to play games at tables, followed by a challenge or game, some input from the front, and time in groups to discuss (splitting into three different age groups). We did a series on the 'I am' statements from John's gospel, special sessions on Christmas and Easter, and a focus on Sex and Relationships for a few sessions.

## WCCYM Weekend - in the words of a Young Person

WCCYM weekend away is a great place to connect with God in a small group or on your own. It is also a great place to make new friends and connect with older friends that you haven't seen in a long time. There is a lot of fun messy games that are great fun (eg. using . For example using bake beans and cream



---

## Satellites in the words of a Young Person

The best things about Satellites were the worship and the atmosphere that was created while we were worshipping. My favourite worship song of the week was 'Jesus at the centre of it all'. Another good thing about Satellites was being surrounded by thousands of Christians, and being with my WCCYM friends.

Something that I enjoyed was playing games in the WCCYM tent (including the Signs game and the chair game). Something else that I enjoyed was eating all the delicious food that the amazing cooks cooked for us. An interesting thing that happened was the WCCYM tent blowing away. Another thing that I enjoyed was doing the washing up and singing songs out of tune with Clare and other young people from WCCYM.

My relationship with God grew over the week at Satellites; this is mainly because of the focus I had towards God. Being away with WCCYM meant I didn't have other distractions (school, homework, YouTube, chores) I had more time to focus on God and building my relationship with God. Spending time with other Christians helped me strengthen my relationship with God; this is because of the support I got from the other young people at WCCYM. The songs that were sung helped me connect to God for example 'Jesus at the



the centre' and in more detail the lyrics 'from my heart to the heavens, Jesus be the centre it's all about you'. These lyrics reminds me that the world doesn't revolve around me and my life but about Jesus.



# WCCYM IN SCHOOLS

---

A large amount of our work continues to be in schools, where we work in a holistic way through the provision of pastoral and spiritual support. Our work is mainly in Comberton Village College, Cambourne Village College and Comberton Sixth Form, with a small input in the local primary schools for students at the end of Yr 6.

## PASTORAL SUPPORT

---

**encourage to flourish**

### **One-to-one**

Cherie and Susie worked with over 70 young people in an individual capacity throughout the year, providing a listening ear and a safe space for them to be able to share challenges they are experiencing. For some, there are a series of 4-6 sessions to talk through different issues, and for others it may be longer term support. We had a serviced level agreement with Comberton Village College and Sixth Form for 8 hours a week of student support, which was increased to 12 hours a week from February 2022, after a request from the school to increase the work we did. Susie also worked with a few students at Cambourne Village College in this way too.

### **Groups**

Group work is also part of what we offer to schools, with the aim of looking at particular issues (eg resilience, friendship, etc) with a small group of students from the same year group. This, as well as the one-to-one support, is arranged through the relevant pastoral teams using the referral processes in the schools.



### **Sixth Form Hot Chocolates**

Fridays continued to be popular in the Sixth Form, as members of the WCCYM Team gave out free hot chocolates to students (and a few staff) at lunchtimes. This provides a good opportunity to touch base with the students and hear how they're getting on.

**Fun fact:** Bourbons are the most popular biscuit on Fridays when we hand out Hot Chocolates in Comberton Sixth Form.



### **PSHE & PD Delivery**

Last year we delivered our usual Yr 12 Personal Development sessions on Healthy Relationships and E-Safety, and also took a Yr 8 Personal Social Health Education lesson on Vaping and Peer Pressure, repeated to all 10 classes.

### **Yr 6/7 transitions**

In a similar way to previous years, we helped the local churches deliver lessons or assemblies for Yr 6 classes in the local primary schools. WCCYM was involved in supporting lessons in 14 (check..) different schools! We also worked with a small group of Yr 6s at Gamlingay Village Primary, to help with their transition to Comberton Village College.

### **Beaumanor Year 7 residential**

Susie went along to the Year 7 residential with students from Comberton Village College, from the Tuesday to Thursday, and enjoyed getting to know student and staff, helping out where she could.



# SPIRITUAL SUPPORT

---

## explore spiritual development

### Christian Union groups

We have really enjoyed getting to know new students in the Christian Union groups at Comberton and Cambourne Village Colleges, and Comberton Sixth Form. We had a renewed burst of energy and enthusiasm with keen Yr 7s at Cambourne Village College, which has been brilliant, and encouraging to us all! We are grateful to the staff members at the schools for giving up their lunchtimes to support the groups.

### Sixth Form CU - from a young person

Best thing about CU: having a space to chat and relax.

Something I enjoyed: getting to know more people outside of my social circle.

How it impacted my faith: I started to gradually realise just how important faith is.

### Cambourne CU - from a young person

Christian Union at CVC has been so beneficial for me in a lot of different ways. It has helped me incorporate my faith into my daily life but has also created a safe place to talk to people. It has also been so helpful in getting through difficult days at school (e.g. most Mondays).

### Comberton CU and Exploring the Bible group

We had a great year at Comberton Village College with the lunchtime groups, with CU on a Friday, and helping one of the staff members to run an additional group on a Monday lunchtime, exploring the Bible. Both groups involved great discussion, with some young people from church backgrounds, but also some friends who had been invited too.

### Assemblies

Our assemblies this year included ones on Hopes and Ambitions, Christmas and the Power of Words.

### RPE days

This last year, we delivered lessons for five separate Religion, Philosophy and Ethics days across Cambourne and Comberton. Topics included: Sexual Relationships, the Environment, Human rights and social justice, and the Holocaust for Yr 11. We are grateful to the local churches for their support.

### Staff Christian Gatherings

In both Comberton and Cambourne we have had a number of times throughout the year to gather together, and enjoy good cake!



# CHAPLAINCY

---

## additional support offered to all

WCCYM's Chaplaincy work at Comberton Village College has developed well through the year. We have used the term 'Chaplaincy' to include the schools work already described previously in this report, and also some additional aspects of student and staff support.

### Staff Support

We have continued to have a service level agreement with the college to provide four hours a week of staff support. This has involved one-to-one support sessions mostly with Cherie. We also led a workshop for a group of staff on Anxiety, looking at understanding strategies to help. We were also very fortunate to have a local florist come and run a Christmas Wreath workshop, and an Easter table decoration workshop, which were fantastic! We continued to provide teas and coffees for 'Cake Friday' for staff, providing the opportunity to chat to staff in an informal setting, sometimes having written reflections available on tables. Twice during the year we distributed flowers or chocolates throughout the various departments in the college, to encourage staff.

### Drop-in

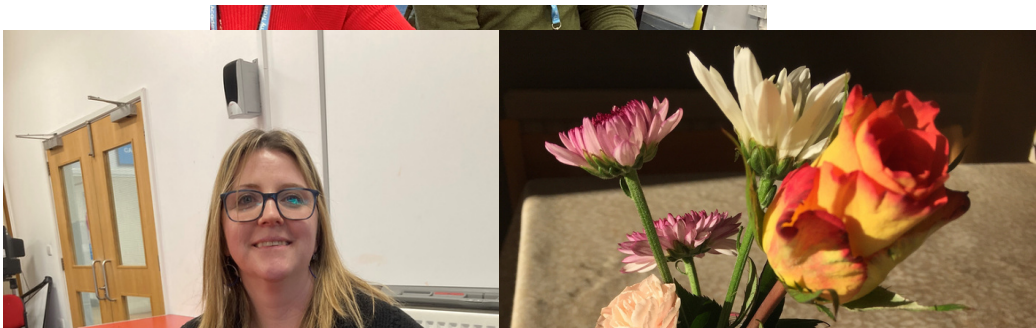
As part of our time given to the school, we ran a weekly Drop-in for students, providing the chance for students to come along and discuss any challenges they are facing. Sometimes this was a one-off chat, and at other times it led to some organised support sessions as a follow-up.

### Mental Health Awareness Week

For the second year running, Nick created a video in partnership with students at the college, this time in the Sixth Form, to raise awareness for Mental Health Awareness Week. The focus this time was on different strategies to help with mental health challenges.

### Being a Presence in school and Responding to circumstances

One of the focusses of Chaplaincy is to be a presence in the school community, available for both students and staff. Being around in college regularly means that we are able to respond to circumstances. Last year there were a couple of particular times in the year when situations resulted in ...???. We were able to offer additional support at this time, which is one way in which we could serve the school community.



# THE FACTS\*

\*not quite Scientific facts, sometimes guesses by the WCCYM Team!



Number of different young people who attended a WCCYM activity (not including lessons or assemblies)



Favourite biscuit given out at Sixth Form with hot chocolates



Most popular meal provided by churches for Thirst



Number of times we ask young people to listen at our activities



Most popular Verse of the Week on Instagram



Person with the most Dare to Hope merch



Number of people needed to hold down our marquee and stop it blowing away at Satellites



Most controversial question in the fundraising quiz

Something about volunteers

# CHURCHES & VOLUNTEERS

## Working in partnership with local churches

### Local Churches

We are very appreciative of the local churches we partner with, and have great relationships with people. We have some brilliant volunteers who give their time sacrificially. As part of recognising our 30th Birthday, we visited some of the churches to give an update and share some encouragements. It was brilliant to spend time with people and worship together in different church traditions. Susie enjoyed visited Deanery Synod twice during the year, giving updates on WCCYM's work.

### Training and Support for Youth Workers and Volunteers

We have had a variety of training opportunities for youth workers and those who volunteer with young people. The core WCCYM Team met fortnightly to encourage and support one another, as well as plan together. The three WCCYM employees completed a 2-day Youth Mental Health First Aid course in January, and we were joined by a few of the volunteers at the National Youth Ministry Weekend run by Youthscape. We continued to lead some training sessions for volunteers under the 'Neos' banner with Daniel Beckett and Clare Cronin, with a session on the World of a Young



Person, one on faith development and learning styles, and an informal Q&A session with all attending sharing their experiences and expertise.

### Church Partners and a new Associate Church

As WCCYM is run as a partnership of churches we have four Key Partner churches: Cambourne Church, Comberton Baptist Church, Hardwick Evangelical Church and the Lordsbridge Team of Churches. We are delighted to have our first Associate Partner church. Gamlingay Baptist Church, officially joined us in this last year. We already had strong relationships with people in the church; young people are actively involved, we have some great volunteers from the church, and lead pastor Adrian Semerene, previously was part of the WCCYM Team when he was a Youthworker! It has been great to make a more formal link between WCCYM and the church, and we look forward to continuing to work together. To find out more about what it means to be a Key or Associate Partner Church please get in touch.

# DARE TO HOPE

30 years of WCCYM

2022 saw WCCYM reach its 30th Birthday year. We celebrated in a few different ways. Firstly, we decided to create a line of merchandise that had a tagline/phrase on it that spelt out the history of WCCYM, the future for WCCYM, would encourage young people to declare the name of Jesus, and that was biblical. 'Dare to Hope' was born. Taken from Lamentations 3:21 in the New Living Translation, we felt that 'Dare to Hope' encapsulated all of this. The founders of WCCYM dared to hope that young people would come to know Jesus, young people should be daring with their hope in Jesus and WCCYM dares to hope that we can reach even more young people for Jesus.



## 30th Birthday Service and Celebration

On Saturday 1st July, we held a 30th Birthday Celebration for WCCYM inviting many guests from across the decades of our history. We were able to praise God together for all the goodness and blessings he has given to WCCYM. We were also able to share a little of the work we do to support young people and Cherie gave us an update on our chaplaincy work. We were also able to hear from some of the organisations that we work with and the impact we have had on them. Those that weren't able to be there on the day had sent in video messages to share how WCCYM had impacted them over the years. Some quotes from these videos are here:

“ It was such a great time being part of [WCCYM] for a year. I was able to learn from others within the team, I felt valued within the team. I think for the young people it's just such a great place where they can explore their faith and grow in their relationship to God. All these experiences and memories still have an impact on me and also help me to get new ideas and resources for youthwork back here [Austria] so the impact WCCYM has goes beyond the borders of the UK I'd say. ”

**Miriam - Gap Year Youth Worker 2021-22**

---

“ Has it really been 30 years?... It's amazing it's still going. That's an absolute testament to the guys that started it way back when. Thank you for giving me my first proper youthwork job... God Bless, all the best and keep the good work going. ”

**John - the First WCCYM Youth Worker**

“ The first time I really got to know other Christians my age was in Sixth Form and that was mostly down to WCCYM running things like CU in my school and other youth groups. I was so grateful for all of the time they put in to get to know me especially during lockdown when they still ran things online. I think the biggest impact that WCCYM had for me was when I came back from Uni a year later and I helped on Satellites, the youth festival they take some young people to. And it just made me realise how much I love, and how important it is to me to see, young people experiencing Jesus for themselves and the impact that WCCYM had there is just incredible. ”

**Bethan - Previous WCCYM Young Person**

“ It has been great to be able to work in partnership with WCCYM for many years. From the perspective of local schools, the really great thing about WCCYM is how they have truly become part of the wider school community. All those working for WCCYM seek to serve that community and help to make it a better place. This genuinely helps the schools to do even better with the young people in their charge. It also means that WCCYM earns the right to do its work in the school community because it so effectively provides service in an ongoing way. This applies to staff as well as well as to pupils. It means that all those involved provide a very positive witness to the whole broader community. ”

**Stephen Munday - Chief Executive of the  
CAM Academy Trust**

# MANAGEMENT

---

WCCYM has a management committee that meets 4 times a year to oversee the work of WCCYM. It is made up of representatives from Cambourne Church, Comberton Baptist Church, Hardwick Evangelical Church, and the Lordsbridge team of Anglican Churches. Susie Thomson reports to the management committee, on behalf of the WCCYM team of youth workers. We are incredibly grateful the committee members for giving their time, experience and expertise. For the academic year 2022/23, the management team has included:

**Nigel Taylor** - Cambourne Church (T) – chair

**Bill Miller** - Cambourne Church (T)

**Kate Gaze** - Hardwick Evangelical Church (T)

**Keith Tarring** - Comberton Baptist Church (T)

**Sarah Rittman** - Lordsbridge Team

**Sue Chase** - Treasurer

**Ruth Gildersleve** - Secretary to the Management Team

**Susie Thomson** - WCCYM Team Leader

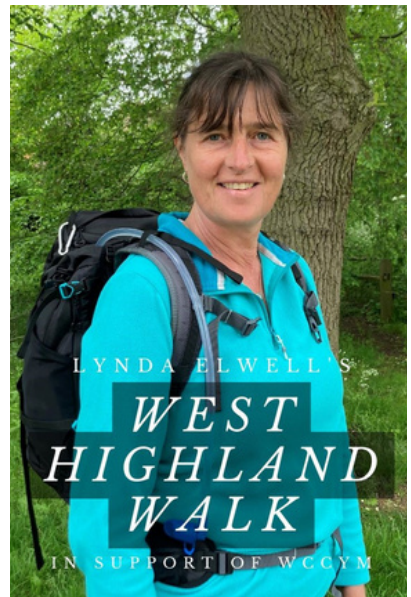
T signifies Trustees of WCCYM

# GIVING TO WCCYM

---

Last year we enjoyed an entertaining quiz in January, held at Cambourne Church, with over 80 people in attendance! We were also very fortunate to have Lynda Elwell raise over £400 for WCCYM by completing the West Highland Way in Scotland. We are extremely grateful to those of you who responded to our '30 for 30' Dare to Hope campaign to raise funds as part of our 30th Birthday year. We were blessed to receive some one-off donations, and also some new monthly financial supporters starting their financial support for WCCYM.

If you would like to give towards the work of WCCYM, please go to [www.give.net/20029793](http://www.give.net/20029793) or contact: **Sue Chase (WCCYM Treasurer), c/o Manor Farm, 14 Alms Hill, Bourn, CB23 2SH**. Please email [info@wccym.org](mailto:info@wccym.org) to find out more.



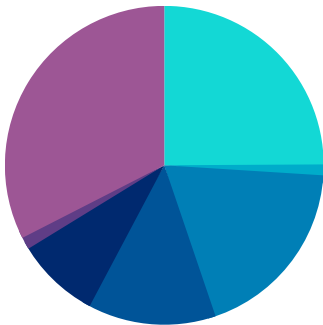
# THE FIGURES

---

WCCYM continues to be funded by local churches who support and encourage our work and from individuals in the west Cambridge area who share our values.

Our team of three has remained intact this year thanks to the second part of a Grant from the Henry Smith Charity and our events and activities have proved more popular than ever.

We continue to work with Comberton Village College, both with individuals and groups, and also, this year, with staff, and they continue to contribute towards the cost of the services we provide.



## Income

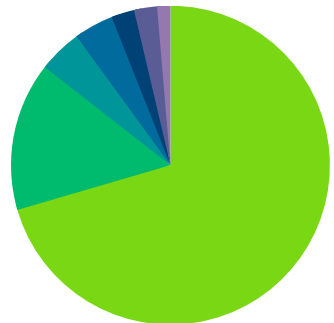
Churches	£15473
Gifts & Donations	£12679
Pastoral Support	£11665
Other Income	£8055
Events & Activities	£5269
Fundraising	£769
Grant Funding	£20200
<b>Total</b>	<b>£74110</b>

We send our gratitude to all those churches and individuals who are currently giving or who have promised to give, in order to finance WCCYM in the coming year and enable us to continue the valuable work that we do. We are grateful that extra fundraising in 2022-23 has enabled us to set aside reserves to maintain our current staffing in 2023-24, when our Henry Smith Charity grant is reduced in its final year.

## Expenditure

Staff/Workers	£41417
Events & Activities	£8860
Overheads	£2607
Staff Training & Resources	£2356
Bookkeeping	£1373
Travel	£1371
Safeguarding & Insurance	£789

**Total** **£58773**



# TEAM

## the faces of WCCYM



**Susie Thomson** is WCCYM's Team Leader, and is employed for 21 hours per week. She links with the local churches, youth workers and volunteers. She is involved in most of WCCYM's work, including the various aspects of the schools work, as well as many of the activities outside of school. She also meets regularly with the management team.



**Cherie Williamson** works for WCCYM for 21 hours a week. She currently heads up our Chaplaincy Team work at Comberton Village College, supporting both students and staff pastorally and spiritually. She takes the lead on liaising with school staff around topics we are invited to share on and prepares the lesson plans for the rest of the team.



**Nick Slater** works 20 hours a week, with a focus on discipleship, outreach and digital communication, including WCCYM's social media presence. Nick is at most WCCYM events run outside of the schools, from socials to WCCYM Discipleship and heads up some of our other small groups, like Deeper and the on-going TTRPG group (see Connect).



**Clare Cronin** started working for Cambourne Church in June 2023 as the full-time Ministry team Leader for Children and Young People. She was previously part of the WCCYM Team when she worked in the area 5 years ago, and we are delighted that she is able to get involved again now through her current role.



**Adam Went** is one of the people who you will see more of in 2023/2024. He has previously been involved in WCCYM as a young person, and as a young leader. In 2023/2024, Adam will be spending the year with Youth For Christ on their Year Out, with a joint placement with Comberton Baptist Church and WCCYM, which we are really pleased about.





WEST CAMBRIDGE **CHRISTIAN** YOUTH MINISTRIES



@wccym

**Charity No: 1116603**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 AUGUST 2023**

## WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES

### PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Gifts & Donations	12,679	8,631
Churches and support organisations	15,473	13,777
Joint Service	274	487
Special Events & Activities	5,269	2,706
Pastoral Support	11,665	7,905
Fund Raising Events	769	500
Henry Smith Grant	20,200	21,200
Other Income - merchandise	1,159	
Other Income (incl GA)	6,467	536
Bank Interest	157	13
	<u>74,110</u>	<u>55,755</u>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
Staff Costs	41,417	42,221
Special Events & Activities	7,482	4,076
External Events	833	1,484
Service Agreement costs	545	
Insurances	632	638
NEOS		15
Staff Training	1,360	1,466
Staff travel	1,371	1,870
Hospitality	404	597
Resources & PR Literature	996	999
General Office Expenses	24	283
Printing & Photocopying	81	166
Bookkeeping	1,373	1,215
Professional Fees incl Child Protection	157	315
Merchandise costs	1,679	
Sundry Expenses	192	177
Bank charges	60	94
Depreciation	167	209
	<u>58,773</u>	<u>55,824</u>
<b>Net Profit / (Loss) for the period</b>	<u>15,337</u>	<u>(69)</u>
<b><u>Exceptional Item</u></b>		
Return of Neos Funding	4,502	
<b>Net funds to carry forward</b>	<u>10,835</u>	

WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRY

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 August 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Office Equipment	2,033		1,574	
Less Depreciation	<u>906</u>		<u>740</u>	
		1,127		834
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Debtors & Prepayments	6,328		3,812	
Bank Accounts & Cash in hand	<u>43,199</u>		<u>23,731</u>	
		49,526		27,542
<b>Less Liabilities</b>				
Creditors - & Accruals	13,889		3,851	
PAYE			(3)	
Joint Service Fund	<u>500</u>		<u>500</u>	
		14,389		4,348
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>36,264</u></u>		<u><u>24,029</u></u>
<b>Reserves</b>				
Reserves	25,429		24,097	
Profit & Loss Account	10,835		(69)	
	<u>          </u>	<u><u>36,264</u></u>	<u>          </u>	<u><u>24,029</u></u>
<b>Reserves are made up of:</b>				
NEOS restricted funds	(1,516)		2,986	
Henry Smith Grant				
General funds for use	37,780		21,043	
	<u>          </u>	<u><u>36,264</u></u>	<u>          </u>	<u><u>24,029</u></u>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 which are set out on pages 1 and 2 of the Financial Statements.

**Respective responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

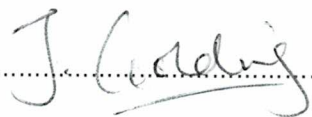
**Independent Examiners Statement**

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

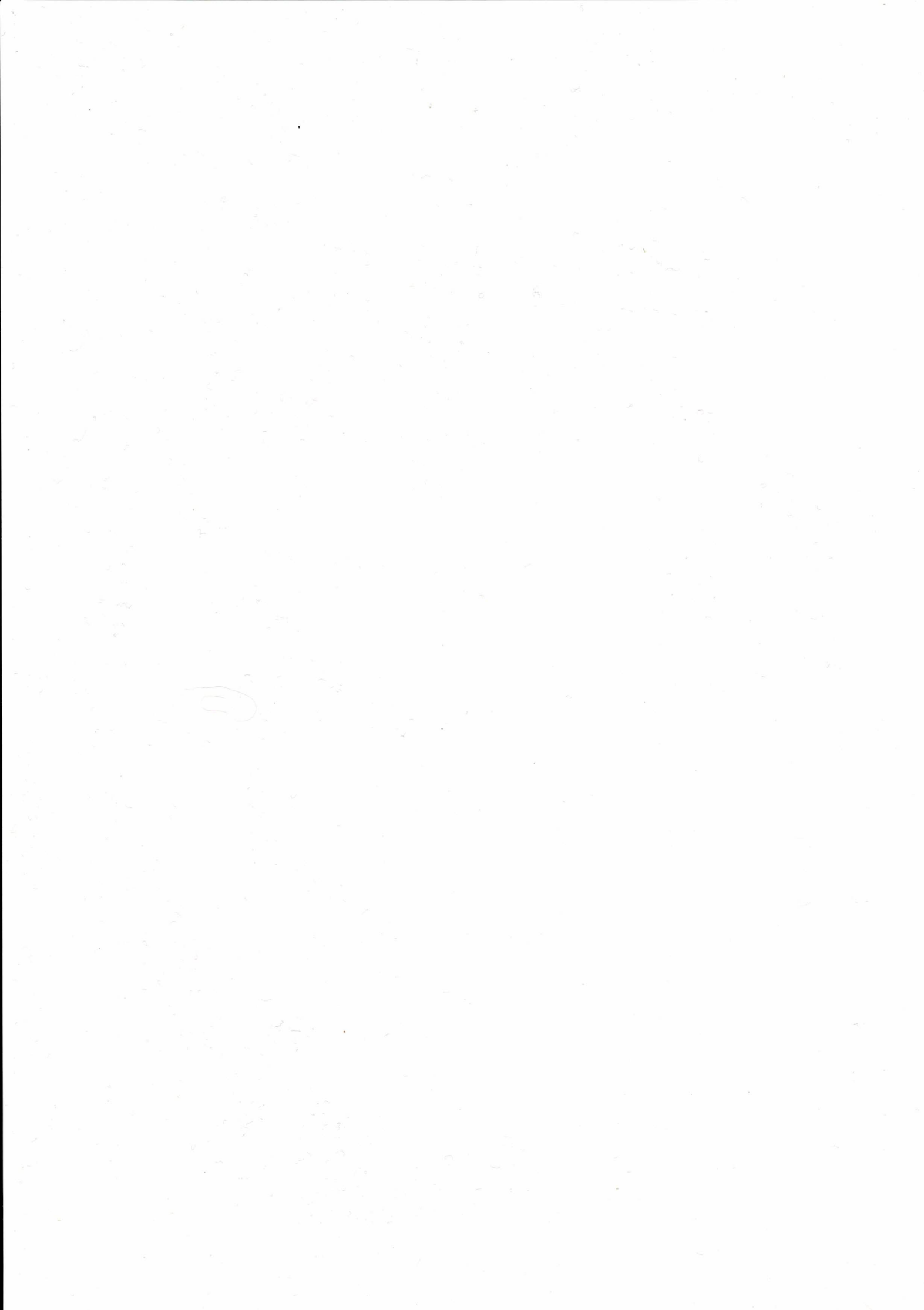
1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 103 of the 2011 act, or, to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met,

Or,

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

  
.....

Date: 2/6/24



**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1116603

---

# Accounts

---



WEST CAMBRIDGE **CHRISTIAN** YOUTH MINISTRIES

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

---

**21/22**  
EDITION



# WELCOME

**WCCYM** is a partnership of churches in villages to the west of Cambridge, working together for young people in a manner that they could not do individually.

**WCCYM's** key values are:

To work in **partnership**

Build **trust**

Show **respect**

Bring **hope**

To be **Christ-centred**.

## WELCOME

---

Thank you for picking up this report and for your interest in the work of WCCYM.

The 2021-22 year has been both exciting and challenging, as we have gradually moved from a Covid-impacted programme to a fuller range of in-person events, including a weekend residential and a summer festival. The grant we received from the Henry Smith Charity enabled us to develop our staff team, leading to an increased range of activities and an expansion of social media engagement.

Given the lack of paid youth workers in local churches over the past year, the monthly WCCYM Thirst services and regular discipleship and study groups continue to be vital as we encourage and challenge young people with the good news of Jesus, as well as providing opportunities for leadership and growth.

The development of our chaplaincy work at Comberton Village College and Sixth Form and the recognition of its value within the school community for both students and staff has also been a great encouragement this year.

We are deeply grateful for the support we receive from churches, schools and individuals. Your practical, prayerful and financial support are greatly appreciated as WCCYM moves into its 30th anniversary year.

Please read on, give thanks, be encouraged and consider how you could be involved.

**Nigel Taylor**

On behalf of the WCCYM Management Team

---

# A NOTE FROM THE TEAM

---

We hope you will enjoy reading about WCCYM's work in the academic year 2021-2022. We have found it helpful to continue to use the terms from Scripture Union's 'Revealing Jesus' framework for our work across churches. It continues to help us focus on the different ways in which we can reach and support young people.

**Susie Thomson**

On behalf of the WCCYM Team

## CONNECT

---

**to feel connected to a supportive community**

### **Sports and Games Social**

Our first social event of the year was a sports and games night held at Cambourne Village College. Although only a small group of young people attended it was a lot of fun, with some competitive moments mainly between siblings in the group!



### **Ten Pin Bowling**

We had a great opportunity to gather people bowling in January, and was something we'd definitely like to do again!

### **Social Media and our digital connections**

Over the year, we have managed to increase our social media presence allowing us to connect with more young people in the digital sphere. This has seen us create posts, share stories and develop reels (short videos). Some of these posts have had promotional purposes, others a faith based element and some are just fun and entertaining.



One great story showing how these connections bring together young people in different ways is that at one Thirst youth service a young person took a selfie with their friends and shared it as a story on their Instagram. They tag us in it. A friend sees it, and is interested in who this @WCCYM is, so clicks on the tag. The first thing they saw on our profile was a reel of a different friend taking part in one of our activities. This mutual friend then went and asked the second young person about who we are.

### **Kintsugi Hope Group for years 9 to 11**

WCCYM ran a Kintsugi Hope group this year for Yr 9-11 young people. We had a few committed young people take part, and being part of a smaller group allowed for some great discussion on topics such as anxiety, perfectionism and anger. It was such a privilege to be part of these discussions on difficult issues.

## Our annual Punting trip returns

It was brilliant to be able to return to the annual punting and BBQ social again after the break for the last two years. It was great to have a good number of Yr 6s join us as one of their first WCCYM activities.



# EXPLORE

to explore the Christian faith and learn about Jesus

## Christmas Party

The WCCYM Christmas Party was a brilliant time to gather together a larger group, which felt fairly significant coming out of the Covid restrictions. We were still being wary, and deliberately planned some activities outside, but we had a great night where 32 young people joined together for games, craft, food, fire pits, hot chocolate, and an opportunity to prepare gifts to give to Addenbrookes hospital. Mark Watson from Cambridge and District Youth for Christ came to explain his reflections about the true meaning of Christmas. All in all, a brilliant night!



## Easter Games Cafe

We had 27 young people come along to our Easter games café on Sunday 3rd April. We had the option of different activities for young people to get involved with, including active games, board games, craft and the very popular toasties and ice cream! We had a panel of people answering questions about the Christian faith, including one of the young people themselves. We also had a short talk by Adrian Semerene, explaining the relevance of Easter.



## Summer Party

The main event we organised at the end of the academic year was the WCCYM Summer Party! Over 25 young people joined us at Hardwick Primary School on one of the hottest days we had had so far! A brilliant team of volunteers helped to put up tents to provide some shade, and ran games, Zorb ball activities, crafts, supervise the inflatable, and provide a brilliant BBQ. We had Zac Britton (from SSYI / Romsey Mill) come and speak to us, and he did a fantastic job at communicating how we are designed to have God at the centre of our lives, and how much better life is when that is the case.

# RESPOND

## opportunities to respond to the Good News of Jesus

We are making an effort to provide opportunities for young people to respond to the invitation to have a relationship with God. At a few of the events throughout the year, we gave young people a chance to commit to Jesus, but also to those who wanted to recommit their lives to Him, which some young people chose to do. We want to ensure that there are opportunities to encourage the young people to take the next stage of their journey of the Christian faith, and were delighted to be involved in the baptism of one of the young people from a local church.

# GROW

## to grow as a disciple who discipless others



### Thirst

We were greatly encouraged to get back to a full year of meeting in person for our Thirst youth service. Numbers increased again, and we were encouraged to have young people starting to be involved in leading Thirst again, particularly by taking the hosting role for the evening, and a couple of musicians being involved in the sung worship. Speakers for the year included Nick Slater, Robbie Thomson, Steve Gaze, Susie Thomson, Jonathan Buwert, Tim Williamson, Ruth Hunt and Miriam Haslauer. We followed the themes from the book 'We are Satellites' (in preparation for taking a group to the new Satellites festival). There were two occasions when we didn't have a meal (due to a rise in Covid cases at the time), but other than that, we enjoyed meeting together to eat, and are very grateful to the partner churches for providing delicious meals each month.

### Deeper

Deeper, our discipleship group for those of Sixth Form age, continued to be a brilliant group meeting together for Bible study, discussion and support. We had a small but close group of seven young people involved throughout the year, with both Cherie and Nick taking a lead at different points, and Miriam and Nathan helping at the sessions. These were monthly meetings involving a meal, and a longer time for discussion. Again a big thanks goes to those who provided meals for this group - we are very thankful for your generosity.



## Small Groups

In the last academic year we ran some small groups as an opportunity for young people to gather together and explore Christianity in a number of different ways. These groups included ones based around craft, board games, online gaming, and one focused on social media. This one included looking at issues surrounding social media, how it related to the Christian faith, and creating some content for WCCYM's Instagram account.



## WCCYM Weekend

It was brilliant to finally be able to run a residential again, and WCCYM weekend returned from 18th to 20th March 2022. We had a few set-backs including our speakers unfortunately needing to leave due to illness, and a surprise early-morning fire alarm after a pillow fight in one of the rooms! But overall it was a great weekend, and we were pleased to have 19 young people join us. Some of the Deeper group prepared a prayer room with a variety of activities, which was a welcome addition.



## Satellites

In the summer we took a group to Satellites, the new youth festival organised by Youthscape. Again it was fantastic to get away for another residential, and to return to taking a group to a much larger event, with excellent talks, encouraging times of sung worship, and a variety of activities. The young people enjoyed the freedom of being able to choose different venues and cafes, and it was helpfully held in Peterborough making it easy for us to get to! We were joined by a couple of other groups who camped with us, and the young people built up some good friendships across the groups. We were very grateful to volunteers Ken and Simon for keeping us fed with delicious meals for the 5 days we were there!



# WCCYM IN SCHOOLS

---

Despite all the restrictions and changes over the past two years, we have continued to be passionate about supporting schools in a holistic way through the provision of pastoral and spiritual support as well as to enhance wellbeing and personal development within the student and staff population. We continue to work in Comberton Village College, Cambourne Village College and Comberton Sixth Form College and have even been able to share our experience of schools work with youth workers from across the area.

## PASTORAL SUPPORT

---

**encourage to flourish**

### **One-to-One**

Cherie and Susie were involved in one-to-one pastoral support in school throughout the year. We have a service level agreement with Comberton Village College (including the Sixth Form) to provide some financial support in this way, so some of it has been covered through that, and some given free-of-charge by WCCYM. At Cambourne Village College Susie also worked with some students to provide one-to-one support as part of WCCYM's giving to the school. Referrals are done through the colleges, through tutors, heads of year and other staff members. The usual pattern is to meet with a student for half a lesson each week or fortnight, for a series of sessions, depending on the need. Student needs have included anxiety, stress, bereavement, family complications, and also some work with Young Carers. One highlight was when we were able to arrange for a beautician to come into college to treat a couple of the Young Carers we were working with, and give them a chance to receive some extra care and support.

### **Group Work**

Some of our work in college is also to work with small groups. We looked at friendship issues, self-esteem & confidence, and managing emotions. We ran groups in both Comberton and Cambourne Village Colleges last year, with help from Miriam and Jason (Melbourn Baptist Church). We have used a variety of resources for these groups, including some material from Acet UK, and Kintsugi Hope.

## Sixth Form Hot Chocolates

We have very much enjoyed giving out the Hot Chocolates to Sixth Form students on a Friday lunchtime. This has ranged from anything between 35 and 55 hot drinks a week, while having a chat with students, either about the mundane and everyday, or the more significant. It's a privilege to be able to provide this for students at the end of their week.



## PSHE & PD Topic Delivery

We continued our annual Yr 12 Personal Development session for 240 Sixth Form students in September on Healthy Relationships, but ran out of time for all the content, so went in to do a joint session with a staff member around our digital footprint in January. We also did an E-safety PSHE lesson for Yr 8, repeated ten times so that every class was covered. These lessons are a great opportunity to look at important issues in an interactive way.



## Year 6/7 Transitions

At the end of the academic year, WCCYM again supported the local churches to run a series of 'It's Your Move' sessions for Yr 6s in primary schools, focusing on moving on to secondary school. This included doing the session in a school we had not worked in before, which was encouraging. We were also able to meet up with some Yr 7s who we had worked with at Gamlingay Village Primary when they were in Yr 6, and see how they were settling in.

## Beaumanor Year 7 Residential

Susie was able to go to help for 2 days of the Yr 7 activities week at Beaumanor with Comberton Village College. We had Adam, a work experience student, with us that week as well, so they were both able to go

and help with a group for the two days, getting involved in the different activities. It's a great opportunity to support the school, get to know students, but also get to know staff too. Unfortunately Susie was ill when she was intending to go with Cambourne Village College Yr 7s, but maybe next year!

# SPIRITUAL SUPPORT

---

## explore spiritual development

### Christian Union Groups

We have enjoyed returning to running the different CU groups at Comberton and Cambourne Village Colleges, and Comberton Sixth Form. It has been a challenge to build the groups up again, but there have been encouraging times throughout the year. Closer to the end of the year, we tried running a 'Big Questions' group in each school, which brought a couple of different people to one of the groups. We have been very grateful to staff members in the colleges for giving up their valuable lunchtimes to help out.

### Assemblies

We took a number of assemblies throughout the year, in Comberton and Cambourne Village Colleges. Themes included Advent, Hopes and Dreams, and the Power of words. We find that assemblies are a good way for a larger number of students to be aware of WCCYM, and also our assemblies have a Christian message, that we ensure is also relevant to those of any, or no, faith.

### RPE Days

The last year was a busy one for us with Religion, Philosophy and Ethics lessons, taking part in seven separate RPE days! This was partly due to a bit of catch up from some that had not been done due to Covid, so we saw Yr 10s and Yr 11s at Comberton Village College, and Yr 10s at Cambourne Village College. Subjects included the Environment, War and Peace, Medical Ethics and Social Justice. We appreciated the help from local churches who had church leaders and other volunteers come and help with these lessons.



# CHAPLAINCY

---

## additional support offered to all

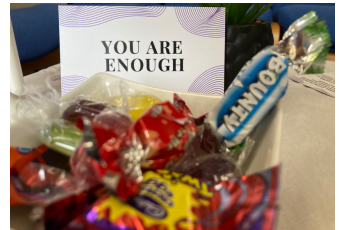
We have been very pleased with the pilot year of the Chaplaincy Project at Comberton Village College. Some of what it involves, has already been described in the previous parts of this report, with an increased amount of pastoral and spiritual support for students. It has been helpful to have it all under the heading of Chaplaincy work, although for students, they will still know us more as youth workers in the college, involved in different aspects of college life. A more obvious development is the support for staff which we have been more involved in. We had already been meeting with Christian staff once or twice a term (and also in Cambourne Village College), but we have now been providing some wider support for other staff members in college. At the start of the year it was more of a challenge, due to some Covid restrictions still being in place. But once the staff room had re-opened, and 'Cake Friday'

---

started up, this provided many more opportunities. 'Cake Friday' is the college providing cakes once a month for staff, and we found this a great opportunity to make our presence known more. Every month we brought tablecloths, flowers and plants, hot drinks, sweets and chocolates, and also a card with a reflection, that we placed on the tables. It was a great opportunity to chat to staff, give them a well-needed drink to accompany their cake, and show that we were around to serve them and support them. They seemed to appreciate this, and we arranged some additional times of doing tea and coffee in the staff room after school. We have also wanted to bless the college as a whole, and have given out chocolates to every department to encourage them.

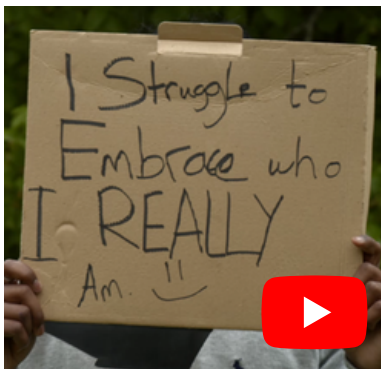
### **Staff Support**

Cherie has been heading up the chaplaincy team, and as part of it has provided one-to-one support sessions for staff who have wanted someone to talk to. This has been taken up by a small number of staff, who met with Cherie for an hour either weekly or fortnightly. During the summer term, the college then included some of this staff support in our service level agreement, contributing financially to a portion of the work, which is a great recognition by the school of the value of our support for staff.



### **Mental Health Awareness Week**

We were very pleased to be involved in an initiative at Comberton Village College for Mental Health Awareness Week, which happened in May. This was partly due to a conversation with a student during a pastoral support session, as he spoke of wanting to raise more awareness about mental health issues in school, so we worked with him and developed an idea of making a video highlighting some of the struggles of students in the school, and giving information about where to access support. Nick did all the hard work of putting the video together that could then be shown to students. You can find the video on our YouTube channel. During Mental Health Awareness Week itself, the head prefects did some assemblies, and we set up a stand for them for lunchtimes with information about support, encouragement cards, stickers and a sign-up list to pledge how to support people's mental health.



### **Additional Support after Mental Health Awareness Week**

For the two weeks straight after this, we ran a drop-in / reflective space for Yr 11s, focussed on exams and the idea of relieving some of the stress that some of them were experiencing. We had lots of creative, reflective ideas, although they were not really used! Some students came for hot chocolates, but it was not quite the quiet environment we had thought it might be! So if we are to do this again, we will consider the best way to do this!

# CHURCHES & VOLUNTEERS

**Working in partnership with local churches**

## **Local Churches**

We continue to work closely with our partner churches, and are fortunate to have such good relationships with church leaders, youth volunteers, and the wider church communities. We are so grateful for the volunteers from the churches who not only give their time to serving youth in their churches, but also with WCCYM. We really could not do this ministry without you! This has been particularly important at a time when there have been a lack of youth workers employed by the local churches, and our overall core WCCYM team has been smaller than usual. It has been brilliant to have Miriam, a Year Out student with Youth for Christ, who was placed with Cambourne Church and WCCYM. She played a key part in so many of our activities throughout the year, and we were incredibly fortunate to have someone so gifted and competent, and keen to get involved! She very quickly was leading activities and we tried our hardest to persuade her to stay! We have ensured that the links with churches are good, and Susie has visited Deanery Synod to give updates on WCCYM's work for the Anglican churches, and made a visit to Comberton Baptist Church in the summer term too. Others to follow!

## **Training and Support for Youth Workers and Volunteers**

We were grateful to have a number of training and support opportunities for youth workers and youth volunteers during the year. As a core WCCYM team, we met fortnightly to plan and pray together. Cambridge Youthwork Collective termly gatherings provided an opportunity for networking and training at a wider level, and Susie co-led this gathering with Jon Sanders from Romsey Mill, with a whole session focused on schoolwork, involving some input from Cherie too. We helped to organise a First Aid course in September for a group of local youth workers and volunteers. We attended the National Youth Ministry Weekend run by Youthscape in November, which was a great time to be equipped and inspired, and it was brilliant being able to take a couple of local church volunteers with us too. We also ran our first youth volunteers training under the 'Neos' banner (run jointly with Clare Cronin from St Andrew's Histon and Daniel Beckett from Godmanchester Baptist), and had a group of volunteers come to an evening about building relationships with young people.



# MANAGEMENT

---

WCCYM has a management committee made up of representatives from Cambourne Church, Comberton Baptist Church, Hardwick Evangelical Church, and the Lordsbridge team of Anglican Churches. This committee usually meets 4 times a year to oversee the work of WCCYM. Susie Thomson reports to the management committee, on behalf of the WCCYM team of youth workers. We are very grateful to those on the WCCYM management committee, for giving their time, experience and expertise.

For the academic year 2021/22, the management team has included:

**Nigel Taylor** - Cambourne Church (T) - chair

**Alison Myers** - Lordsbridge Team (T) - until September 2021

**Bill Miller** - Cambourne Church (T)

**Kate Gaze** - Hardwick Evangelical Church

**Keith Tarring** - Comberton Baptist Church (T)

**Sarah Rittman** - Lordsbridge Team - from January 2022

**Sue Chase** - Treasurer

**Ruth Gildersleve** - Secretary to the Management Team

**Susie Thomson** - WCCYM Team Leader

T signifies Trustees of WCCYM

# GIVING TO WCCYM

---

If you would like to give towards the work of WCCYM, please go to [www.give.net/20029793](http://www.give.net/20029793) or contact: **Sue Chase (WCCYM Treasurer), c/o Manor Farm, 14 Alms Hill, Bourn, CB23 2SH.**

Please email [info@wccym.org](mailto:info@wccym.org) to find out more.

We need to think creatively about fundraising for WCCYM, so look out for future activities and events. If you are aware of any grants or trust funds that we can apply to, please let us know, as we are always needing to look ahead at how to fund our work in addition to churches and individuals giving financially. We are continually grateful to all those who give to our work.

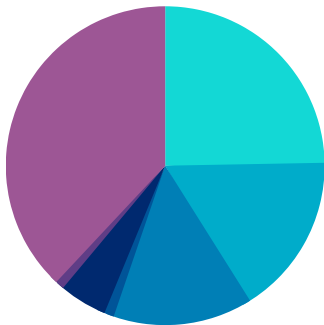
# THE FIGURES

---

Funding for WCCYM comes from local churches who believe in the work that we do and also from individuals in the west Cambridge area who share our values. Our sincere thanks go to those who give financially to support the valuable work that WCCYM does.

Our planning during the previous year came to fruition at the start of the Autumn Term when we received a Grant from the Henry Smith Charity that enabled us to take on a third person to increase our work with young people. As you can see from the figures, the bulk of our income is invested in the people that we employ so that we can continue to provide a full and varied programme for the young people that we serve.

Our relationship with Comberton Village College continues to grow and they continue to contribute financially to the pastoral work that we provide.



## Income

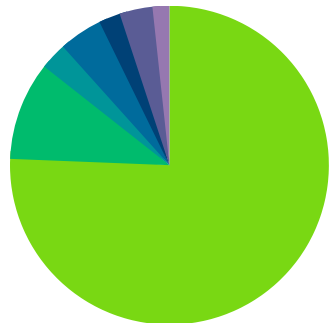
Churches	£13777
Gifts & Donations	£9118
Pastoral Support	£7905
Other Income	£549
Events & Activities	£2706
Fundraising	£500
Henry Smith Grant	£21200
<b>Total</b>	<b>£55755</b>

As always, our gratitude goes out to all those churches and individuals who are supporting WCCYM financially and enabling us to carry out the plans and ideas we have for the young people in our area.

## Expenditure

Staff/Workers	£42221
Events & Activities	£5575
Overheads	£1526
Staff Training & Resources	£2465
Bookkeeping	£1215
Travel	£1870
Safeguarding & Insurance	£953

**Total** **£55825**



# TEAM

## the faces of WCCYM



**Susie Thomson** is WCCYM's Team Leader, and is employed for 20 hours per week. She links with the local churches, youth workers and volunteers. She is involved in all areas of WCCYM's work including pastoral support work at Comberton Village College, and is the main contact at Cambourne Village College for WCCYM.



**Cherie Williamson** works for WCCYM for 18 hours a week. She currently heads up our Chaplaincy Team work at Comberton Village College, supporting both students and staff pastorally and spiritually. She takes the lead on liaising with school staff around topics we are invited to share on and prepares the lesson plans for the rest of the team.



**Lydia Sings** has now moved on from her role as Youth Worker at Comberton Baptist Church. She had a very constructive time away on her discipleship programme and felt that it was now time to step away from CBC and WCCYM. It is sad to see her go, but we pray that she continues to seek God and serve Him wherever she feels led.



**Nick Slater** works 20 hours a week, with a focus on discipleship, outreach and digital communication, including WCCYM's social media presence. Nick had fun running all of our interest based small groups (especially board games) over the past year and has taken on leading Deeper, our discipleship group for sixth form age young people



**Miriam Haslauer** was an exceptional part of the team for the previous year. She came to us from Austria as part of The Year Out run by Youth for Christ. She spent half her week with Cambridge & District Youth for Christ and the other half getting involved in everything we were doing, both in and out of schools. Miriam will be missed by all of us.





WEST CAMBRIDGE **CHRISTIAN** YOUTH MINISTRIES



@wccym

**Charity No: 1116603**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 AUGUST 2022**

## WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES

### PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Gifts & Donations	8,631	11,164
Churches and support organisations	13,777	23,831
Joint Service	487	(993)
Special Events & Activities	2,706	1,368
Pastoral Support	7,905	6,100
Fund Raising Events	500	1,025
Henry Smith Grant	21,200	
Other Income	536	3,096
Bank Interest	13	0
	<u>55,755</u>	<u>45,591</u>

### **Expenditure**

Staff Costs	42,221	33,068
Special Events & Activities	4,076	2,664
External Events	1,484	307
Insurances	638	451
NEOS	15	
Staff Training	1,466	711
Staff travel	1,870	630
Hospitality	597	436
Resources & PR Literature	999	727
General Office Expenses	283	445
Printing & Photocopying	166	71
Bookkeeping	1,215	1,059
Professional Fees incl Child Protection	315	142
Sundry Expenses	177	93
Bank charges	94	84
Depreciation	209	173
	<u>55,824</u>	<u>41,060</u>

### **Net Profit / (Loss) for the period**

	<u>(69)</u>	<u>4,531</u>
--	-------------	--------------

### **Exceptional Item**

Henry Smith Foundation - Grant for the financial year 2021-22 received 31 August 2021

21,200

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRY**

**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 August 2022**

	<b>2022</b>		<b>2021</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Office Equipment	1,574		1,574	
(Less Depreciation)	<u>740</u>		<u>531</u>	
		834		1,043
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Debtors & Prepayments	3,812			
Bank Accounts & Cash in hand	<u>23,731</u>		<u>48,844</u>	
		27,542		48,844
<b>Less Liabilities</b>				
Creditors - & Accruals	3,851		3,650	
PAYE	(3)		438	
Joint Service Fund	<u>500</u>		<u>500</u>	
		4,348		4,588
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>24,029</u></b>		<b><u>45,299</u></b>
<b>Reserves</b>				
Reserves	24,097		19,568	
Profit & Loss Account	(69)		25,731	
	<u>24,029</u>		<u>45,299</u>	
		<b><u>24,029</u></b>		<b><u>45,299</u></b>
<b>Reserves are made up of:</b>				
NEOS restricted funds	2,986		3,001	
Henry Smith Grant			21,200	
General funds for use	21,043		21,098	
	<u>24,029</u>		<u>45,299</u>	
		<b><u>24,029</u></b>		<b><u>45,299</u></b>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 which are set out on pages 1 and 2 of the Financial Statements.

**Respective responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiners 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 to keep accounting records in accordance with section 103 of the 2011 act, or, to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.



.....  
K Sequeira  
3B Fox Street  
Great Gransden  
SG19 3AA

Date: 26 MAY 2023

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1116603

---

# Accounts

---



WEST CAMBRIDGE **CHRISTIAN** YOUTH MINISTRIES

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

---

**20/21**  
EDITION

West Cambridge Christian Youth Ministries (WCCYM)  
Registered charity No. 1116603 | [www.wccym.org](http://www.wccym.org) | [info@wccym.org](mailto:info@wccym.org)



# WELCOME

**WCCYM** is a partnership of churches in villages to the west of Cambridge, working together for young people in a manner that they could not do individually.

**WCCYM's** key values are:

To work in **partnership**

Build **trust**

Show **respect**

Bring **hope**

To be **Christ-centred**.

## WELCOME

---

Thank you for reading this report and for your interest in the work of WCCYM.

Thank you to all those who have made possible the activities that you'll read about in this report.

Thank you to the team of youth workers (employed and volunteers) who have supported young people.

Thank you to the young people who have engaged with us, encouraged and challenged us, despite Covid restrictions.

Thank you to the churches, schools and individuals who have partnered with us, offering practical, prayerful and financial support. A recent grant has enabled us to expand our work in the year ahead and we are grateful to God for his faithful provision. Please read on, give thanks, be encouraged, and consider how you could be involved.

**Nigel Taylor**

On behalf of the WCCYM Management Team

---

# A NEW FRAMEWORK

---

Over 2020 and 2021, a lot of how WCCYM has worked has had to adapt and change, but not just due to the Pandemic. We have re-evaluated our strategy for all areas of our work helping us to better support young people, schools and local churches. We found Scripture Union's "Revealing Jesus" framework helpful and are using the words Connect; Explore; Respond and Grow as a way of explaining our ministry. This has helped us to focus our thinking behind each and every event, activity and group that we run to ensure we are seeing young people develop.

## CONNECT

---

**to feel connected to a supportive community**

### **Games & Quiz nights in October & January**

During the year we had two online games & quiz nights for young people. These online gatherings on Zoom were popular with the young people and we had a great time together.

### **Rumble: Live Action Gaming at Grafham Water**

By the time we reached the summer term, it was brilliant to be able to organise a few events in person, but we planned these to be outdoor activities to ensure they were as Covid-safe as possible. We took a group to Rumble at Grafham Water, for some live action gaming. The young people loved it, and it was great to be able to meet up and have fun!

### **Kintsugi Hope small group with Year 11s**

During June and July, we ran a Kintsugi Hope wellbeing group for young people in Yr 11 at Cambourne Church. They had just finished their time at college and it had been a stressful time with lockdowns and changes in plans for exams, so it seemed to be an ideal time to run a group specifically for them. Kintsugi Hope is a fantastic organisation and some of our leaders took part in the training, and we have enjoyed being able to run courses including the Christian perspective on wellbeing.



# EXPLORE

to explore the Christian faith and learn about Jesus

## Online Christmas party

Our usual Christmas party was moved online to Zoom, but we still had a group of young people come together to play some games, hear a short talk from Jon Sanders (from Romsey Mill, previously a youth worker with WCCYM), and



there were also some challenges that leaders had pre-recorded to show at the event.

This challenge saw the youth workers and volunteers trying to create Father Christmas on their face using a variety of unhelpful items BUT without using their hands.

Hopefully you can tell that the outcome was quite amusing!

## Online Easter party

In April we had an online Easter party, following a similar format to the Christmas one, with games, challenges and Amy Bland (a previous WCCYM/Lordsbridge young person, now a vicar) gave a short talk about the Christian faith.

## Summer Social in July

For our annual summer event, we went for a low-key version of what we would usually do, meeting outside for a shorter time together. The new cabin at St Mary's Church, Hardwick, provided us with some great outdoor space where we had games, craft, a leaders' challenge, refreshments and a time of leaders sharing ways in which they had known God to be with them recently.

## WCCYM Small Groups

In the summer term, we trialled a few WCCYM small groups. These were opportunities to meet together with a few other young people focused on a particular activity, including a short discussion time on an aspect of the

Christian faith. We had groups for online games, craft and sports. As Covid restrictions were gradually being lifted, it was a particularly good time to have small gatherings, and to be online or outside. It also meant that with the groups being deliberately small, we were able to focus on working with just a few young people at a time, which enabled us to see how they were doing after a difficult year, and to talk about faith.



## Thirst

Throughout the year, we had our monthly 'Thirst' youth service. The majority of the sessions were on Zoom, and included games, a time to chat and pray, a short talk, and some sung worship (either live or pre-recorded by leaders). Numbers for the Zoom sessions were less than when we met in person, but we felt that it was an important activity to continue, for the smaller group of young people. Speakers included Keith Tarring, Tim Williamson, Hannah Fytche, Adrian Semerene, David Newton and Neil Thompson. In June, we were very pleased to be able to meet in person, outside the cabin at St Mary's Church, Hardwick. Clare Cronin was our speaker, and it was great to be able to

worship and sing together in a way that many of us had not been able to for months previously.

## Uni prep session

In September, we ran a University Preparation session for a couple of young people on Zoom. We invited two University students to come and share some practical tips for settling in, particularly thinking about being a Christian at Uni.



## Deeper

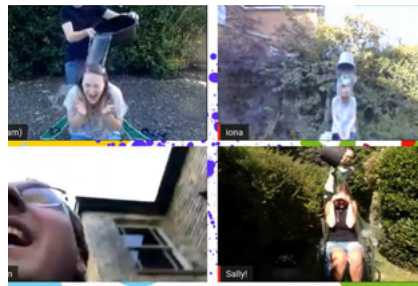
The discipleship group for Sixth Form young people was a brilliant group of committed young people, who were supporting each other in their personal lives, and their faith. The group met fortnightly on Zoom mostly, with a few in-person meetings at the end of the year. Session themes included influences, sharing faith with friends, apologetics, and the Kintsugi Hope wellbeing course. The group became very close, being open and honest, and praying for each other.



---

## Online WCCYM Weekends in both Sept 2020 and March 2021

This year, we had two WCCYM weekends, both online. One was the postponed one from March 2020, and happened in September 2020. It was a great way to start the new academic year, and the young people were enthusiastic to get involved with the different sessions. We had 23 young people signed up, and the weekend involved live Zoom sessions, pre-recorded videos, sung worship, options of craft, baking and games, and the usual gunging of a leader! Elaine Grant from Cambridge and District Youth for Christ was our speaker, and her talks were great!



In the spring term, we would have had the usual WCCYM weekend. Covid restrictions meant that we could not have an in-person residential so we planned another online one. This time we had 26 young people sign up, and again had great engagement in the different activities. It was a similar format, including more challenges and an escape room activity. Luke Bacon was our speaker for this one, and most of the talks were live on Zoom. Luke had previously been with the Lordsbridge team of churches as an Ordinand, so it was great to have him involved with WCCYM again in this way. The weekend ended with the leader gunging again, with competitive talk from leaders about campaigning for each other to be gunged next time!



## **WCCYM IN SCHOOLS**

---

Despite all the restrictions and changes over the past two years, we have continued to be passionate about supporting schools in a holistic way through the provision of pastoral and spiritual support as well as to enhance wellbeing and personal development within the student and staff population. We continue to work in Comberton Village College, Cambourne Village College and Comberton Sixth Form College and have even been able to share our experience of schools work with youth workers from across the area.

## One-to-One

One-to-one pastoral support was more complicated this year, due to the changing situation of the schools. We continued our service level agreement with Comberton Village College throughout the year, and the support sessions were either on Zoom, or Microsoft Teams, on the phone, or outside in person. The needs of the young people varied throughout the year, as always. It was clear, however, that for some young people, lockdowns and being at home more, brought additional problems and anxiety. For some, though, when they went back in to college in person, that was a time of more anxiety and stress. It was an important part of WCCYM's work to be able to continue to support students throughout this difficult year, including through the challenging time of exam plans changing.

## PHSE & PD Lesson Delivery

The start of the academic year was a great opportunity to be physically in the colleges again, and one of these occasions was our annual Yr 12 Personal Development lesson on Healthy Relationships at Comberton Sixth Form. Due to social distancing in the lecture theatre, we repeated this lesson four times, rather than the usual two times. It felt like a significant moment of seeing many young people again in person after what felt like such a long time, and we adjusted some of the plans to ensure that we were being careful with the Covid restrictions in place.



## Primary to Secondary School Transitions

WCCYM helped to support a few of our local churches to deliver a Yr 6 lesson in a few of the primary schools, focussing on the move from Yr 6 to Yr 7. As we have previously done, we used the brilliant 'It's your move' resource from Scripture Union, and enjoyed being able to visit schools again in person this year.

Towards the end of the school year, we had conversations with the CAM Academy Trust about support for the schools, which included discussing the transition process from Yr 6 to Yr 7. We decided to trial a Yr 6 group with some students at Gamlingay Village Primary School, with the plan to continue to follow up with support at the start of Yr 7 at Comberton Village College. Youth workers in the churches and with WCCYM have done transitions sessions or groups before, and we were able to use a mixture of resources we had used before, and new resources, for this group.

## Christian Union Groups

The last year has been a challenge for WCCYM's Christian Union groups. For a time, they were on Zoom when the majority of students were at home. When we were able to run the groups in person, they had to be individual year groups rather than mixed, due to the year group 'bubbles' for Covid restrictions. It was a challenge to have enough leaders for groups, and some year groups had very few or no young people, so it was a frustrating situation to be in, but understandable considering the circumstances. There were times of encouragement though, particularly with getting to know Yr 7s in both Cambourne and Comberton Village Colleges!

## RPE Days

This last year involved two RPE (Religion, Philosophy and Ethics) days. We were unsure whether we would have the opportunity this year, so were very pleased to be able to work with young people in this way.

At Comberton Village College, we took a lesson on Medical Ethics in April 2021. As we did not have any specialist knowledge in this, we

ensured that we involved others in the planning and delivery of this lesson. Our WCCYM team members and local volunteers led the lesson, but it included video input from three Christian medical professionals who spoke about beginning-of-life and end-of-life issues. One of these medical



Four pillars of medical ethics  
Dr Tim Key



professionals was previously a young person involved with WCCYM when he was a teenager, and went to Comberton Village College.

At Cambourne Village College, we ended the academic year with an RPE day on the subject of Human Rights and Social Justice. This lesson included one of the Sixth Form students sharing her passion for wanting to challenge injustice, and it was brilliant to have someone closer in age to the young people, to inspire them.

---

## Assemblies

This year just involved one main assembly for the colleges, which we created as a video resource in February 2021, on the theme of self-esteem and resilience.



## Christian Staff Gatherings

At both Comberton and Cambourne Village

Colleges, we kept in touch with Christian staff, and were able to meet in person or on Zoom to pray. We did not do this as often as we would usually like to, but it was helpful to keep in touch.

---

# CHAPLAINCY TEAM

**additional support  
offered to all**

## WCCYM Chaplaincy Team

Throughout the year, we had been considering what it would look like to expand our pastoral and spiritual support in the colleges, and had some helpful conversations with a few staff members of the CAM Academy Trust. This led to WCCYM putting a proposal to the governors of Comberton Village College towards the end of the academic year for a Pilot WCCYM Chaplaincy Project, which was accepted. The plan is to continue the service level agreement with the college contributing to the costs of some of the pastoral work we do, but we will be increasing the support we give to the school, in both pastoral and spiritual ways, funded by WCCYM to begin with. Cherie completed a 'Chaplaincy in Education' course in May 2021 with CYM (The Institute for Children, Youth and Mission), and is going to be heading up our Chaplaincy team work in the college.



# LOCAL CHURCHES

Working in partnership  
with local churches

We work closely with our partner churches and are fortunate that there is a great sense of unity, for the good of working together for young people in the area and sharing the good news. We keep in touch with what is happening with youth work in our local churches, which may involve youth workers or volunteers attending team meetings, or it may



involve meeting with youth workers or individuals separately, to offer encouragement and support in different ways. We want to encourage as many young people as possible to be part of our activities, to be part of the wider WCCYM community.

We are very privileged to have such an excellent team of volunteers in our local area, who help with WCCYM and church youth work. Some come to events and activities to help with the young people. We are so grateful to those who were happy to do this on Zoom as well, which was not always easy! We also have those who practically help out those who give financially, those who pray, and those who give their time behind the scenes. We are so grateful for God's provision of every one of these volunteers, and for the encouragement they give to both young people and to WCCYM youth workers. We had two volunteer team evenings on Zoom during the year; one in October and one in January. Our preference would have been to meet in person, but this was a good opportunity to connect with a few people and encourage one another. We also had regular prayer meetings on Zoom, particularly during the spring term when schools were mostly working remotely. We felt that it was important to commit to praying for our local schools at that time, and appreciated those who joined with us on Zoom to do that.



# MANAGEMENT

---

WCCYM has a management committee made up of representatives from Cambourne Church, Comberton Baptist Church, Hardwick Evangelical Church, and the Lordsbridge team of Anglican Churches. This committee usually meets 4 times a year to oversee the work of WCCYM. Susie Thomson reports to the management committee, on behalf of the WCCYM team of youth workers. This last year there were additional meetings, and we're very grateful to those on the WCCYM management committee, for giving their time, experience and expertise.

For the academic year 2020/21, the management team has included:

**Steve Gaze** - Chair, Hardwick Evangelical Church (T) - until June 2021

**Kate Gaze** - Hardwick Evangelical Church - from June 2021

**Sue Chase** - Treasurer

**Keith Tarring** - Comberton Baptist Church (T)

**Alison Myers** - Lordsbridge Team (T)

**Bill Miller** - Cambourne Church (T)

**Nigel Taylor** - Cambourne Church (T) - chair from June 2021

**Susie Thomson** - WCCYM Team Leader

**Ruth Gildersleve** - Secretary to the Management Team

T signifies Trustees of WCCYM

# GIVING TO WCCYM

---

If you would like to give towards the work of WCCYM, please go to [www.give.net/20029793](http://www.give.net/20029793) or contact: **Sue Chase (WCCYM Treasurer), c/o Manor Farm, 14 Alms Hill, Bourn, CB23 2SH.**

Please email [info@wccym.org](mailto:info@wccym.org) to find out more.

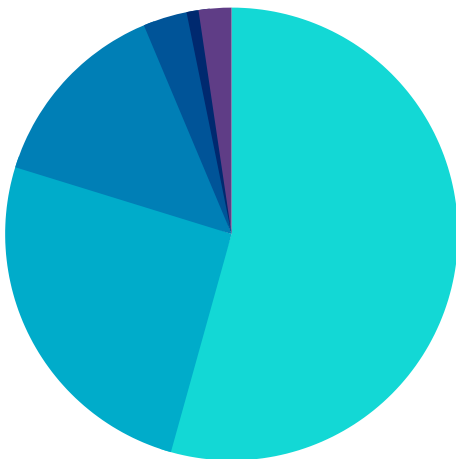
We had to think creatively about fundraising during the year, so ran our second online quiz in September, and then in May, we created some cake boxes for local supporters. These boxes contained scones with jam and cream, and different cakes. This proved to be very successful, and may be something that we repeat!

# THE FIGURES

---

WCCYM continues to be funded by local churches who support and encourage our work and from individuals in the west Cambridge area who share our values. Our sincere thanks go to those who give financially to support the valuable work that WCCYM does.

As with last year, dealing with months spent in lock-down and a slow return to face to face working, the pattern of our income and expenditure has seen a change from the norm. However, we have kept our focus on the service we provide and have maintained a higher than usual level of staffing to enable us to provide a broad and creative package of activities and experiences. Our youth workers continued to work with Comberton Village College, either with individuals or groups, and the College helped towards the cost of the pastoral work that we provided.



## Income

Churches	£23831
Gifts & Donations	£11164
Pastoral Support	£6100
Other Income	£1378
Events & Activities	£375
Fundraising	£1025

## Total

**£43873**

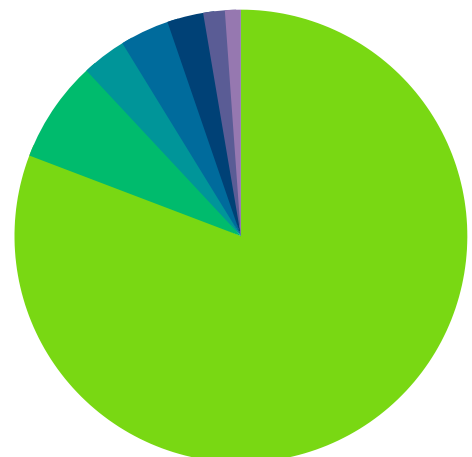
We are very grateful to all those churches and individuals who are currently giving or who have promised to give, in order to finance WCCYM in the coming year. We have many plans and ideas for our work with the young people in our area.

## Expenditure

Staff/Workers	£33068
Events & Activities	£2971
Overheads	£1302
Staff Training & Resources	£1438
Bookkeeping	£1059
Travel	£630
Safeguarding & Insurance	£464

## Total

**£40932**



# TEAM

the faces of  
WCCYM



**Susie Thomson** is WCCYM's Team Leader, and is employed for 20 hours per week. She links with the local churches, youth workers and volunteers. She is involved in pastoral support work at Comberton Village College, and is the main contact at Cambourne Village College.



**Sally Coxall** worked for WCCYM for 16 hours per week. She was responsible for activities such as Thirst and the CU groups, and involved in various aspects of face-to-face youthwork including pastoral support work in schools. Sally finished working for WCCYM in August 2021, and we are very grateful for all she brought to the team and the young people over the 3 years she was with us.



**Cherie Williamson** works for WCCYM for 18 hours a week, which has increased since last year. She currently heads up our Chaplaincy Team work at Comberton Village College, supporting both students and staff pastorally and spiritually. She is also responsible for Deeper, the discipleship group for young people of Sixth Form age.



**Jonathan Buwert** only spent a short time working with us in the last academic year, before he moved on from his position at Cambourne Church, to work full time for Romsey Mill. He had been a great team member and we are thankful for his work with young people across the WCCYM area.



**Lydia Sings** has been an integral part of the WCCYM team in the last year, with various WCCYM activities, but also bringing her creativity and skills to the publicity and communication side of the work. She is currently taking part in a discipleship programme in another part of the country but plans to rejoin us partway through the year.



**Abi Graham** was the youthworker at Gamlingay Baptist Church, and a great part of the wider WCCYM Team. Abi helped at various WCCYM activities, and was brilliant with making videos and putting together content for online events. In May she went on maternity leave after the birth of Florence, and in July, Abi, Sam and Florence moved to Buckingham.



**Nick Slater** started working for WCCYM in August 2020, with a focus on Discipleship and Outreach, and also some time dedicated to digital communication, including WCCYM's social media presence. Although Nick is new to this role, he is familiar with WCCYM, having previously been a local church youth worker part of the team, a volunteer, and originally a young person involved in WCCYM!



**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**



@wccym

**Charity No: 1116603**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 AUGUST 2021**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**CONTENTS**

- 1** Profit & Loss Account
- 2** Balance Sheet
- 3** Approval Statement

## WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES

### PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

		2021 £	2020 £
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
	Notes		
	1		
Gifts & Donations	A	11,164	9,857
Churches and support organisations	B	23,831	13,458
Joint Service	C	(993)	534
Special Events & Activities	D	1,368	2,175
Pastoral Support	E	6,100	5,626
Fund Raising Events	F	1,025	6,733
Other Income	G	3,096	0
Bank Interest		0	2
		<u>45,591</u>	<u>38,384</u>
 <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
	2		
Staff Costs		33,068	26,766
Special Events & Activities	A	2,664	2,531
External Events	A	307	-
Insurances		451	528
Staff Training	B	711	425
Staff travel		630	873
Hospitality	C	436	368
Resources & PR Literature	D	727	856
General Office Expenses		445	314
Printing & Photocopying		71	57
Bookkeeping		1,059	1,331
Professional Fees incl Child Protection		142	178
Sundry Expenses	E	93	220
Bank charges		84	60
Depreciation		173	130
		<u>41,060</u>	<u>34,637</u>
<b>Net Profit / (Loss) for the period</b>		<u><u>4,531</u></u>	<u><u>3,747</u></u>

#### **Exceptional Item**

Henry Smith Foundation - Grant for the financial year 2021-22 received 31 August 2021

21,200

WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRY

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 August 2021

	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Office Equipment	1,574	
(Less Depreciation)	<u>531</u>	
		1,043
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors & Prepayments	0	
Bank Accounts & Cash in hand	<u>48,844</u>	
		48,844
<b>Less Liabilities</b>		
Creditors - & Accruals	3,650	
PAYE	438	
Joint Service Fund	<u>500</u>	
		4,589
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u><u>45,299</u></u></b>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Reserves	19,568	
Profit & Loss Account	25,731	
	<u>          </u>	<b><u><u>45,299</u></u></b>
<b>Reserves are made up of:</b>		
NEOS restricted funds	3,001	
Henry Smith Grant	21,200	
General funds for use	21,098	
	<u>          </u>	
	<b>45,299</b>	

0

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 which are set out on pages 1 and 2 of the Financial Statements.

**Respective responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiners 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 to keep accounting records in accordance with section 103 of the 2011 act, or, to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.

  
.....

Verity Risby  
151 Caxton End  
Bourn  
Cambridgeshire  
CB23 2ST

Date: 10 June 2022

**Charity No: 1116603**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 AUGUST 2021**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**CONTENTS**

- 1** Profit & Loss Account
- 2** Balance Sheet
- 3** Approval Statement

## WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES

### PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

		2021 £	2020 £
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
	Notes		
	1		
Gifts & Donations	A	11,164	9,857
Churches and support organisations	B	23,831	13,458
Joint Service	C	(993)	534
Special Events & Activities	D	1,368	2,175
Pastoral Support	E	6,100	5,626
Fund Raising Events	F	1,025	6,733
Other Income	G	3,096	0
Bank Interest		0	2
		<u>45,591</u>	<u>38,384</u>
 <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
	2		
Staff Costs		33,068	26,766
Special Events & Activities	A	2,664	2,531
External Events	A	307	-
Insurances		451	528
Staff Training	B	711	425
Staff travel		630	873
Hospitality	C	436	368
Resources & PR Literature	D	727	856
General Office Expenses		445	314
Printing & Photocopying		71	57
Bookkeeping		1,059	1,331
Professional Fees incl Child Protection		142	178
Sundry Expenses	E	93	220
Bank charges		84	60
Depreciation		173	130
		<u>41,060</u>	<u>34,637</u>
<b>Net Profit / (Loss) for the period</b>		<u><u>4,531</u></u>	<u><u>3,747</u></u>

#### **Exceptional Item**

Henry Smith Foundation - Grant for the financial year 2021-22 received 31 August 2021

21,200

WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRY

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 August 2021

	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Office Equipment	1,574	
(Less Depreciation)	<u>531</u>	
		1,043
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors & Prepayments	0	
Bank Accounts & Cash in hand	<u>48,844</u>	
		48,844
<b>Less Liabilities</b>		
Creditors - & Accruals	3,650	
PAYE	438	
Joint Service Fund	<u>500</u>	
		4,589
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u><u>45,299</u></u></b>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Reserves	19,568	
Profit & Loss Account	25,731	
	<u>          </u>	<b><u><u>45,299</u></u></b>
<b>Reserves are made up of:</b>		
NEOS restricted funds	3,001	
Henry Smith Grant	21,200	
General funds for use	21,098	
	<u>          </u>	
	<b>45,299</b>	

0

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 which are set out on pages 1 and 2 of the Financial Statements.

**Respective responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiners 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 to keep accounting records in accordance with section 103 of the 2011 act, or, to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.

  
.....

Verity Risby  
151 Caxton End  
Bourn  
Cambridgeshire  
CB23 2ST

Date: 10 June 2022

**WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1116603

---

# Accounts

---



WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES

# ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020

---

**Churches working together for young people**

---



---

**Communicating the good news of Jesus Christ  
with young people in west Cambridge**

---

West Cambridge Christian Youth Ministries (WCCYM)  
Registered charity No. 1116603 | [www.wccym.org](http://www.wccym.org) | [info@wccym.org](mailto:info@wccym.org)



Thank you. Thank you for picking up this report and for starting to read it. Thank you for your interest in the work of WCCYM. Thank you to all those who have made possible the things that you'll read about in this report ... and all the things that there isn't space to write about. Thank you to the team of youthworkers (employed and volunteers) who have engaged with young people and each other to do things together that we could never do alone. Thank you to the young people who have engaged with us, encouraged and challenged us. Thank you to the churches, schools and individuals who have partnered with us in various ways, with but always with trust, honesty and relationship. It's been a tough year, especially with Covid-19 and words or phrases like "lockdown", "furlough", "you're on mute". Thank you to God for being faithful and trustworthy. We have much to be thankful for - you'll find some of them in this report. Please read on, be encouraged, and consider how you could be involved.

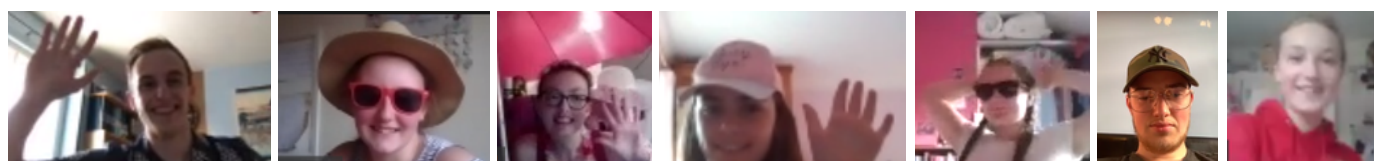
With sincere thanks.

Steve Gaze pp **WCCYM Management Team**



## WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES (WCCYM)

WCCYM was set up in 1992 to support Christian youth work for the villages of west Cambridge, at a point when none of the local churches had a youth worker. They joined together to employ a youth worker, and since then, one of WCCYM's strengths has been to work together to support youth work in a manner in which they could not do individually. The partnership includes different denominations within the villages. WCCYM is overseen by a Management Team which includes representatives from the partner churches. This report highlights some of the ways WCCYM has worked with young people over the last academic year, from 2019-2020.



## THIRST

Our monthly youth service 'Thirst', has been a time of real blessing and is a great way for young people to meet together, make new friends and connect with other Christians in the area. The usual format would be to start off with a meal and then gather together for a time of sung worship, teaching, discussion, interactive activities and prayer.



This year the themes have been based on 'How our Christian values impact how we engage with the wider world'. The topics have included subjects such as politics, the environment, immigration and other faiths. We have had some amazing speakers – Keith Tarring, Azarius Harding, Amy Bland, David Newton, Tilly Akoto, Hannah Fytche, Naomi Reiss, Rachel Mander and Joel Thomas (one of the older young people).



It has been so encouraging to see the young people develop friendships, grow in faith and worship together. The sung worship time, led by Steve Gaze and the youth band have been particular times of blessing, and it has been great to see the young people take the lead in this area. Another blessing has been to see our new young leaders taking on leadership roles, such as managing the PA desk. We are extremely grateful to our partner Churches who have provided some amazing meals and to Comberton Baptist Church for the use of their building.

With the implementation of lockdown in March we had to rethink how we could still run Thirst. We moved online with Zoom services, where we had times to catch up and play games, enjoy sung worship, listen to a talk, have times of reflection, share, and have the opportunity to chat and pray together in breakout groups. We have been so grateful to the leaders and volunteers who adapted so well to this, and for our speakers who either pre-recorded talks for us to use or spoke live at the time.



### IN THEIR WORDS

This past year truly has been amazing! We have been giving the young people opportunities to get involved, especially with the worship. I had been coordinating the worship alongside Steve Gaze and each week the young people would come to rehearsals, they would suggest songs and it was the most beautiful sound of worship. It is so humbling to see the true hearts of worship all these young people have. I was also asked to speak at one of our online zoom sessions and being able to share just a part of my testimony with young people was so nice but also I was so privileged to be able to have young people asking me such spiritual and thought-through questions which truly came from God. Thirst is one of many of WCCYM's events that is truly God-filled and I'm sure it will only get better!



## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Christmas party was held on the 8th December, with 74 attending. It was planned as 'Christmas day in an evening!' We had a full Christmas sit down meal (Robbie Thomson did a fantastic job), a brilliant Queen's speech from Jonathan, games, live music, karaoke, a Christmas photo booth, and even snow!



The young people said they wanted to give to others in need over the Christmas period, so we contacted Jimmy's shelter in Cambridge and found out what would be most needed. During the evening we then wrapped gifts of scarves, gloves and hats to be given as Christmas presents over the festive period, with messages written by the young people on each one. The evening ended with an excellent talk by Adrian Semerene; it was a great way to end 2019.



## ILLUMINATE

In January we started a seven-week course for young people who wanted to explore the Christian faith, called Illuminate. It was aimed at young people who would not necessarily say they were Christians, or for those who had questions about faith or wanted to invite their friends to something where Christianity was explained. It was also a great preparation for several young people who were considering baptism or confirmation and wanted to reflect on the basics of their faith.

We had good numbers and some dedicated leaders and young volunteers who led the groups. It was a great way to build new friendships, over a meal (kindly cooked by Matt Whiteley from Cambourne Church each week) and have fun together. It was very encouraging to see the young people confidently ask questions and discuss the fundamentals of our faith.



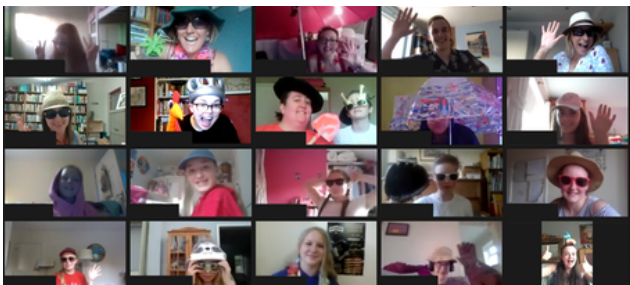
### IN THEIR WORDS

I really liked meeting new people and the videos were great. I also liked the games at the beginning. Best youth thing so far.



## SUMMER ONLINE PARTY

Usually in the Summer term, WCCYM would have a Punting and BBQ social, and a Summer event. Sadly, this year we were unable to meet in person, due to Covid-19. Therefore, we planned an online Summer Party on Zoom!



The party was held on Friday 17th July, and was a great end to the summer term. We had some great games, everyone made the effort to look summery, and there were some excellent entries to the challenges set beforehand. Teresa Taylor and Nathan Lee shared about how their faith makes a difference to them. Although it was not the same as meeting in person, we were grateful for the opportunity to spend time together in a different way, and have some fun!



### IN THEIR WORDS

The WCCYM Summer Party this year was very good even though it was virtual. All the games were really good. I especially liked when we moved objects in the background of our videos and had to see what others had moved.



## DEEPER

WCCYM's Sixth Form Discipleship group 'Deeper' had a small, committed group of Yr 12s and 13s meeting throughout the year. The original plan was to meet every month, and after a slow start of difficulty in finding times everyone could meet, we then had the Covid-19 situation, which meant that 'Deeper' moved online. The young people requested that the group met every fortnight, which we did.



The sessions covered Character, Values and Identity. The group then had a series of sessions looking at different Spiritual Disciplines. The young people were a great support to one another, and encouraged each other in their Christian faith.



### IN THEIR WORDS

I really enjoy leading Deeper, the Sixth Form discipleship group. It's great to see the young people encouraging and challenging each other in their walk with Jesus.



*WCCYM's mission statement* is 'to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ to young people in west Cambridge'.

This involves helping young people to *understand* and *experience* the good news:

- *understand the good news through our words*
  - *through teaching at WCCYM activities*
  - *through conversation with others*
- *experience the good news through our actions*
  - *in the example set by leaders*
  - *in participation in different aspects of WCCYM activities*
  - *in the provision of pastoral support for young people*

## *WCCYM's Key Values*

- *to work in partnership*
- *to build trust*
- *to show respect*
- *to bring hope*
- *to be Christ-centred*

*WCCYM provides community for...*

1. *Young People* – *enabling them to belong, and to feel part of something bigger.*
2. *Youth Workers and volunteers* – *offering support to one another and enabling them to support and disciple their young people in ways that would not be possible on their own.*
3. *Churches* – *who have recognised the mission field on their doorstep and are working in partnership to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ to young people in west Cambridge*

## PASTORAL SUPPORT

Some of the youth workers are involved with pastoral support within Comberton and Cambourne Village Colleges. This mostly involves meeting with individuals referred to us by the schools, on a weekly basis to support and help them.

“

### IN THEIR WORDS

Our chats are super helpful as they give me a place to talk about anything and everything without any judgement! I know that I can chat about anything good or bad, no matter how big or small it is! :)

”

We have also undertaken small group work with specific young people on particular themes, such as resilience and self-esteem. When lockdown was introduced we moved the pastoral support sessions online, and in person for a small number at Comberton Village College who were still attending.

“

### IN THEIR WORDS

These conversations are very helpful for me as they mean I have someone I can talk to about anything I'm anxious or stressed about. They also mean I can get advice on these things and not have to deal with them on my own, which helps me overcome them.

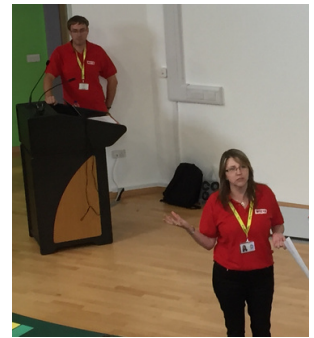
”

## CHRISTIAN STAFF MEETINGS

WCCYM has continued to support the staff fellowship groups at both Comberton Village College and Cambourne Village College, in person and online during lockdown.

## LESSONS AND ASSEMBLIES

In the last year we have delivered assemblies and lessons at both Comberton Village College and Sixth Form and Cambourne Village College. In September we introduced ourselves and what we do to all year groups at Comberton. We also delivered sessions on 'Healthy relationships' to all Yr 12's entering the Sixth Form at Comberton. In October we took assemblies in both Comberton and Cambourne, on the topic of Generosity. Then in December we took part in an RPE day (Religion, Philosophy and Ethics) at Comberton for all Year 9 students on Modern Day Slavery.

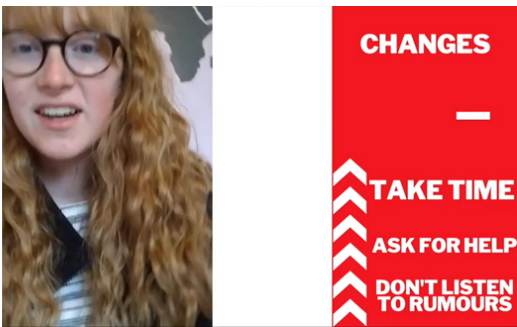


We also ran assemblies for all year groups at Comberton VC in February on resilience and self-esteem. In March we were asked to deliver sessions on 'How our Christian faith impacts our actions' at an RPE day for Year 11 students at Cambourne VC. In May we were asked by Comberton VC to record an assembly that could be used as part of their on-line assembly programme. We looked at the theme of persevering when life is difficult. This can be found on WCCYM's YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/user/WCCYMVids](http://www.youtube.com/user/WCCYMVids)



## TRANSITION FROM YEAR 6 TO YEAR 7

Usually in June and July WCCYM would be involved in supporting local Church leaders as they deliver assemblies in local primary schools to year 6 children about to transition to secondary school. This year due to Covid-19 this was pre-recorded with local Church leaders and the WCCYM team and sent to all local schools.



The session addressed any worries or concerns that the Year 6s may have had about moving school in a very engaging and fun way, with some of our older young people also giving top tips that could help. The 'It's your move' material from Scripture Union was used and the children were also given the book through their school.

## LUNCHTIME GROUPS

From September to March WCCYM led four lunchtime groups at local schools. We ran two Christian Union groups at Cambourne Village College; one for Yrs 9-11, and one for Yrs 7-8. These have been well attended and were great times for the young people to meet together, find support and grow in faith as a group. At Comberton Village College we ran our Christian Union group 'Crossover' on a Friday lunch time with a dedicated group and it was great to see friendships formed and deep discussions about faith. It was great having Pippa Martin (Cambourne Church), Rev Steve Day (Papworth Anglican team) and Christian teachers from both schools supporting these groups.

On Wednesday lunchtimes at Comberton Sixth form a committed group of sixth formers met every week. This group was mostly led by the students, and continued to be a time of real blessing, friendship, deep discussion and support for the students.

Our 'Mocha the week' time, giving out hot drinks and biscuits to the Comberton Sixth Form students each week, was changed to Monday lunchtimes. It has continued to be a great way to introduce ourselves to students, be a familiar face around the school and be there for a chat every week. Mondays proved to be a better day, and for many just what they needed at the start of the school week.

In March due to the closure of schools, we moved our CU groups online, with one for Cambourne, one for Comberton and one for the Sixth Form. It was a good way to keep in touch and the resources we used reflected the situation the country was facing at the time, how we were coping and what God was saying to us all at a difficult time.



### IN THEIR WORDS

At Comberton Sixth Form the CU is run by WCCYM. I've found it wonderful to have an organised opportunity to meet other Christians in college and encourage each other in our faith in the midst of an environment where not many people share our beliefs. We've had some great discussions about the natural world, other religions and focused on specific bible passages too. I feel like CU has helped me make some strong and lasting friendships. It was also fantastic that we continued on zoom in lockdown! While stuck at home the regular connection with people I cared about and who cared about me was very much cherished and appreciated!



## Our aims for young people are...

- To feel connected to a supportive community
- To flourish as a person, reaching their full potential
- To understand their true worth and value
- To use their gifts and talents, having the opportunity to develop these
- To have a relationship with God, through Jesus, living in the power of the Holy Spirit
- To grow as a disciple who disciples others

## Our aims for churches are...

- To feel connected to a supportive community of others with a mission to reach local young people
- To feel more effective in reaching and discipling young people
- To be part of a trusted brand, working in local communities and schools
- To feel encouraged by the stories they hear from WCCYM about young lives being transformed
- To be enabled to support young people in their communities

## Our aims for youth workers and volunteers are...

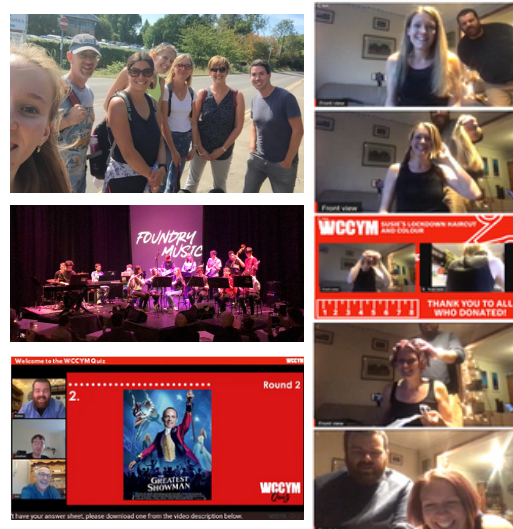
- To feel connected to a supportive community of leaders
- To learn from others, their experiences and Christian tradition
- To share resources and expertise, to enable good youth work
- To use their gifts and talents in serving local young people
- To deepen their own relationship with God

# FUNDRAISING & FINANCE

In September Susie completed a 24-mile walk around the villages represented by WCCYM for the first fundraising event of the year. She was joined by friends and supporters for parts of the walk, and raised £1,677.50 for WCCYM.

In November we had a great fundraising concert organised by Steve Gaze. It was a great evening with a variety of styles of music to enjoy, and artwork to appreciate.

In May Susie took the brave decision to have her hair cut and dyed to raise money for WCCYM. The more money came in, the shorter her hair went, and people voted for the colour. Susie raised over £1,200 and cut over 9 inches of hair, dying it pink! WCCYM also held a fundraising quiz, which moved online due to Covid-19. It was a great evening, raising over £700, with 29 teams taking part. Both the haircut and quiz were matchfunded by a generous donor, which was a great boost to the fundraising!



WCCYM has two main sources of funding – one is from local churches who support and encourage our work – the other from individuals in the west Cambridge area. We receive regular monthly donations from a number of individuals and others support us with one-off donations or by giving generously when we run a fundraising event. Our sincere thanks to those who give financially to support the valuable work that WCCYM does.

## INCOME: £45,434



- Churches £13,458
- Gifts & Donations £9,857
- Pastoral Support £5,626
- Other income £536
- Events & Activities £2,175
- Fundraising £6,733

## EXPENDITURE: £44,343



- Staff / workers £26,766
- Events & Activities £2,531
- Overheads £1,149
- Training & Resources £1,281
- Bookkeeping £1,331
- Travel £873
- Safeguarding & Insurance £706

This year, with the months spent in lock-down, the pattern of our income and expenditure has seen some changes. We have seen savings in some areas only to have additional costs in others. Overall though, we have kept our focus on the service we provide, and staff, followed by the activities we offer, which are our main costs. Our youth workers continued to work with Comberton Village College, and the College helped towards the cost of the pastoral work that we provided.

Our main aim is to be able to maintain the level of service that we currently give – and ideally expand it. We have lots of ideas and the more funding we have, the more we can do with the young people in our area.

We are very grateful to all those churches and individuals who are currently giving or who have promised to give, in order to finance WCCYM in the coming year.

If you would like to give towards the work of WCCYM, please go to [www.give.net/20029793](http://www.give.net/20029793) or contact: Sue Chase (WCCYM Treasurer), c/o Manor Farm, 14 Alms Hill, Bourn, CB23 2SH. Please email [info@wccym.org](mailto:info@wccym.org) to find out more.

WCCYM is a partnership of local churches and individual Christians working together to support youth work in West Cambridge. Susie Thomson is WCCYM Team Leader, and her role involves facilitating local church youth workers, youth workers employed by WCCYM, and volunteers to deliver joint youth work initiatives in different contexts, including churches, communities and schools. This report has focused on specific ways in which WCCYM has worked with young people over the last academic year of 2019-2020, but does not include information on the great youth work provided locally in churches and villages. If you would like to find out more about youth provision organised by local churches please do get in contact with them.

## MANAGEMENT

WCCYM has a management committee made up of representatives from Cambourne Church, Comberton Baptist Church, Hardwick Evangelical Church, and the Lordsbridge team of Anglican Churches. This committee usually meets 4 times a year to oversee the work of WCCYM. Susie Thomson reported to the management committee, on behalf of the WCCYM team of youth workers.

This last year there were additional meetings, and we're very grateful to those on the WCCYM management committee, for giving their time, experience and expertise, particularly at a time of increased busyness for all involved. One of the areas that we spent time on, was re-evaluating how we communicate what WCCYM is, and you will find this information on pages 5 and 8 of this report. It was great to be able to gather together the management committee and the WCCYM team of youth workers, at a time when we could easily meet together in person!



For the academic year 2019/20, the management team has included:

Steve Gaze - Chair, Hardwick Evangelical Church (T)

Sue Chase – Treasurer

Keith Tarring, Comberton Baptist Church (T)

Alison Myers, Lordsbridge Team (T)

Bill Miller, Cambourne Church

Nigel Taylor, Cambourne Church (T)

Susie Thomson - WCCYM Team Leader

Ruth Gildersleve - Secretary to the Management Team

NOTE: Names are accurate for the year 2019/20. (T) indicates WCCYM Trustee.

## WCCYM TEAM EVENINGS

On 14th October, 2nd March and 30th June, we held evenings for our volunteers, youth workers and team to meet together. This was an opportunity to spend time together, pray, worship, and do some planning as a wider team. These meetings were a great opportunity to discuss WCCYM events and build friendships and thank our volunteers for all they do. The first two of these evenings were held in person, where we also were able to eat together. The evening in June was then held on Zoom, and although different in format, we appreciated being able to gather and encourage one another.



## WCCYM CORE TEAM MEETINGS

One of the benefits of working as a partnership of churches is being able to support each other in our youth work. We have experienced this as a core team of youth workers, usually meeting together fortnightly to plan work that we do together, and pray and support one another.

In January, we gathered for a retreat day at Church Farm, Caxton. It was a very valuable time to meet together, pray, reflect, plan and recharge our batteries for the coming year.

The WCCYM team meetings moved online in March, continuing to meet on Zoom for the remainder of the academic year. At that point we decided to meet weekly, for a slightly shorter time each week. We felt that it would be good to meet more often, to support one another at a difficult time. Also, spending longer amounts of time on Zoom was not very appealing, so it worked out better to move to weekly, shorter meetings!



## THE RURAL ADVANTAGE

In November, WCCYM were asked to lead a short seminar at the National Youth Ministry Weekend, so Susie and Jonathan shared some of our experiences about rural youth work, and the benefits of working with others to reach and work effectively with young people.



The conference was also a great time to spend time with youth workers and volunteers, and friends who have previously been part of the WCCYM team.





**Susie Thomson** is WCCYM's Team Leader, and is employed for 20 hours a week to co-ordinate much of WCCYM's work, and support the youth workers and volunteers. She also liaises with church leaders and staff in the schools. She had a particular focus on working on vision and strategy last year, as well as fundraising. She runs 'Deeper', the Sixth Form Discipleship group, and is involved in a variety of WCCYM's other activities.



**Sally Coxall** has been working for WCCYM for 16 hours a week, and is responsible for some of WCCYM's activities, such as 'Thirst', the monthly youth service. She organises the Christian Union groups, and produces the monthly prayer diary to encourage WCCYM's supporters to pray for WCCYM's ministry. She is involved in the pastoral support work in schools, and helps to co-ordinate WCCYM's involvement in assemblies and RPE lessons.



**Cherie Williamson** works for WCCYM for 10 hours a week. One of her main responsibilities is pastoral support work, both with individuals and groups. Her Christian Union involvement has been focused on the group meeting at Comberton Sixth Form. She has been part of the team delivering our Yr 12 Personal Development lesson on Healthy Relationships, and has also helped in a variety of WCCYM's other activities.



**Jonathan Buwert** worked part-time for Cambourne Church last year (as well as working part-time for Romsey Mill), and was part of the WCCYM team. His main focus for schoolwork was in Cambourne Village College, and his technical skills were very much appreciated by the rest of the WCCYM team! At the end of October 2020, Jonathan will be moving to work full-time for Romsey Mill (although will continue to attend Cambourne Church), and will be greatly missed.



**Lydia Sings** is the part-time youth worker for Comberton Baptist Church, and is part of the WCCYM Team of youth workers. She has been involved in WCCYM's regular events, such as Thirst, Crossover (Christian Union group at Comberton), socials, and lessons and assemblies. Her main school involvement is at Comberton Village College. Lydia brings a creative side to the team, with craft ideas and input with designing some of our publicity.



**Teresa Taylor** was the volunteer youth co-ordinator for the Lordsbridge Team Churches, and was part of the WCCYM Team. She was a key leader in Crossover (CU group at Comberton), as well as helping with other WCCYM activities. Teresa stepped down from her youth work role in July 2020, to serve in other areas of church life. She had been involved in WCCYM for 15+ years, and leaders and young people alike will miss her.



**Abi Graham** is the youth pastor at Gamlingay Baptist Church. She started the year as Abi Grylls, and after the complications of lockdown due to Covid-19, she was able to get married to Sam Graham in July 2020! Abi is involved in a variety of WCCYM activities at Comberton Village College such as Christian Union groups, assemblies and lessons, as well as at other WCCYM events such as Thirst, socials and WCCYM weekend.







Charity No: 1116603

WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2020

WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2020

		2020 £	2019 £
<b><u>Income</u></b>	Notes		
	1		
Gifts & Donations	A	9,857	14,022
Churches and support organisations	B	13,458	12,837
Joint Service	C	534	-
Special Events & Activities	D	2,175	8,143
Pastoral Support	E	5,626	8,850
Fund Raising Events	F	6,733	-
Other Income	G	0	1,580
Bank Interest		2	2
		<u>38,384</u>	<u>45,434</u>
 <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
	2		
Staff Costs		26,766	28,517
Special Events & Activities	A	2,531	8,529
External Events	A	-	1,288
Insurances		528	515
Staff Training	B	425	342
Staff travel		873	1,246
Hospitality	C	368	372
Resources & PR Literature	D	856	672
General Office Expenses		314	513
Printing & Photocopying		57	286
Bookkeeping		1,331	1,557
Professional Fees incl Child Protection		178	282
Sundry Expenses	E	220	88
Bank charges		60	60
Depreciation		130	76
		<u>34,637</u>	<u>44,343</u>
 <b>Net Profit / (Loss) for the period</b>		<u>3,747</u>	<u>1,091</u>

WEST CAMBRIDGE CHRISTIAN YOUTH MINISTRIES

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 August 2020

	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Office Equipment	865	
(Less Depreciation)	<u>358</u>	
		507
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors & Prepayments	5,534	
Bank Accounts & Cash in hand	<u>18,978</u>	
		24,512
<b>Less Liabilities</b>		
Creditors - & Accruals	4,754	
PAYE	197	
NEOS	3,001	
Joint Service Fund	<u>500</u>	
		8,451
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>16,567</u></u>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Reserves	12,820	
Profit & Loss Account	<u>3,747</u>	
		<u><u>16,567</u></u>

(0)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TEAM COUNCIL OF  
WCCYM**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 which are set out on pages 1 to 7 of the Financial Statements.

**Respective responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiners 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 to keep accounting records in accordance with section 103 of the 2011 act, or, to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.

*Vx Risby*  
.....

Verity Risby  
151 Caxton End  
Bourn  
Cambridgeshire  
CB23 2ST

Date: 12/4/21

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TEAM COUNCIL OF  
WCCYM

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 which are set out on pages 1 to 7 of the Financial Statements.

**Respective responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiners 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 to keep accounting records in accordance with section 103 of the 2011 act, or, to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.

*Verity Risby*  
.....

Verity Risby  
151 Caxton End  
Bourn  
Cambridgeshire  
CB23 2ST

Date: 12/4/21