



Annual Trustees' Report Year ending 31st August 2021

Festive

Charity No: 1123966

16 Crugan Avenue
Kinmel Bay
Rhyl
LL18 5DG

Trustees:

Pauline Kendall (Chair)
Jon Fortnam
David James
Jess Stinton
Mair Turner

Organisation Overview

Festive was formed by a small group of people with a big heart for Further Education. They had experience of ministering in FE Colleges and Sixth Forms and were aware of the lack of support available to Christian students, staff and chaplains. Working in partnership with Scripture Union and UCCF, through much prayer and God's great provision, Festive was launched in 2007. Festive currently works across the UK supporting Christian students, chaplains and those in FE through prayer, advice, resources and training. The mission is to inspire and support Christians in FE to live for Jesus and to equip them as they share their faith through their words and actions. The vision is to see an ongoing vibrant witness of Jesus in every FE College and Sixth Form in the UK. The charity is run by the Trustees named above in close relationship with the Director, Peter Carrington, with a team of 5 other staff members, 9 volunteer workers and a network of partners and supporters of the work.

Summary of Activities 2020-21

During this academic year, 2020-21, Festive has kept in touch with, prayed for and supported over 200 students. Our 9 volunteers, and a number of the staff team have emailed regularly, sent text messages, and engaged with the students on a variety of social media platforms. In addition to this, we have had a significant number of students from outside of our network joining us for our online 'Scattered' events.

Launched in November 2020, 'Scattered' has been a growing success story of students coming together online to be inspired and equipped to go out and share Jesus with their friends and peers at their sixth form/college. With consistent positive feedback from students, we continued to run these events throughout the year, reaching more and more students each time as well as building up a relationship with those who attended regularly. The main event usually consists of a talk on a relevant topic, some sort of Q&A panel and then some time in break-out rooms to discuss some questions and pray together. The final event of the year was slightly different, as we held different workshops/seminars depending on what the students would be going on to do in the next academic year. Year 13s could choose between heading to uni or heading into work, while the Year 12s could choose between leading a CU or a seminar on friendship evangelism. These events have also provided an opportunity to partner with other organisations as they provide speakers and expertise e.g. Hope, Youth for Christ, Mercy UK, Coleg y Bala to name a few.

In response to feedback from a number of students that they would like more time in talk and get to know other students, we also ran 'Scattered:Together' events in between the main events. These were smaller groups of students, where the evening would start with a short talk to introduce a Bible passage

introducing the theme of evangelism that the students would then discuss in smaller groups and its application to their particular context and situation. 'Scattered' events have also been really encouraging for the staff team, volunteers and Trustees who have joined and led, we look forward to them continuing into the next academic year.

Last winter saw a return of lockdown and social restrictions due to rising cases of Covid-19. The regular Christmas resources and outreach ideas were adapted to be 'Covid-safe' and a video launched to introduce each of these ideas and how students could still make the most of opportunities to share Jesus at Christmas. After the previous year's success, we ran a Christmas giveaway again, and another at Easter. Each pack contained some chocolates, treats and a Gospel/evangelistic tract all gift wrapped and ready to pass on to a friend, or post through their door. A total of 67 were sent between the two events. Video resources continue to be a great way to resource students, with a series of "Three Minute Question Throwdown" videos being launched this year to cover frequently asked questions.

The ongoing impact of the pandemic is also visible when looking at recruitment to the student network. In previous years, we have been able to make contact with and recruit current and prospective sixth form students to our network by exhibiting at major summer youth festivals for Christian young people, such as Soul Survivor. We had planned to exhibit at a number of festivals over the summer, but the majority of these were cancelled. We were able to exhibit at Keswick, and also worked together with *There is Something More* to run a social media campaign to recruit to the network, the same as we did in 2020. This reached around 100 sign ups to the network and 180 new followers on Instagram.

We continue to partner with other organisation in much of our work and projects. A few of our staff and volunteers are engaged with the Amplify youth evangelism training. Each year we are able to suggest a handful of students from our network who we think would benefit from this training, and we work with them to mentor them and grow a deeper heart for evangelism. Another partnership that has grown over the year is with Centre for Chaplaincy in Education. In working on developing the chaplaincy project and template documents that could be used for approaching a college to establish a chaplaincy, one of the staff have received advice and training from this central body and worked with them to grow an interest in the FE sector.

The trustees have continued to meet termly (online when necessary) to oversee the charity, monitor the finances and review/agree a variety of policies. In addition to this, we have undertaken this year a thorough review on Safeguarding, including updating the policies and providing external training for all staff, volunteers and Trustees. On reviewing the year's activities, the trustees are fully confident that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to operating the charity for the public benefit.

Finance

Festive received £12,650 in grant award funding in financial year 2019-20, with a further £20,000 expected in the next financial year. Festive has grown a surplus of funds over previous years that will provide funding for the Director role in the following financial year when current grant funding comes to an end. The Director, along with the support of the Trustees continues to seek further grant funding which will be crucial for sustaining the current level of work and ministry.

Festive is grateful to its ongoing and its new regular givers, and to those churches and individuals who have increased their giving during this financial year. Festive has also benefited from a number of one-off donations from individuals, churches and Trusts. Ultimately, encouraging further new regular supporters, both individuals and churches, remains an important financial priority going forwards as current income levels do not support the organisation's ambition to grow its work and ministry.

As always, the trustees keep a close eye on the finances with financial reports and projections submitted at trustees' meetings and sometimes in between meetings to the chair of trustees and Director. A summary of the accounts for the financial year ending 31st August 2021 is included below.

Future Developments

Through the next financial year, 2021-22, we plan to build on the current success of 'Scattered' and hope that we would continue to adapt the events to meet the needs of the students that we have in attendance. Students are usually only in FE for 2-3 years so our network is very transient, and their needs and focus seems to be different each year. Having seen how well these online events have worked for students, we plan to try a similar model for Christian staff in FE. We have partnered with Association for Christian Teachers (ACT) to plan events for 2021-22 academic year, in the hope of growing a staff network that we can also support and resource in their efforts to live for Jesus in a challenging environment.

Our video resources will continue to be developed, including finding ways to present the content of our paper copy resources in a video format. Work will also begin on updating the widely used Beyond Beans on Toast book, a new edition of which should be finalised and launched in 2021-22. This has proven to be an invaluable evangelistic resource for students leaving sixth form and heading off to university. Thousands of copies of the original edition have been given to students over the last 8 years, and this new edition will keep the book relevant for at least another 5 years to come.

The staff team have continued to benefit from regular online meetings and prayer throughout the year, and in doing so have discussed how we can better engage our supporters in a more practical way. We hope to launch regular online prayer gatherings for the work, inviting our known supporters (individuals and churches) with a view to over time extend this invitation to others who may have interest in supporting the work in this way.

The Trustees will continue to monitor closely the activity and finances of the charity, and in the same way that they conducted a thorough safeguarding review in 2020-21, plan to do a thorough review of finance and related policies in 2021-22.

Closing Remarks

The trustees wish to thank all of Festive's staff and supporters for all their work, prayer and support over the last 12 months, particularly for their ongoing commitment during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Accounts Summary

For financial year 01-09-2020 to 31-08-2021

Opening Balance			
01-09-2020	£35,619.05		
Income		Expenditure	
Individual Supporters	£ 26,863.97	Wages (incl. pension, tax, NI)	£ 48,111.86
Churches	£ 8,639.75	Staff & Volunteer Expenses	£ 457.85
Trusts/Grants	£ 12,650.00	Furlough	£ 1,667.94
External Wage Provision	£ 8,343.86	External Wages & Contractual Work	£ 9,028.26
Gift Aid	£ 4,652.25	Website / Microsoft Office	£ 420.54
Furlough	£ 1,667.94	Events (incl. Scattered)	£ 329.69
		Social Media Campaign (in lieu of summer festivals)	£ 1,800.00
		Communications (Social Media, SMS etc.)	£ 628.90
		Safeguarding Training	£ 717.49
		Insurance	£ 807.39
		General costs (incl. post, resources, Printing)	£ 2,406.50
		Donations	£ 675.00
Total Income	£62,817.77	Total Expenditure	£67,051.42
		Closing Balance	
		31-08-2021	£31,385.40

Independent Examiners Report:

I have examined the accounts of Festive for the year ending 31st August 2021 in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records and prepare accounts have not been met. I have not found anything to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: JOHN HAZARDERLEY Signature: [Signature] Date: 22.01.21

Relevant professional qualification or body:

ACMA (RETIRED)

Address:

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FULWOOD

PRESTON PR2 4YH.

Festive

Annual Trustees Report

Year end 31-08-2021