

Cowpen Quay Community Association

Charity No. (1131449)

Co. Registration No. (6293107)

Unaudited Financial Statements

Year Ended 30th September 2022

Steve Hancock Consultancy

16 Appleby Park

North Shields

Tyne & Wear

NE29 0PL

Rebina Koestuf
Carli

Treasurer.

2022 / 15 December

Cowpen Quay Community Association

Contents

1-3	Trustees and Annual Report
4	Report of the Accountants
5	Statement of Financial Activities
6	Balance Sheet
7-12	Notes to the Accounts
	Independent Examiners report

Report of the Trustees for the year ended September 30 2022

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2022

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, and Accounting & reporting by Charities in accordance with SORP FRS 102

Reference & Administration details

Charity name	Cowpen Quay Community Association
Charity Registration Number	1131449
Company Number	6293107
Registered Office	55 Regent Street Blyth Northumberland NE24 1LL

Directors

Foster Burt
Michelle Brown
Rubina Kashif
Steve Frake

Company Secretary

Trustees

Foster Burt
Michelle Brown
Rubina Kashif
Steve Frake

Chair

Treasurer

Rubina Kashif
15/12/2022

Management

Eileen Cartie

Centre Manager

Accountants

Steve Hancock

Bankers

TSB
3-5 Newgate Street
Morpeth
Northumberland
NE61 1AN

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 30th September 2022

Structure, Governance & Management

Cowpen Quay Community Association Limited was incorporated 26th June 2006 with objectives being embodied in the Memorandum of Association. Methods of elections of Trustees are in place and reviewed from time to time.

Procedures for the induction of Trustees includes a skills audit in the form of examination of Curriculum Vitae to establish suitability for the post. Basic level checks are performed on prospective Trustees to ensure that they hold no criminal offences. More in depth checks can be carried out should the need arise. Induction programmes are in operation which inform the Trustee of the Charities objects, the financial position and any issues facing the Charity. Day to day management of the centre is delegated to the centre manager.

The management committee has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Internal risks are minimized by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity.

Objectives & Activities.

The objectives of the Charitable Company are:

1. To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the local area without distinction by associating with voluntary organizations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interest of social welfare, recreation and leisure with the object of improving the conditions of the said inhabitants.
2. To establish, run and maintain a community centre in cooperation with any local statutory body involved in the management of the centre and to promote activities in furtherance of the charities objects.

Those embraced by the charities objects include:

- Children and young people
- Elderly People
- People with disability or special needs
- General public

Activities provided:

- Education and training
- Activities for disabled
- Arts and Cultural Sports and recreation

Trough:

- Staff and volunteers
- Buildings, facilities and open space

Financial Review

In establishing the Associations policy on reserves consideration has been given to the following:

The need for reserves:

- The development of any new function
- The underpinning of longer commitments
- Arrangements for monitoring and reviewing policy
- The level of reserves
- Maintenance of reserves at a legal level

Reserves

The management has examined the Charities funding requirements for working capital and in the unlikely event that the centre could not continue its activities provision should be made for the establishment of reserves £30k-£60k within unrestricted funding.

Responsibilities of Trustees

Charity law requires Trustees to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. In doing so the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities.

By order of the Trustees

Foster Burt

Chairperson

**COWPEN QUAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTANT'S TO THE DIRECTOR'S OF
COWPEN QUAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

As described in the Balance Sheet you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2022 set out on pages 5 to 12 and you consider that the company is exempt from audit.

In accordance with the instructions, we have compiled these unaudited financial statements in order to assist you to fulfil your statutory responsibilities, from the accounting records and information and explanations supplied to us.

**STEVE HANCOCK CONSULTANCY
16 APPLEBY PARK
NORTH SHIELDS
TYNE & WEAR
NE29 0PL**

17th November 2022

Cowpen Quay Community Association

Statement of Financial Activities

For The Year Ended 30th September 2022

	Note	Restricted Capital £	Restricted Revenue £	Unrestricted £	Total 2022	Total 2021
Incoming Resources						
Grants and Donations	3	20236	122720	47096	190052	200096
Other Income	3			44199	44199	22100
Total Incoming Resources		<u>20236</u>	<u>122720</u>	<u>91295</u>	<u>234251</u>	<u>222196</u>
Resources Expended						
Direct Charitable Expenses	4		109487	43002	152489	152456
Depreciation	4	69684		5586	75270	74391
Total Resources Expended		<u>69684</u>	<u>109487</u>	<u>48588</u>	<u>227759</u>	<u>226847</u>
Net Incoming resources		<u>(49,448)</u>	<u>13233</u>	<u>42,707</u>	<u>6,492</u>	<u>(4,651)</u>
Fund Balance @ 30/9/21		49448	228586	108254	386288	390939
Transfer Between Funds						
Fund Balance @ 30/9/2022	7	<u>0</u>	<u>241819</u>	<u>150961</u>	<u>392780</u>	<u>386288</u>

Cowpen Quay Community Association

Balance Sheet

As at 30th September 2022


	Note	Restricted Capital £	Restricted Revenue £	Unrestricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible assets	6				0	75270
Current Assets						
Debtors				15054	15054	13434
Bank			241819	139857	381676	323511
Cash				119	119	14
		0	241819	155030	396849	336959
Current Liabilities						
Sundry Creditors and Defer Income	8			(4,069)	(4,069)	(25,941)
Net Current Assets		0	241,819	150961	392780	311018
Long Term Liabilities	8		-		0	0
Total Net Assets		0	241819	150961	392780	386288
Funds						
Restricted Funds	7	-	241819		241819	278034
Unrestricted Funds - Free	7			75961	75961	33254
- Designated	7			75000	75000	75000
		0	241,819	150,961	392780	386288

For the year ending 30th September 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies

Directors' Responsibilities :

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to Companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with SORP FSI02.

The financial statements were approved by the board onand were signed by:

 Director

Rubina Kaesher
15/12/2022

1 Accounting Policies

The Financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and follow the recommendation in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP (FRS102).

Income and Expenditure is recorded on an accruals basis.

Incoming Resources

Monies received from capital grants are recognised in the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis and the fixed assets included in cost in the balance sheet. A restricted fund has been established in the balance sheet and will reduce each year by the charge of depreciation.

Revenue grants

Gross amounts received are recognised within incoming resources and the corresponding expense is shown within outgoing resources.

Hire of Hall

All monies received are shown separately within the SOFA under incoming resources and are shown in unrestricted funds.

Fixed Assets Depreciation and Impairment

The treatment of assets within the organisation is in line with Charities SORP (FRS102). Management has reviewed the policy on the value of Leasehold Improvements and established a policy where these assets are fully written off in the current year and the next. There is now a charge in the accounts for impairment losses relating to the above assets which are now fully written off.

Depreciation on other fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost less residual value over their useful lives as follows:

Computer Equipment	15%	Straight Line
Fixtures & Fittings	15%	Straight Line

2 Taxation

The charity is registered and exempt from taxation on its charitable activities.

Cowpen Quay Community Association

For the year Ended 30th September 2022

Notes To The Accounts

3	Incoming Resources	Restricted Capital £	Restricted Revenue £	Unrestricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
	Grants & Donations					
	General	20236			20236	6745
	Donation			802	802	1130
	Children In Need		30783		30783	43846
	Main Grant				0	25000
	Community foundation		28977	6914	35891	17765
	NCC		7960	850	8810	13238
	St. Hilda's			5000	5000	3000
	Balinger Trust		35000		35000	4000
	Greatham Hospital			3100	3100	-
	William Leach			3000	3000	1000
	Albert Hunt			2000	2000	-
	Local Giving			500	500	-
	Virgin Money		10000		10000	-
	Arnold Clark			1000	1000	-
	NE Youth			400	400	1200
	RW Mann			2000	2000	1000
	Barbour Trust			5000	5000	5000
	Hadrian Trust			1000	1000	2000
	Ridley Family				0	4000
	The Shears Foundation		10000		10000	5000
	Northumbria Police				0	66172
	James Knott			2600	2600	-
	Blyth Town Council			10500	10500	-
	Rotary Club			500	500	-
	Rotherly Trust			900	900	-
	Richmond Fellowship			30	30	
	Blyth Harbour			500	500	
	CVA			500	500	
		20236	122720	47096	190052	200096
	Other Income					
	Membership Dues			810	810	-
	Staff & Support Fees			782	782	494
	Hire of Premises			37972	37972	19052
	Other			4635	4635	2554
		20236	122720	91295	234251	222196

Cowpen Quay Community Association

For the year Ended 30th September 2022

Notes To The Accounts

	Restricted Capital £	Restricted Revenue £	Unrestricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
4					
Outgoing Resources					
Direct Charitable Expenditure					
Wages & Salaries		109487		109487	111841
Travel & Entertainment			1903	1903	1286
Telephone			591	591	820
Utilities			4692	4692	7144
Rates & Council Tax			375	375	2868
Insurance			2699	2699	1688
Cleaning			1899	1899	848
Print,Postage and Stationary			765	765	398
Repairs And Maintenance			6646	6646	10225
General Office Expenses			5443	5443	6531
Volunteer Expenses			180	180	-
Professional Fees			4853	4853	3063
Premises Expenses			1150	1150	265
Security Equipment			9	9	1223
Equipment Purchases			9702	9702	1360
Consumables			1700	1700	2284
Licenses & Software			395	395	612
Waste Collection				-	-
Catering				-	-
Depreciation				0	4351
Impairment	69684		5586	75270	70040
	69684	109487	48588	227759	226847

Cowpen Quay Community Association

For the year Ended 30th September 2022

Notes To The Accounts

5	Staff Costs	2022	2021
	Wages & Salaries	102425	104838
	National Insurance	3765	3536
	Pension Costs	3297	3192
	Total	109487	111566
	Staff Numbers		
	Management and Staff	4	4
	Sessional Youth Workers	2	2
	Actual numbers employed		
	Full Time	4	4
	Part Time	3	3

6	Fixed Assets	Restricted			Unrestricted	
		Leasehold	Fixtures &	Computer	Fixtures &	Computer
	Cost	Improvements	Fittings	Equipment	Fittings	Equipment
						Total
	As at 1/10/21	392916	28268	19627	31604	9382
	Additions					0
	Disposals		-28268		-31604	
	As at 30/9/22	392916	0	19627	0	9382
	Depreciation					
	As at 1/10/21	326798	28268	16061	31604	3796
	Charge					0
	Disposals		-28268		-31604	
	Impairment Loss	66118		3566		5586
	As at 30/9/22	392916	0	19627	0	9382
	NBV					
	As at 1/10/21	66118	0	3566	0	5586
	As at 30/9/22	0	0	0	0	-59872

The lease of the building is short term at an initial peppercorn rent, reviewed every 5 years over the lease period. The first review was on 1st August 2009. There has been no value ascribed to the rental income waived by Blyth Valley Borough Council. The lease is treated as an operating lease which ceases in 2029 but is subject to renewal.

7	Fund Balances	Restricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
		Capital	Revenue		2022	2021
		£	£	£	£	£
	Balance at 1/10/21	49448	228586	108254	386288	390939
	Surplus / (Deficit) for year	(49,448)	13,233	42,707	6,492	8,472
	Transfer Between Funds					
	Balance 30/9/22	0	241819	150961	392780	399411

Cowpen Quay Community Association

For the year Ended 30th September 2022

Notes To The Accounts

8	Deferred Income			
		Opening Balance	Income Rel/Deferred	Closing Balance
		£	£	£
	Refurbishment Costs	(20,236)	20,236	0
		(20,236)	20,236	0
	Creditors & Accruals			(4,069)
	Total Current Liabilities			(4,069)

Refurbishment grants are released to income over the depreciable life of the assets to which they relate and such assets are now fully written off.

Long term Liabilities

Total 0

9 The association has not entered into any related party transactions.

10 Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the SOFA on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

11	Trustee Remuneration	2022	2021
	The Trustees received neither remuneration nor expenses during the year.	0	0

12	Fees for examination of accounts	2022	2021
		£	£
	Auditors' Fees	-	-
	Other Fees (Accountancy)	950	950

Cowpen Quay Community Association

For the year Ended 30th September 2022

Notes To The Accounts

13

List of Organisations Funding Cowpen Quay Community Association
Awards received in the Financial year 2021/2022

Date	Organisation
Jun-21	High Sheriff
Nov-21	Community Foundation Dickton and Lindon Family
Sept-21	Hospital God of Greatham
	Shears Foundation
	Carr Ellison donation
	Virgin Money Community Anchors Fund
Oct-21	RW Mann
	Ballinger Trust Core/Salary
Nov-21	Community Foundation EDF Fund
	Barbour Foundation
	Children in Need
Dec-21	Rotary
	Dreager
	Hadrian Trust
Jan-22	Community Foundation Environment
	Council Covid Grant
Feb-22	County Council Community Chest Platinum
	Community Foundation
	Albert Hunt
	Rothley Trust Big Cooker
Mar-22	Community Foundation Willan Trust
	Arnold Clark
	Magic Little Grants
	Coommunity Foundation
Apr-22	Town Council Platinum
	Port of Blyth
May-22	Ballinger Trust
	Co-op
	William Leech
	Heart of Blyth
Jun-22	St. Hilda's
Jul-22	NE Youth Happy/Healthy Grants
	Banks Group
	Ballinger
Aug-22	Carr Ellison Donation

Steve Hancock Consultancy

16 Appleby Park, North Shields, Tyne & Wear, NE29 0PL

Cowpen Quay Community Association
55 Regent Street
Blyth
Northumberland
NE24 1LL
17th November 2022

Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the accounts of Cowpen Quay Community Association for the year ended 30th September 2022.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The trustees of the charity are responsible for the preparation of accounts; they consider that the audit requirement under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 does not apply. It is my Responsibility to:

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

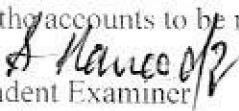
Basis of Examiner's Statement

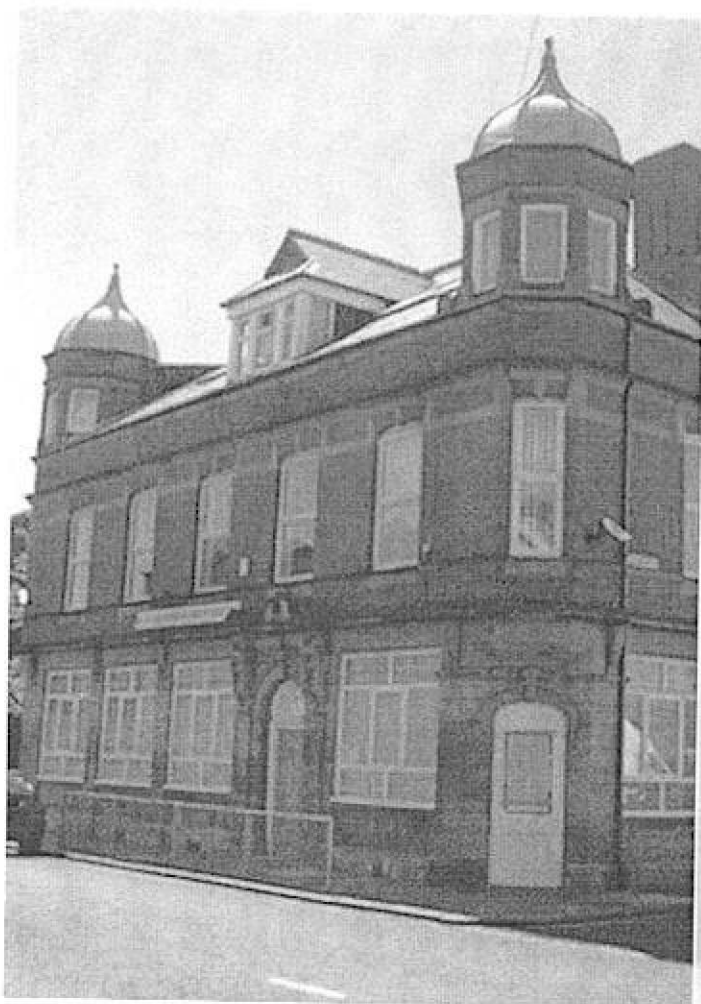
My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures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

Examiner's Statement

Based on 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 130 of the Charities Act; and with the provisions of Companies Act 2006.
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act and with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 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.


Independent Examiner
Stephen Hancock



Cowpen Quay Community Association

Annual Report 2022



Dräger

The Buffalo Community Centre
55 Regent Street
BLYTH
Northumberland
NE24 1LL

Mission Statement

To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the local area without distinction by associating with voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interest of social welfare, recreation and leisure with the object of improving the conditions of the said inhabitants.

To establish, run and maintain the Buffalo Community Centre, and to promote activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives.

Those objectives embraced by the charity include working with:

Children and young people

Elderly people

People with a disability or special needs

General public

Activities provided include:

Education and training

Activities for the disabled

Arts and culture

Sports and recreation



Honorary Chairperson's Report

Another year has passed, and we find CQCA (Cowpen Quay Community Association) is in our forty sixth year of our project like many more before, has seen our centre develop new activities and some not continuing due to the changes in trends. On a positive note, we have a variety of development plans for the future and will continue to deliver the best service we can to our community. This year due to the current pandemic it has been particularly hard for everyone but our staff team and volunteers rose to the challenge to support our community and those in need of help.

We should never underestimate the job that our staff team do along with the hard work our volunteers and Management Committee and centre manager do to make this another successful year for the Association. Without them our centre could not function successfully and I offer them heartfelt thanks on behalf of myself, the Association and the people who use our community centre.

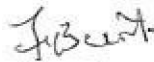
Once again, our Youth Clubs and other young people's projects, over 50s arts/crafts groups, BAME (Black Asian Minority Ethnic) women's group, camera club and many more continue to flourish.

Supported with funding assistance from Eileen and the work our team of youth leaders do, both staff they are exceptional in their work with our young people. Our Junior Youth Club has become very well established and continues to grow successfully with many exciting projects planned to benefit our community.

The support local people have continued to provide; completing valuable maintenance. Together with the local council our young people, they have carried out some tremendous clean-up work around the locality. We wish to extend a vote of thanks on behalf of our Association.

And finally, our groups, who are as always, the Association's soul; the reason we have been so successful over the years, and I would like to express our thanks to you for our success over the past year. Sadly, one of our long-standing Trustees who has been with us from the beginning now aged 95 has decided the time has come to step down due to failing health. We will miss her wisdom and will be ever thank you for her long-term commitment to our charity. We will endeavour to continue to provide the services we offer for all current and potential centre users, and to be there when they require us. With our volunteers and local support, we will continue to offer a welcoming and friendly centre where community activities take place.

Foster Burt



Chairperson Cowpen Quay Community Association

CQCA Centre Report

The past twelve months have largely been a period of change. While Covid-19 restrictions were well in place for the first half of 2021 we were determined to move on and focus on delivering the services to our members and residents that were important to them. We strive to deliver towards our charity's focus, with this including offering social activities, training, events, building new networks, and continuing to pursue our aims of supporting local people enjoying our centre's weekly programme of choice. We are continuing to adopt how we do things to achieve some really good results, which we are proud to share in this annual report for 2021-2022

We feel as always, it's important to highlight a special thanks to our funders who support the running of our charity and how much of a tremendous help this is. They have offered a great show of support throughout our time getting the centre back to running full capacity.

We are now operating 16 regular groups a week on our program including the arts, fitness and youth programs. We have had what can be described as a very busy year in relation to the previous two years, in which we have maintained and developed our services to meet the needs and the outcomes of the many new members of the community centre. We have started a number of new groups during this time and have had valuable new relationship opportunities arise throughout this year. These new connections have allowed us to host more groups and events. Our new partners include the Heart of Blyth project, the Forget-me-Knott residents association, the Dialogue Society and as always, the local council services, the caravan gallery art project. This his year we also started working with the Police, Heart of Blyth, ICCQ (Improving Croft and Cowpen Quay) and other partners to focus on improving the twelve streets around our area.

Our local Trustees continued to support the staff and volunteers at the Buffalo which is very much appreciated. They are the mainstay of our charity, along with our supportive volunteers who help towards ensuring we offer a wide range of activities. They are a wealth of knowledge and experience not to be undermined. We are sad to hear about one of our longest-serving trustees Margaret, who will be leaving us shortly to retire at age 95. All trustees and staff wish her all the best for the future. She has been part of the centre for nearly 50 years and has provided countless hours of her time and undetermined dedication to the Buffalo. As one of the main organisers of setting the community centre and charity up, she has provided lifelong support for the people of Blyth. Her legacy in the community will be legendary for years to come. We can only hope for a new trustee to fill her place with the same dedication she put forward. Our Trustees remain very committed and will continue to serve our charity on the board. Rubina a qualified accountant, Michelle our Company Secretary, Steve a Solicitor along with our now longest serving trustee Foster who has devoted 48 years of their time to our charity.

Many of our staff have committed their every growing busy time to focus on training and certification, with three members of the youth team completing a level 3 diploma in Youth Work course at Newcastle College. With certification now granted, we are proud to say all of

our youth services team now have a level 3 or above in youth work. Courses such as safeguarding and health and safety have also been completed, whether online or in person. The team is always eager to jump on training courses whenever they become available.

We have also been working with Journey Enterprises this year, who use our building as a hub for their adults with special educational needs and disabilities. We have helped them affirm their location in Blyth and invited them to meet many of the local groups we work with, this has helped them set roots in place and link to services they can find and help with, such as guidance around Blyth, friends of Crofton Field, Friends of Ridley park to name a few. Journey has done a good job of transforming the stables and courtyard of the centre to make it more of a welcoming place. The group including Simon, their main support worker, has grown all kinds of flora to create a cottage garden and together with the youth club's vegetable growing the transformation of our outdoor spaces has been outstanding. Many of which were distributed to local community gardens in Blyth. The whole centre enjoys the work they do and the adults they support are always friendly and bring many smiles to faces. The Buffalo hope to continue this bond for many years. We have had repair works to the stables in the last year assuring it against dampness and cracking caused by a plant growing in the wall, which is now completed.

Some of our activities have changed during the year to allow for a change in demand and higher members count. None more so has seen a significant increase in numbers than the Youth Projects, all four projects have seen a high increase in demand in the last year and this has been echoed by partners in other areas of Blyth. The centre hasn't had these numbers of young people in over ten years and youth workers are excited to be working with such a vast range of young people. The work the youth workers do is invaluable and the program has had a great reception this year for the new outdoor fruit and veg tubs which have been in partnership with funders and Journey. The planters have brightened up the yard dramatically and have supplied an enormous amount of veg which has been distributed to young people and cooked in the youth club. The young people have been extremely invested in helping with this program including watering, growing, weeding, cooking and of course, eating the produce. These activities are accessible to all our groups with adaptations easily made for the SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) youth projects. The young people and staff are excited to begin the winter crops of 2022 soon. This activity has also crossed multiple groups within our centre. The over 50's art group on a Friday has also provided great support with this since many of them have allotments and inside knowledge on best-growing practices. The youth projects have also spent time this year Litter picking in the local area to increase community spirit and value and have also planted trees in the town.

Other youth activities have included animation workshops, printing sessions which has led to an exhibition of the children's work in the keel row. These sessions were in partnership with an arts group called create place and the caravan gallery arts group.

Our activities are accessible to local people at an affordable cost or free due to many people on pensions, unemployed and our young people with no income. We would never turn someone away because they can't afford to join an activity. The centre is situated right in the heart of the community and people see us as a hub of activity; run by local people for

local people. As aforementioned above our 16 groups include; two art groups one of which is for over the fifties, craft clubs, martial arts, IT drop-in, camera clubs and four youth projects. We also continue to hire rooms to bring revenue streams for the sustainability of our projects. Other sessions run is composed of groups such as Journey Enterprises, employment training, health and wellbeing sessions, Aikido martial arts, Highland dance and support groups for those with disabilities or health issues such as diabetes or dietary programs. We also do private bookings for a range of things such as birthday parties, photo shoots, counselling, employment training, contact visits and even court appearances. Our wifi-enabled rooms allow many online working or out-of-office related activities to take place.

Our ethos has always been to encourage people running the groups to have their autonomy and encourage members to join in our committee meetings to have a voice. This promotes a sense of belonging to the centre and the groups they are part of. We must continue to inspire young people to be part of and become young volunteers as they are the next generation to be running our charity and become good young community citizens.

Our BAME (Black Asian Minority Ethnic) women's group is back up and running completely with new members from more different geographic regions. This was a nervous group through the pandemic but our engagers have worked hard to pull in high numbers of women wanting to learn ESOL (English Speakers of other Language). The women have just all completed a course in Business enterprise skills and one woman is the process of setting her own business up in Blyth.

This year has led the BAME group in a new direction due to the unfolding situation of war in Europe, between Ukraine and Russia. This sparked a huge migration of eastern Europeans mainly women and children, with men left to fight for their homeland. They come to England and western Europe in the hopes of finding safety in these countries. When the war first broke out we started a campaign to collect a select group of items such as hygiene, food, baby and children amenities and brand-new clothes. This was shared on Facebook by hundreds of people and we soon become a strategic collecting place for all things to do with Ukraine. Staff and volunteers, most of them members of our many groups called to arms to help sort all the products out, bag and arrange the collection of the products to be driven across Europe to Ukraine. After our online post, many in Blyth also took the lead in collecting products, we liaised with the town council, county council, MP Ian Levy and the very organised workers at the Polish Church acting as the head of northeast donations in Newcastle to get these products sent to the places in need of it. We collected at least 2 shipping containers worth of products and the thanks go to the generous and giving people of Blyth Town.

The Buffalo didn't stop there for helping where possible with the Ukraine appeal. As many of the women and children come to the UK and were housed with local families, we were asked by the police force to allow them access to the Buffalo's BAME group. As many had little information about where to find services or had little English language skills. The Buffalo worked with groups such as Heart of Blyth and the Rotary club to engage with them and help with finding the services they needed, whether it be making friends or pointing in the direction to help find work. The longer the refugees stayed in the UK and the war rattled

on to the 6th month we come to Ukrainian Independence Day which is held on August 24th, as we had a new following of Ukrainians the group decided they would like to celebrate their day. Again, with help from Rotary. Morrisons and Asda donated food and many other services in Blyth such housing from the local council came together as the women need help to move on from host houses; the Library we put on a day of celebration and sombre reflection for what had changed in those 6 months. The day lead to huge success and we made many new friends because of this with important bonds with many new organisations and refugees; it was also very emotional when we played the Ukraine national anthem, there wasn't a dry eye in the hall when the women and the children stood up and sang this together.

We have also held other days for Ukrainian nationals to help them engage and find others from the same country to build confidence and friendship. We have more dates on our calendar such as Blyth Spooky family fun day with similar intentions. Our BAME women also celebrated international woman's day complete with a belly dancer which was well attended.

We also started doing some work with the Dialogue Society work with many different BAME groups and together we put on an Iftar (Arabic: إفطار 'iḥḥār 'break fast') is the evening meal with which Muslims end their daily Ramadan fast at sunset). Our new High Sherriff attended along with, councillors our Civic Head, Mayor and members of the local BAME groups. Our High Sheriff claimed in his speech that the Buffalo Centre our charity Cowpen Quay Community Association made history that night not just in Blyth but right across Northumberland as we are the first to hold such an event outside of a Mosque.

We have had a full summer schedule this year and have given many families the opportunity of visiting Beamish thanks to funding and the plan being brought together by Jo and Dale, our new Deputy Centre Managers. This was a great day for all and the weather held out for a fantastic day. We have worked over the summer with the police and social workers in the area to help with the new twelve streets program to improve Croft and Cowpen Quay. This is a partnership program in its early days to eradicate anti-social behaviour, youth crime and violence and rogue landlords, we play our part to help with this where possible, building a good trusted network with the community.

The late Queen Elizabeth II platinum jubilee was held in the summer and we took the opportunity to celebrate the longevity of the occasion by hosting parties for all our groups. We had celebratory afternoon teas and cakes. All our groups were asked to create a canvas artwork which was put on display around the centre as an exhibition. The artwork is still in place for people to view. This occasion was a great success and to celebrate it we got 3 royal purple coloured bench seats for our yard. One of which was kindly donated by the Blyth town council.

We come into a donation of desktop computers thanks to connections made through our Trustee Steve Frake, who gladly pointed a consultant from Perspective and managing wealth company to our direction. The company were moving offices and had no use for them anymore. The Buffalo took the donation gladly and coordinated a charity day with Tharsus, a robotics company in Blyth who donated time and effort to help us set them up, as well as other jobs such as cleaning tables and jet washing the courtyard. We enjoy working with the

team at Tharsus as they have a wide demographic of volunteers, from as far away as Poland. They have now completed two charitable work days and have done good work for our centre, which we are thankful for. We are also planning a charitable day with Rockstar North to allow a worker to come to support the programming of the desktop computers, which will be used for various IT courses, CV workshops and training.

Cuppa with a copper session took place, street walkabouts, litter pick, public protection door knocking plus more. We joined in with our local carnival which everyone only 2 weeks to get everything set up. It was attended after being organised at such late notice.

We have started to return the Karate class with Jimmy our 7th Dan black belt volunteer on a Monday night and have recruited a volunteer to assist him in the running of this and expect it to be operational soon.

During the Christmas period, we supported operation Elf by giving them the space to work because we were restricted to what activities we could offer in the centre. Operation Elf was run as the Mayors charity with Blyth Town Council and other projects which all came together to ensure local children in need got Christmas presents. Operation Elf continues to give Birthday presents and for those children going into hospital pyjamas, towels and personal hygiene items. Santa also visited our work courtesy of our town council and the elves. We are continuing this program this year also.

This past year we have found ourselves in the position where several smaller groups are asking us for our help to find funding and set up new groups. We do signpost these to our local CVA (Community Voluntary Action) team.

Small group work outside activities included litter picking, tree planting and growing sunflowers. Our group then grew sunflower seeds to plant up creating a garden of hope. This work came about because we helped set up another new group during lockdown called the Friends of Crofton Field. The aim of this was to encourage people to become involved in outdoor activities safely during Covid19 to support health and wellbeing. It is now a constituted group in its own right. It is similar to the other group we set up years ago called the Friends of Ridley Park. Underlying outcomes for us were to encourage young people to take care of their local environment as there had been some criminal damage, vandalism and fires over in the woodland areas of Crofton fields. A similar reason as to why we set The Friends of Ridley Park up, we wanted young people to take ownership of projects over there such as tree planting and keeping the area clean.

We have been well supported by many funders all listed in our accounts without their support we could not deliver the activities, events and training to local people. CQCA would also like to thank all of our volunteers, and staff who all work together to ensure we continue to provide good practice and valuable service to our local community. This support has been very well appreciated during this current time with Covid19 and like many other charities, the road ahead is scary and uncertain. We have reopened the community centre and are running Covid19 compliant but it's like starting up a new charity again because many people are still very frightened to come out, especially the BME women, the elderly and disabled



Ukraine Independence Day



Trip to Beamish





Iftar event with the Dialogue Society and community



Business Enterprise Training with our BAME group



The caravan gallery visiting the youth project



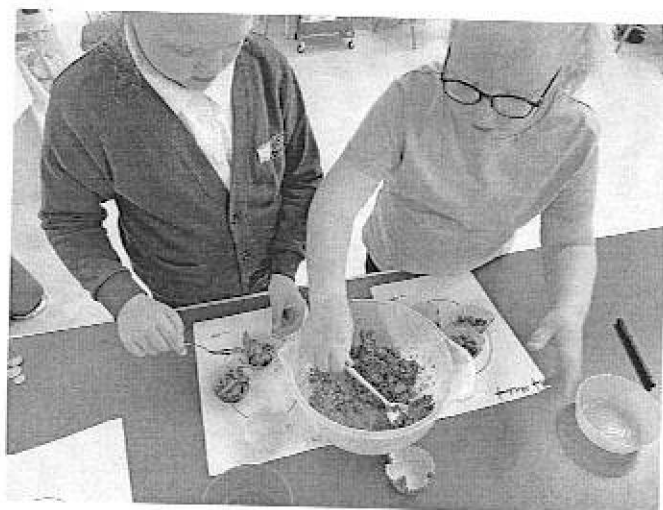
Tharsus community day supporting our charity



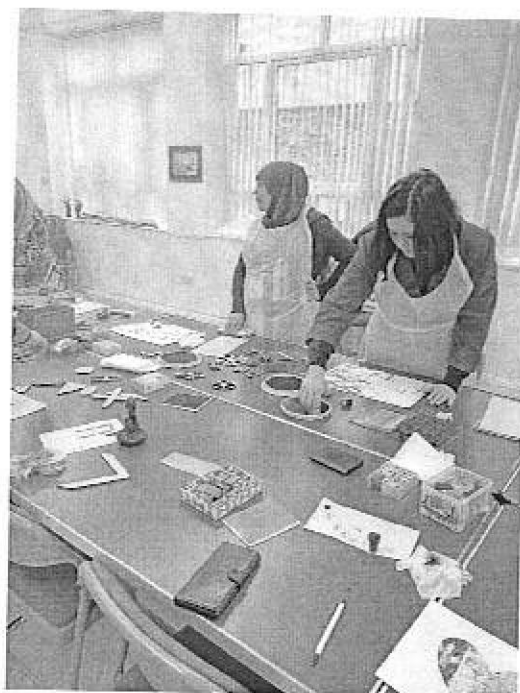
Litter picking with our youth clubs.











Youth club sessions, over 50s projects, art workshops, litter picking and collecting for ukraine

List of Charities, Trusts and Foundations that have supported our charity this year.

High Sheriff
 Community Foundation Dickton & Lindon Family
 Hospital of God at Greatham
 Shears Foundation
 Carr Ellison Donation
 Virgin Money Community Anchors Fund
 RW Mann
 Ballinger Trust
 Community Foundation EDF Fund
 Barbour Foundation
 Children in Need
 Rotary
 Dreager
 Hadrian Trust
 Community Foundation Environment
 Council Covid Grant
 County Council Community Chest platinum
 Community Foundation
 Albert Hunt
 Rothley Trust
 Community Foundation Willan Trust
 Arnold Clark
 Magic little Grants
 Town Council platinum Grant
 Port of Blyth
 Co-op
 William Leech
 Heart of Blyth
 St Hildas
 NE/Youth Youth Happy Healthy Grant
 Banks Group
 ADSA
 Morrisons