VISION (ROSSENDALE)

England & Wales · Charity number 1138523

Details

Other names	VISION
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07315280
Registered	2010-10-22
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Vision Woodlea Mission 5a Tenterfield Street Waterfoot Rossendale BB4 7BA
Phone	01706508030
Email	info@visionyouth.org.uk
Website	www.visionyouth.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE MAINLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY OF SECONDARY SCHOOL AGE, FIRST AND FOREMOST IN ROSSENDALE (LANCASHIRE) BY ALL MEANS INCLUDING SUCH RELIGIOUS AND OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES AS THE TRUSTEES MAY DECIDE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF FAITH.

Activities: VISION is a Christian charity working with young people in Rossendale. We run free activities for children and teenagers at our own venue, partner with local schools to deliver classes and assemblies, equip young volunteers with practical skills and opportunities to lead, and provide a professional youth counselling service.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** ROSSENDALE (LANCASHIRE)
- Lancashire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£70,712	£76,957	-	-
2023-12-31	£67,357	£71,603	-	-
2022-12-31	£83,453	£100,214	-	-
2021-12-31	£52,429	£74,103	-	-
2020-12-31	£72,276	£51,181	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Jane Shadlock	Chair	2023-03-24
Ian Bury		2020-04-24
Nathan John Shepherd		2010-10-22
Rachel Topham		2025-06-27
Stephen Shepherd		2017-05-10

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VISION (ROSSENDALE)

England & Wales - Charity number 1138523

Accounts

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2024

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member of evangelical alliance
together making Jesus known

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ABOUT VISION

We're a CHRISTIAN charity

Our **faith** is at the heart of everything we do. We're passionate about seeing young people come to know Jesus as the way, the truth, and the life.

We're a LOCAL charity

We're focused on **Rossendale** where we work with local schools and run our own venue for children, teenagers, and families.

We're an ESTABLISHED charity

For 22 years, parents and schools have **trusted** us to create a safe environment where young people can be inspired and grow in confidence.

In 2024...

+ We ran **155** events and activities and **491** counselling sessions.
+ We worked with **2,293** children and teenagers:
  > **367** attended YOUTH or KIDS events at our venue
  > **75** received professional counselling
  > **1,851** saw our team in **4** primary schools and **4** secondary schools
+ Our staff were supported by a team of **35** adult volunteers and **21** young volunteers aged **11-17**

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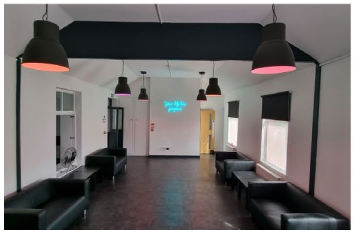
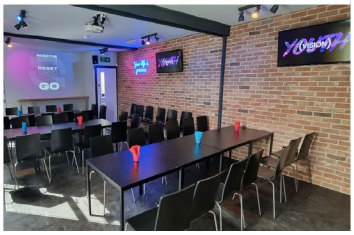
ABOUT VISION





Our work

- **We own and operate our own building** where we deliver fun and free activities - rooted in the Christian faith - to help young people find connection, meaning, purpose and courage.
- **We work with our local primary and secondary schools** to run educational, engaging classes and assemblies on important topics like 'how to stay safe online' and 'beating stress and anxiety'.
- **We help young people develop new skills** and provide opportunities for them to put these into action through volunteering at our events.
- **We offer professional counselling** for teenagers identified as 'high risk' - meaning they are actively self-harming or struggling with suicidal thoughts – alongside a *Youth Emergency Fund* so our counsellor can help any young person needing urgent essentials like toiletries, food, and clothing.

Our building

VISION is based at Woodlea Mission (known as "Woodlea"), a chapel built in 1894 near the spot where theologian and evangelist John Wesley preached in 1747. The building served as an independent church for more than 100 years until it was donated to our charity in 2010. Thanks to the generosity and hard work of our financial supporters and volunteers, Woodlea has been transformed into a stunning venue for children and teenagers, as shown in the photos above.

The main entrance on Tenterfield Street leads to our hall, which has a small stage equipped with a lighting rig, screens, and a sound system. This is a versatile open space which can be easily set up for different activities with tables or up to 100 seats. Next to the hall is our lounge, a smaller room with sofas, extra seating, a sound system, and TV screen, and two large mirrors for rehearsals. There are three staircases: one leads up to the mezzanine floor (built in 2015) where there's a large office space with a team kitchen and counselling room; the other staircases lead down to our main kitchen which has its own seating area for up to 40 people, making it perfect for meals, group work, training and other smaller activities. From the kitchen, a doorway leads outside to our garden (completed in 2021) which has a gate for access to the public car park on Millar Barn Lane.

Our team

In 2024, VISION had one full-time employee, **Nathan Shepherd** (pictured on right). Nathan manages all day-to-day activities; he coordinates events and volunteers, engages with our supporters and, most importantly, leads our work with young people. One of our long-term goals is to raise enough funding to recruit additional staff who can share the workload and expand our capacity to reach more young people.

Our youth counsellor is **Amy Moriarty**. Amy is a professional psychotherapist who is paid by VISION on a sessional basis (as a self-employed practitioner) to work with young people in crisis. You can read more about our counselling service on page 11.

Nathan and Amy are occasionally joined by award-winning actor and writer **Matt Britton** from *The Message Trust*. Matt has more than 25 years' experience working in schools. He is paid by VISION on a sessional basis (as a self-employed practitioner)

There are no other paid staff – the rest of our team are all **volunteers**! Some are retired and able to give many hours each week, but most of our team have full-time jobs and generously give up their spare time at evenings and weekends to help run events. Most activities at Woodlea wouldn't be possible without our volunteers who bring so much enthusiasm, experience, and care for the young people. Their names are listed on page 14.

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name	VISION (ROSSENDALE)
Working name	VISION
Registration	Registered in England and Wales no. 1138523
Trustees	**Jane Shadlock** (Chair), **Stephen Shepherd** (Treasurer), **Ian Bury, Nathan Shepherd** **Alan Davey** – Served until 6 July 2024 The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, are named above. Appointment of Trustees is governed by the company's Articles of Association. The Board of Trustees meet on a regular basis to review the activities of the charity.
Registered office	Woodlea Mission, 5a Tenterfield Street, Rossendale, BB4 7BA
Contact details	**Telephone:** 01706 50 80 30 **Email:** info@visionyouth.org.uk **Website:** visionyouth.org.uk

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document	Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 15 July 2010 (amended 20 March 2020)
Affiliation	VISION has been a member of the Evangelical Alliance since 2017
Accountants	Halliwell & Company Accountants and Tax Advisors LLP Irwell House, 223 Bacup Road, Rossendale, BB4 7PA
Team	In 2024 VISION's charitable activities were delivered by the following team members: Full-time employees (permanent): **1** Part-time employees (fixed term): **1** Self-employed sessional workers: **2** Active volunteers: **35**
History	VISION became a registered charity in 2011. This report covers our 14th year of charitable activities, taking into consideration a longer history of local youth work dating back to 2002.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aims

VISION is a Christian charity working with young people in Rossendale. We believe that the Christian faith offers hope, freedom, and wholeness for every person, and as such we aim to:

> present the *never-changing* Christian gospel message in an *ever-changing* youth culture, using every opportunity and all available means of communication;

> inspire and equip young Christians to thrive in their schools, colleges, and homes;

> build lasting, positive links with local churches and others who share our vision and aims.

Public benefit

VISION meets the Charity Commission's public benefit requirement under the categories of general charitable purposes, the advancement of education and training through structured programmes, and the advancement of religious understanding and engagement.

Charitable objectives

To advance the Christian religion amongst young people mainly but not exclusively of secondary school age, first and foremost in Rossendale (Lancashire) by all means including such religious and other charitable activities as the trustees may decide, in accordance with the statement of faith.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees	Mrs. NJ Shadlock (Chair) 20 October 2025

CONNECT (11-18s)

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About Connect

We want to help young people stay connected - to one another, and to Jesus. One of the ways we do this is through *Connect*, a weekly youth activity which runs on Friday evenings in term time. *Connect* is a high-energy mix of games, talks, activities, and group discussions to help 11-18s find purpose through faith in Jesus.

January - July

Our first series of 2024 was called *What are you tuned in to*? We considered all the voices that fight for our attention every day and how these voices influence and affect our mood, our behaviour, and our decisions. We discovered the importance of pausing each day and "tuning in" to God's voice through the Bible. This led to a longer series, *Six Bible stories everyone should know*. Many people dismiss the Bible as irrelevant for young people - and it's true that even the more "famous" stories and characters are unfamiliar to most teenagers. But after discovering many similarities to their own lives when reading about Old Testament characters like Noah, Moses, Samson, David, Daniel, and Esther, our *Connect* group wanted the series to continue! We ran a follow-up series focusing on moments in the New Testament where people with a troubled past were faced with two life-changing questions: *Who is Jesus?* and *Who am I?* We learnt that - just like Simon Peter, the woman at the well, Zacchaeus and Saul - when we discover who Jesus really is, we find out who we really are, too.

September - December

The new school year began with a new theme, *Courage*, and we took inspiration from the stories of Gideon and Simon Peter. After half-term, the young people spent a number of weeks discussing online safety and helping us create new content for schools (see page 9) before we wrapped up the year by looking at the Christmas story from a fresh perspective.

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REACH PUPPETS (10-18s)

About Reach Puppets

***Reach* is our puppetry group for young people aged 10-18.** The puppeteers meet on Tuesday evenings in term time to work on fun performances to share God's love with children at VISION KIDS and other events. Each week there's also a "recharge break" for refreshments, a Bible-based "thought for the day" and space for puppeteers to pray for each other in small groups.

Reach is an excellent opportunity for young people to learn new skills, boost their confidence and grow in faith. We are fortunate to have an extensive collection of equipment including 50+ large puppets and a range of accessories, staging, and props. Much of this was acquired when *Reach Puppets* was run by St Mary's Church from 1999-2017 and donated to VISION when our charity re-launched *Reach* in 2018, but over the last six years we have also been able to invest in some new puppets and equipment including the amazing glow-in-the-dark characters used at Lite Nite.

Rehearsals and performances in 2024

The puppeteers were kept very busy this year with a number of performances and trips which required a great deal of time and effort to perfect. Alongside rehearsals, puppeteers were set a challenge: the group was split into two teams and tasked with creating an original performance – with their own choice of song, puppets, staging and choreography – to perform as a competition piece at the Summer Showcase for friends and family in July.

Highlights

Summer Showcase

This year there were 18 puppeteers aged from 10-18 years old. Some of the older teens have been attending since *Reach* was re-launched by VISION in 2018, while the youngest puppeteers have just a few months' experience. It was very encouraging to see all age groups working together in teams throughout the spring and summer terms to prepare two original performances for the competition at our Summer Showcase.

Lite Nite

Our puppeteers always play a significant role in *Lite Nite* (page 7). This year's event was no different, with an energetic opening song called *Courage* - complete with a puppet band on stage, puppeteers waving flags in the aisles, and some eye-catching video and lighting effects – plus another showstopping "glow-in-the-dark" performance to close the event, with a total blackout to highlight the dazzling props illuminated by UV lights.

Other performances in 2024

Reach Puppets have also performed...

+ At VISION KIDS CLUB in February, March, May and July.

+ For a group of 20 Beavers aged 6-8 who visited with their leaders in May.

+ At Acre Mill Baptist Church for their anniversary service in July.

+ At Goodshaw Baptist Church for their Christmas party in December.

+ At St Anne's CE Primary School for a special assembly in June.

LITE NITE (4-11s)

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Lite Nite 2024

***Lite Nite* is an action-packed Christian alternative to Halloween for children and their families which has been running in Rossendale every October since 1991.** Tickets are free, and this year all the available seats had been reserved online within two weeks of being released! So, in addition to the usual 6pm show – which was held on the last Saturday of October half-term - we were able to run an additional show at 3pm. This meant twice as many children could join in, with 44 families attending in total.

Lite Nite takes many months of planning. Every year our team dedicate countless hours to creating video content and games, setting up the venue, rehearsing, and visiting local primary schools to promote the event. This year 48 people helped out on the day - 27 adult volunteers and 21 teenagers - making *Lite Nite* one of our biggest events of the year!

Highlights

Features

This year's theme was 'Courage' with our memory verse from Matthew 14:27 (The Message Bible):
Jesus said, "Take courage, it's me. Don't be afraid".

Each show lasted 75 minutes and included the usual line-up of action songs (with our live band), big games with prizes (and surprises), a quiz, Bible story, prayer, Reach Puppets, and cupcakes and drinks afterwards!

Young people

As always, our Lite Nite team included lots of young helpers aged 10-17 who were involved in hosting, production, stage management, puppeteering, and in the band (Joel aged 11 is pictured on his guitar-playing debut!) For the third year running, our youngest contributor (5-year-old Frankie) read our Bible story in a pre-recorded video which is available on our YouTube channel.

Party Bags

At the end of *Lite Nite*, every child received a brightly-coloured complimentary party bag stamped with the VISION KIDS logo.

This year's bag included a specially designed memory verse postcard, some stickers and sweets, and a beautifully illustrated book called "Wow God! Thank You, Sorry" which uses rhymes and storytelling to teach children about prayer.

VISION KIDS CLUB (4-11s)

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January - July

***Kids Club* is a free event where children aged 4-11 can make friends, have fun, and learn more about Jesus.**

We ran *Kids Club* four times in 2024, on Saturday mornings in February, March, May, and July. Each event was based on a Bible story, with fun activities like games, songs, a memory verse from Henry the Bear, and performances from Reach Puppets. At breaktime, children enjoyed snacks and drinks while grown-ups relaxed with hot drinks in our Parents Lounge downstairs.

September - December

Sadly, although 35 children and their families were registered for *Kids Club*, we found it difficult to build momentum. We were not able to run events often enough to establish a consistent routine, and so the format felt a little too ambitious for the size of our core group. After careful reflection, we decided to pause *Kids Club* at the start of the new school year in September and focus our energy on *Lite Nite* in order to impact a larger number of children and families.

While it was disappointing to bring *Kids Club* to a close, it provided valuable learning about what works best for our team and for local families. The experience has helped shape our plans for future activities, ensuring we continue to offer events that are sustainable, engaging, and well-attended.

Highlights

Bible Stories

We learned more about the Wise and Foolish Builders (Matthew 7) and the transformation of Zacchaeus (Luke 19) through stories and activities.

Easter Story

We held a special *Kids Club* in March to discover all about the first Easter, when the Bible says that Jesus died and rose again to save us.

Summer

Our final *Kids Club* of 2024 was a Summer Special packed with big games like 'Beat the Goalie' and a seaside quiz!

Emotional Wellbeing

Back in 2017, our nearest secondary school asked for help in supporting students struggling with anxiety. We created a 60-minute session to help students identify situations that cause anxiety, understand how the body responds to stress, and learn techniques to support their mental health. Feedback was very positive and other secondary schools began to book sessions.

During the pandemic, anxiety was understandably high among all age groups. We were asked to adapt our content so that children at primary schools could take part, and we ran classes over Zoom from our office. When schools re-opened, Emotional Wellbeing was our most-requested topic in all schools, a trend which continued in the first half of 2024.

Every session is different. For example, in June, 86 children from Waterfoot Primary School walked down to VISION for their annual Emotional Wellbeing Day. We made full use of our venue, and it was loud and lively!! Then, a few weeks later, we had the privilege of working with just 10 children - on their last full day at primary school - in a small classroom at St John with St Michael CE Primary School. What matters most is not the size of the group or the resources available, but making space to listen to young people and remind them that their life is precious and they are not alone.

We've now had the privilege of running Emotional Wellbeing sessions in 12 schools for more than 7,000 pupils aged 7 to 18. But as the new school year began in September, our nearest school once again asked us to create something new...

Staying safe online

Although children can appear digitally savvy, most aren't fully aware of the risks they face online - from constant exposure to harmful content, to being tricked into sharing intimate images. What feels normal to them may be eroding their self-worth, fuelling anxiety, or putting them in real danger. This means most young people are facing high-stakes situations every day without the tools or support they need. So, in the autumn term, we were invited to develop and run a new session to help school pupils develop a healthier understanding of how to make the most of new technology without putting themselves in serious danger. The session, which uses eye-catching visuals, interesting activities and real-life stories, was trialled with 180 pupils aged 11-12 with excellent feedback. Just like our Emotional Wellbeing series, we expect to adapt this new material for a much wider age group in 2025.

Faith schools

Alongside the above, we are often invited to Church of England schools where there's more scope to talk about faith, for example at St Wilfrid's CE Academy where staff invited us to share the Easter story with 400 pupils in April. Actor Matt Britton performed excerpts from Mark's Gospel and Nathan reflected on themes of love, grace, and forgiveness. There were some incredibly powerful moments, as there have been in many other classrooms where we've been able to talk openly about Jesus.

SCHOOLS cont.

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Summary of school visits

This year **1,851** school pupils have taken part in our sessions.

For the third year running we hosted sessions at Woodlea for **Waterfoot Primary School.**

We visited four other schools in Rossendale for classes or assemblies:

+ **Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School, Waterfoot**
+ **St John with St Michael CE Primary, Shawforth**
+ **St Paul's CE Primary, Constable Lee**
+ **St Anne's CE Primary School, Edgeside**

We also have excellent, long-term links with two schools outside of Rossendale where we run Spirituality Days or other faith-based presentations:

+ **St Christopher's CE Academy, Accrington**
+ **St Wilfrid's CE Academy, Blackburn**

Covering the cost

A typical school visit costs our charity around £225 per day. Our main expense is staffing - not only for the time our team spend delivering sessions, but also for the preparation required for each class or assembly. Additional costs include equipment and session resources: for example, we regularly design and order professionally printed postcards and posters to reinforce key messages from our emotional wellbeing and internet safety lessons, helping pupils to remember and apply what they have learned.

Sessions delivered at Woodlea are slightly more expensive. These typically run for a full morning or afternoon, offering a more immersive experience, and cost around £400 per visit on average as they require a larger team and include refreshments for pupils during breaks.

We ask all secondary schools to make a financial contribution towards our costs. In 2024, this generated £1,150 in income. We do not currently charge primary schools; instead, local businesses are invited to sponsor sessions through our "Cover the Cost" campaign, which raised £850 this year.

Feedback from schools in 2024

"The team are always well prepared for our visits and update their content with current issues that children may be facing in school. The team are always smiling and enthusiastic and really get involved with the children. The material is always very interactive and gets the children to think for themselves. We always enjoy coming to Vision."

S. READ - Year 6 teacher and Upper KS2 Lead
Waterfoot Primary School

"At a gathering of headteachers from the North West, I mentioned Vision (alongside The Message Trust and Christians in Sport) as examples of the "very best" contributors for Spirituality Days!"

C. POUNTAIN - Head of RE and Director of Spirituality
St Christopher's CE High School

COUNSELLING

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Our Youth Counselling Service

Emotional wellbeing sessions in schools can be highly effective for young people who might feel anxious about everyday situations but otherwise have a strong support network and have not experienced major trauma. However, a growing number of young people require far more intensive, long-term support. Our Youth Counselling Service exists to meet this need.

The service, which was first established in 2020 during the pandemic, is led by Amy Moriarty (pictured), who is a qualified psychotherapist, co-founder of VISION, and our charity's Safeguarding Lead. Amy provides professional therapeutic support to young people who are considered at high risk - those actively self-harming or struggling with suicidal thoughts, and in some cases, those who have made attempts to end their lives. Each young person typically faces complex and overlapping challenges, such as abuse, neglect, family breakdown, or exposure to domestic violence, substance misuse, or criminal activity at home.

In 2024, Amy worked primarily at **The Valley Leadership Academy**, one of our local secondary schools where the level of need is exceptionally high. She visited the school two or three days per week during term time, supporting **75** young people through one-to-one counselling. Many of these cases were shaped by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) - stressful or traumatic events that occur before the age of 18. These experiences often lead to emotional dysregulation, difficulty forming relationships, and a deep sense of insecurity or shame. Amy's role is to help young people process these experiences in a developmentally appropriate way, strengthening their coping skills, and rebuilding a sense of safety and self-worth.

Amy's therapeutic work covers a wide range of emotional, behavioural, and mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, self-harm, suicidal ideation, and low self-esteem, often linked to bullying, school pressure, family separation, or trauma. She also supports young people dealing with bereavement, identity issues, neurodiversity (such as autism or ADHD) and the impact of social media on self-image and mental health. In some cases, she addresses more complex conditions such as PTSD and eating disorders. Amy also works with families where appropriate, helping parents and carers understand the young person's needs and how they can offer consistent, supportive care at home.

Amy has begun specialist training in Dialectical Behavioural Therapy for Adolescents (DBT-A), an evidence-based approach designed to help young people manage emotional intensity and impulsive behaviours. DBT equips adolescents with practical tools to regulate emotions, tolerate distress, and improve relationships—reinforcing that they are capable of learning new, healthy coping strategies. This additional qualification expands the therapeutic toolkit available to the charity and strengthens our capacity to respond effectively to young people in crisis.

Regular sessions with a trusted professional who listens without judgement can be life changing. Counselling helps young people see their situation more clearly, develop communication and self-awareness skills, and rebuild confidence and resilience. As their emotional stability improves, they often experience better sleep, attendance, and concentration in school, alongside renewed motivation, and hope for the future. The impact of this service continues to be reflected in positive feedback received from the school and from young people themselves.

Alongside counselling, VISION continues to operate a small **Youth Emergency Fund**, enabling Amy to provide same-day essential care packages for young people in immediate need of basic items such as toiletries, food, or school supplies. This practical support can make a vital difference, helping to stabilise situations and ensure no young person feels overlooked.

The cost of counselling is usually covered by the school; however, we were able to offer a number of free or subsidised sessions thanks to a £5,000 follow-up grant from the St James' Place Charitable Foundation.

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OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

'Through the Wardrobe' – our Fundraising Escape Room!

2024 began with one of our most ambitious projects to date - an immersive Escape Room which ran for two weeks in January. During the Christmas holidays, our team worked tirelessly to transform Woodlea into a Narnia-inspired wonderland. Volunteers built amazing props, devised multi-layered puzzles, and created magical effects with sound, lights, and projectors. Our local Co-op store donated refreshments, and we borrowed an array of themed items from artificial trees to a professional snow machine!

Our kitchen became a 1940s train station, complete with suitcases and wartime posters, where teams began their challenge and met up afterwards for Turkish delight and hot chocolate. Our lounge featured a winter woodland backdrop for Instagram-worthy team photos. But the biggest transformation was in our hall, which was split into three zones. Teams stepped through a wardrobe into the woods where the first challenge awaited at the lamppost. After finding more clues in Mr Tumnus' upturned house, teams solved puzzles to defeat the 'White Witch' outside Aslan's Camp before finding their crowns by the Stone Table!

'Through the Wardrobe' brought in 50 teams of 241 visitors and raised £5,396 for our work with young people in Rossendale.

A few more highlights

Other highlights from 2024 included a **Worship Night** in January, offering supporters a chance to pause, reflect, and find strength in God's presence, and a **Ladies Breakfast** in July which brought together women and girls connected with VISION for encouragement, prayer, and inspiration from the Bible.

In July, we welcomed 15-year-old Joel (right) for **Work Experience**. Joel's busy schedule included a primary school visit with Nathan and Matt, video production, creative writing and managing sound/music for the Reach showcase. Joel also was joined by 16-year-olds Theo and Joshua (left and middle) for a training day.

In December, a local student called Pippa organised a **Donation Project** to deliver toys and colouring books to children spending Christmas in hospital. We were delighted to support this thoughtful initiative by purchasing a set of Nativity Comics which Pippa delivered to the Royal Blackburn Hospital on Christmas Eve.

FINANCES

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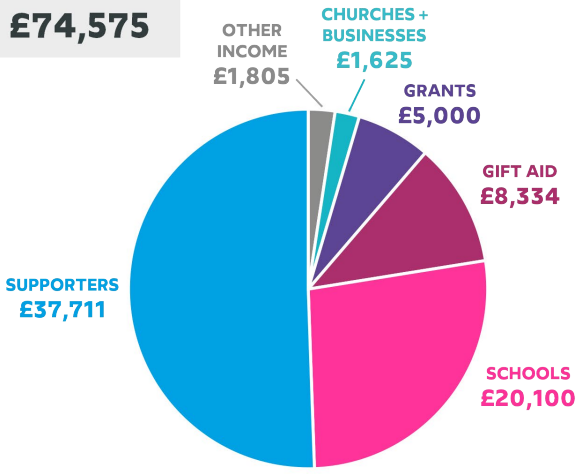
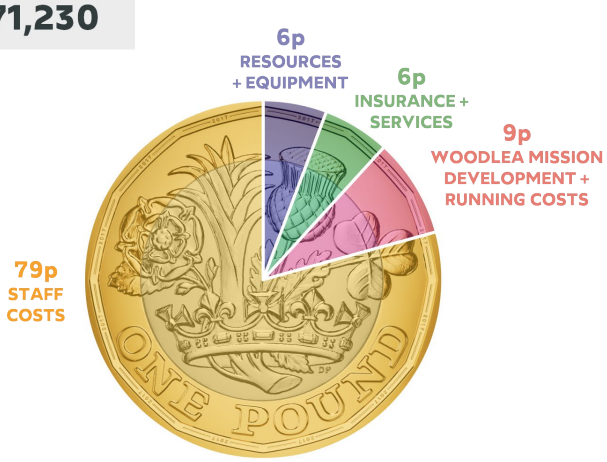
2024 INCOME

£74,575



FOR EVERY £1 SPENT IN 2024

£71,230



VISION received...

£37,711 from our amazing supporters; that's **£31,460** from monthly donations (standing orders and Direct Debits) and **£6,252** in one-off donations.
↑ £670 more than last year

£20,100 from schools; that's **£19,245** for our counselling service and **£855** for Emotional Wellbeing and RE lessons.
↓ £670 less than last year

£8,334 in Gift Aid from last year's donations.
↑ £1,917 more than last year

£5,000 in grants from St James' Place Charitable Foundation to fund free or subsidised counselling for teenagers at high risk of harm.
↑ £3,700 more than last year

£1,625 of corporate donations; **£850** from local businesses in response to our 'Cover the Cost' campaign, and **£775** from churches.
↑ £405 more than last year

£1,805 of other income including the sale of surplus equipment, event entry fees, electricity generated by solar panels, cashback, and interest.
↑ £1,195 more than last year

VISION spent...

£56,470 on staff costs. This covers salaries and sessional workers (counselling and school visits) plus training, DBS checks, and out-of-pocket expenses such as travel costs.
↑ £5,316 more than last year

£6,354 on Woodlea Mission. This includes all development and refurbishment, plus day-to-day running costs (utility bills, cleaning, stock, and supplies) along with licenses and subscriptions.
↑ £284 more than last year

£4,308 on insurance and other professional services including accountants' fees and membership costs for *ThirtyOne:Eight* (safeguarding), *Stewardship* (legal and employment advice), and the *Evangelical Alliance*.
↓ £896 less than last year

£4,098 on resources, materials, and equipment for charitable activities.
↑ £837 more than last year

Financial position of the charity

More detailed information on the financial position of VISION is set out in the attached accounts.

Policy on reserves

The policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue our charitable activities should income and fundraising fall short of the amounts needed to meet the costs of those activities in the short term (up to 3 months). Projects requiring significant amounts of funding are only entered into when the income required to meet the associated expenditure is secured.

TEAM

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Volunteers

VISION runs on the passion and dedication of ordinary people who believe that our small charity is making a big difference.

In 2024, alongside **Nathan** (full-time employee), **Amy** (sessional counsellor, 3 days/week) and **Matt** (sessional schools' worker) our charity was powered by a team of 35 volunteers who gave their time freely to support young people in Rossendale. Together, they contributed more than 4,000 hours of voluntary service this year! We would like to say a huge "thank you" to…

- Karen and Steve Shepherd, who have devoted 50 years to Christian youth work and are still among our most active volunteers! Their enthusiasm, wisdom, and experience remain a constant source of inspiration to everyone at VISION.
- Our core team who helped run weekly activities: Adam Shepherd, Alison and Stuart Aspin, Amy Moriarty, Jake Burrell, Kathryn and Nathan Ashman, Katie Heath, Lizzi Johnstone, Lottie Quinn, Suzie Elkington, and Yvonne Lord.
- Our wider team who were on standby to help in a range of roles including safeguarding, event safety, DIY, IT, music, production, registration, catering and much more: Amanda Shepherd, Christine McGuinness, Christine Moores, Emma Shepherd, Ian Bury, Jane Shadlock, Janet and Jim Barrie, Jay and Sarah Jones, Jenna and Josh Potts, Jenny Broadhurst, Joseph Jones, Jess and Michael Aspin, Matt Worrell, Nicole Mendez, Paul Iddon and Rachel Topham.

We'd like to give a special mention to 19-year-old Rose Shepherd who was employed by our charity for 2 weeks on a fixed-term contract in January to run the Players' Lounge for the 50 teams who visited our Narnia-themed Escape Room.

Last but not least, we would like to recognise all the young people aged 11-18 who have volunteered on stage (as hosts, musicians, singers and puppeteers) and behind the scenes (as lighting/visual/sound engineers, stage managers and helping to set up and pack down events). You play an integral part in VISION, and we couldn't run our events without you!

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SAFETY AND TRAINING

Safeguarding

We take safeguarding extremely seriously. Every child has the right to be protected from harm, and their welfare remains our highest priority. We are committed to preventing abuse, responding effectively to concerns, and maintaining a safe and caring environment for all beneficiaries, without discrimination. To support this, we have implemented the following measures:

- **Safeguarding Team -** An internal team of experienced volunteers, nominated by the trustees, has undertaken appropriate training to record and respond to safeguarding concerns on behalf of the charity.
- **Policies and Procedures -** We maintain a comprehensive suite of policies which are reviewed and updated regularly. These include our *Safeguarding Policy* which governs all aspects of our charitable activities, and our *Safer Recruitment Policy* which outlines how we recruit, assess, and appoint staff and volunteers.
- **Training and Compliance -** All staff and volunteers are required to complete regular safeguarding training and to comply fully with our policies and procedures at all times.
- **Reporting and Record-Keeping -** We have developed a secure digital Safeguarding Log, enabling any VISION team member to submit detailed reports quickly using a QR code and online form.
- **External Support and Accountability -** We maintain annual membership with *ThirtyOne:Eight*, a national Christian safeguarding charity. This provides access to a Safeguarding Helpline, DBS checks, and a wide range of resources, templates, and training. We have also signed their *Safer Places Pledge* which is a commitment to (1) put survivors first, (2) make change happen, (3) conceal nothing, (4) speak up, (5) take responsibility and (6) hold each other accountable.
- **Public Transparency -** Our Safeguarding Statement is publicly available on our website.

Additional safety measures

The following measures are in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone involved in our events and activities:

- **Fire Safety -** A comprehensive Fire Risk Assessment has been conducted by a qualified professional. Our fire systems are inspected and tested regularly, and every team member completes routine fire safety training. In 2024 we conducted a series of fire drills across a range of activities, including sessions with young people aged 11–18, to test our emergency procedures and evacuation plans.
- **First Aid -** Our provision is overseen by a volunteer who is a highly qualified and experienced healthcare professional. Every activity includes at least one qualified First Aider, and our volunteer base includes two consultants, an Advanced Nurse Practitioner and a Physician Associate. All other team members receive basic training in responding to accidents, injuries, and illness. Medical information and medication details are collected securely on each child's Consent Form, and a digital First Aid Form enables quick and accurate reporting. In 2024 we invested in new First Aid kits for our venue and hosted a one-day *Emergency First Aid at Work (Level 3)* training course for staff and volunteers.
- **Security** – A range of security arrangements are in place to prevent unauthorised access to our building, particularly during youth events when entry and exit points are closely managed. All team members are trained in emergency procedures, including lockdowns and intruder alerts, as well as in registration, entry control, and door safety. Additional protective measures include CCTV, a burglar alarm, panic buttons, and walkie-talkies for team communication.
- **Food Safety** – Strict food safety standards are applied at all times. Allergy information is securely stored on our register and clearly flagged for kitchen staff. Team members preparing food must complete a digital Food Safety Form before each activity, recording allergens and printing a summary for display.

Team Development

Beyond safety training, we recognise the importance of ensuring that our staff and volunteers fully understand the charity's aims and objectives, and feel inspired to work together towards our shared mission.

In 2024, we hosted a *Team Recharge Afternoon* at our venue, open to all volunteers. The event featured talks and presentations from Nathan (Charity Director), Matt (actor and schools' worker), and special guest Sarah Small (Head of Eden, *The Message Trust*). The programme included time for prayer, discussion, and reflection, followed by tea for all attendees and an optional evening of worship led by our band.

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PLANS FOR 2025

Charitable activities

In the year ahead, we want to continue building on the progress made in 2024, with a focus on growth, sustainability, and engagement. Our priorities include:

- **Expanding participation** – Enabling even more young people to take part in our weekly youth activities at our venue, in particular by restructuring our provision for 11-18s into sub-groups. For example, sessions for 11–14s will continue to be centred around fun and fast-paced content, while sessions for 15–18s will place greater emphasis on personal development, volunteering, and leadership opportunities.
- **Extending our schools work** – Working closely with primary and secondary schools to deliver more regular classroom sessions and assemblies to increase impact by reinforcing a consistent message throughout the school year.
- **Strengthening sustainability** – Continuing to develop a more stable financial model for our schools' work and counselling provision, reducing reliance on grants, and introducing a fair contribution structure for schools benefiting from these services.

Woodlea Mission

Woodlea offers a range of fully refurbished rooms with excellent facilities, all regularly in use for our activities. In 2025, we aim to maximise our available space even further by reorganising areas such as the storeroom and cellar. Any unused equipment will be sold, donated, or recycled to ensure our venue remains efficient, welcoming, and well maintained.

Team

We will continue to deliver our annual in-house training for all volunteers. We hope to expand our volunteer team, reducing pressure on current members and enabling us to increase the number of activities offered each week.

Systems, processes, and policies

We plan to keep refining our internal systems and processes to reduce administrative workload and improve overall efficiency. Alongside this, our policies will continue to evolve to ensure that VISION remains the safest possible environment.

Support

This year 87 individuals and families generously donated to VISION. We kept in touch through newsletters pin summer and winter, expressing our gratitude and sharing updates on our work. We also continued our tradition of sending custom-designed Christmas cards featuring Bible verses to all supporters. In the year ahead, we aim to grow our base of regular supporters and strengthen links with local businesses through our *Cover the Cost* initiative. As always, our long-term goal is to increase income to help us move towards employing more permanent youth workers. This will allow us to expand our reach and offer hope and support to even more young people.

In loving memory of
Alan Davey
1959 – 2024

Alan served as a trustee of VISION from May 2017 until his passing in July 2024, contributing faithfully and prayerfully to the charity's work. He was known for his quiet wisdom and calm presence, and his gentle discernment and deep faith helped shape many of the decisions made during his time as a trustee.

Even before joining as a trustee, Alan was a long-standing volunteer who helped for many years. Whether assisting with DIY and practical tasks, keeping everyone safe as part of our Event Safety Team, performing comedy sketches at Lite Nite with his wife, Lesley, or offering a kind word of encouragement, he served with humility and good humour - always reflecting the servant-hearted nature of Jesus.

We give thanks to God for Alan's life, for his friendship, and for the lasting impact of his dedication to the work of God's Kingdom through VISION. He will be deeply missed and always remembered with gratitude and affection.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

DIRECTORS REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2024

HALLIWELL & COMPANY
ACCOUNTANTS & TAX ADVISORS LLP

IRWELL HOUSE
223 BACUP ROAD
RAWTENSTALL
LANCASHIRE
BB4 7PA

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Company Information

Directors
Ian Bury
Alan Davey (Served until 06.07.24)
Jane Shadlock
Nathan Shepherd
Stephen Shepherd

Registered address
Woodlea Mission, Tenterfield Street, Rossendale, BB4 7BA

Bankers
Lloyds plc, Burnley, Lancashire.

Company Number
7315280

Charity Registered Number
1138523

Accountants
Halliwell & Company Accountants & Tax Advisors LLP
Irwell House, 223 Bacup Road, Rawtenstall, Lancashire, BB4 7PA.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

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1	Report of the directors
2	Independent Examiners Report
3	Statement of Financial Activities
4	Balance sheet
5-7	Notes to the accounts

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Report of the directors for the year ended 31st December 2024

The directors present their annual report together with the unaudited accounts of the company for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Principle Activities
The Charity was incorporated as a private company, limited by guarantee, on 15th July 2010.

On 12th August 2010 the trustees of Woodlea Mission donated their premises at Tenterfield Street, Rossendale to Vision Rossendale For £nil consideration.

On 1st January 2011 the "Vision" activities previously undertaken through St Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, and the assets related to them, were transferred to Vision (Rossendale) for £nil consideration. Also on that date the activities and assets of Engage Café operating on the Balladen Estate were transferred to the charity for £nil consideration. Since that date the company has continued activities to advance the Christian religion amongst young people in Rossendale.

Directors
The directors who held office through the year are as follows:

Ian Bury
Alan Davey (Served until 06.07.24)
Jane Shadlock
Nathan Shepherd
Stephen Shepherd

This report was approved by the Board on the 18th July 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

S Shepherd - Director
18th July 2025

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Independent Examiners Report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2024 which are set out in the following pages.

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent report

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 directors 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.

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 materials respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or

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

Halliwell & Company
Accountants & Tax Advisors LLP
Irwell House
223 Bacup Road
Rawtenstall
Lancashire
BB4 7PA

18th July 2025

VISION (ROSSENDALE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Incoming Resources						
Voluntary Income	(2)	47,671	0	0	47,671	44,677
Activities for generating funds		1,325	0	0	1,325	42
Grants		0	5,000	0	5,000	1,300
Incoming resources from charitable activities		0	0	0	0	0
Other incoming resources		21,716	0	0	21,716	21,338
Total Incoming Resources		**70,712**	**5,000**	**0**	**75,712**	**67,357**
Resources Expended						
Cost of generating voluntary income		0	0	0	0	0
Fundraising trading costs		0	0	0	0	0
Staff Costs		54,937	0	0	54,937	50,737
Charitable activities	(3)	16,436	0	0	16,436	15,108
Governance Costs		0	0	0	0	0
Other resources expended		5,584	0	0	5,584	5,758
Total Resources Expended		**76,957**	**0**	**0**	**76,957**	**71,603**
Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources Before Transfers		**(6,245)**	**5,000**	**0**	**(1,245)**	**(4,245)**
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds			0	0	0	0
Net Incoming resources before other recognised gains/losses		**(6,245)**	**5,000**	**0**	**(1,245)**	**(4,245)**
Other recognised gains/losses						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charities own use		0	0	0	0	0
Gains and losses on investment assets		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		**(6,245)**	**5,000**	**0**	(1,245)	**(4,245)**
Reconciliation of Funds						
Total funds brought forward from previous year		256,311	0	0	256,311	260,556
Total funds carried forward		**250,066**	**5,000**	**0**	**255,066**	**256,311**

The notes form part of these Financial Statements

VISION (ROSSENDALE)
BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £	Total Prior year £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	(5)	226,743	0	0	226,743	231,293
Investments		0	0	0	0	0
Total fixed assets		**226,743**	**0**	**0**	**226,743**	**231,293**
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock and work in progress		0	0	0	0	0
Debtors	(6)	9,111	0	0	9,111	7,112
(Short term) investments		0	0	0	0	0
Bank		12,579	7,336	0	19,915	18,676
Total current assets		**21,690**	**7,336**	**0**	**29,026**	**25,788**
CREDITORS-Amounts falling due within one year	(7)	703	0	0	703	770
NET CURRENT ASSETS		20,987	7,336	0	28,323	25,018
Total assets less current liabilities		**247,730**	**7,336**	**0**	**255,066**	**256,311**
CREDITORS-Amounts falling due after one year	(8)	0	0	0	0	0
Provisions for liabilities and charges		0	0	0	0	0
NET ASSETS		**247,730**	**7,336**	**0**	**255,066**	**256,311**
Funds of the charity						
General fund		250,066	5,000	0	255,066	256,311
Designated Funds		0	0	0	0	0
Restricted income funds		0	0	0	0	0
Endowment funds		0	0	0	0	0
Total funds		**250,066**	**5,000**	**0**	**255,066**	**256,311**

For the year ended 31st December 2024 the company was entitled to exemptions under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

No notice from members requiring an audit has been deposited under section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

The accounts were approved by the board on 18th July 2025 and signed on its behalf.

S Shepherd - Director

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation
These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown on market value) in accordance with:
Accounting and reporting by Charities - Statements of Recommended Practise (SORP 2005);
Financial Reporting Standards for smaller Enterprises (FRSSE);
and with the Charities act 1993.

Recognition of incoming resources
These are included in the statements of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:
- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources and related expenditure
Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations
Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts
Incoming resources from tax are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Tangible fixed assets for the use by charity
These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

Depreciation is provided at the following rates in order to wrote off each asset over its estimated useful life;

Freehold Building	2% on cost or revalued amount
Equipment	25% on cost

Goodwill
In accordance with the ASB's Statement of Principles for Financial Reporting Interpretation for Public Benefit Entities where the acquisition of entities is for nil or nominal consideration, the ecess for fair value of the assets acquired over the fair value of the liabilities assumed is treated as a gain and recognised as income.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

2. Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Voluntary Income					
Gifts and Donations	7,102	0	0	7,102	5,838
Regular Donations	31,460	0	0	31,460	31,904
Church Giving	775	0	0	775	520
Grants	0	5,000	0	5,000	1,300
Gift Aid Claims	8,334	0	0	8,334	6,416
Fundraising Income	1,325	0	0	1,325	42
Other Income	21,716	0	0	21,716	21,338
	70,712	**5,000**	**0**	**75,712**	**67,357**

3. Resources Expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Expenses Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Charitable Activities					
Woodlea Running Costs	6,252	0	0	6,252	4,182
Woodlea Development	1,019	0	0	1,019	2,186
Other Premises Costs	0	0	0	0	444
Computer, software and office equipment	245		0	245	555
Materials, printing and related costs	2,942	0	0	2,942	1,984
Travel and subsistence	312	0	0	312	418
other	5,666	0	0	5,666	5,339
	16,436	**0**	**0**	**16,436**	**15,108**

4. Staff Costs

4a. Wages and salaries

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and Salaries	54,937	50,737

4b. Payments to trustees

One trustee receives payments from the charity in respect of their employment with permission from the Charity Commission.

	2024 £	2023 £
Travel and Subsistence	312	0

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

5. Tangible Assets

	Property Cost	Land Cost	Equipment	Total
	£		£	£
Costs:				
At 1st January 2024	263,390	12,580	32,981	308,951
Additions	0	0	1,035	1,035
Disposals	0		0	0
At 31st December 2024	263,390	12,580	34,016	309,986
Depreciation:				
At 1st January 2024	48,812	0	28,846	77,658
Charge for the year	4,292	0	1,293	5,584
On disposals	0	0	0	0
At 31st December 2024	53,104	0	30,139	83,242
Net Book Values:				
At 31st December 2024	210,286	12,580	3,878	226,744
At 31st December 2023	214,578	12,580	4,135	231,293

6. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Debtors	9,111	7,112
	9,111	7,112

7. Creditors falling due within one year

	£	£
Accruals	768	648
PAYE and NI	(172)	0
Pension Contributions	107	122
	703	770

8. Creditors falling due after one year

	£	£
	0	0

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

England & Wales - Charity number 1138523

Accounts

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2023

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member of evangelical alliance
together making Jesus known

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

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Charity name	VISION (ROSSENDALE)
Working name	VISION
Registration	Registered in England and Wales no. 1138523
Registered office	Woodlea Mission, 5a Tenterfield Street, Rossendale, BB4 7BA
Trustees	**Jane Shadlock** (chair) - appointed 31 March 2023 **Ian Bury, Alan Davey, Nathan Shepherd, Stephen Shepherd** The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, are named above. Appointment of Trustees is governed by the company's Articles of Association. The Board of Trustees meet on a regular basis to review the activities of the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document	Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 15 July 2010 (amended 20 March 2020)
Affiliation	VISION has been a member of the Evangelical Alliance since 2017
Accountants	Halliwell & Company Accountants and Tax Advisors LLP Irwell House, 223 Bacup Road, Rossendale, BB4 7PA
Team	In 2023 VISION's charitable activities were delivered by the following team members: Full-time employees (permanent): 1 Self-employed sessional workers: 2 Active volunteers: 36
History	The organisation became a registered charity in 2011 after running youth events in Rossendale for nine years. This report covers the 13th year of charitable activities undertaken by VISION (ROSSENDALE) taking into consideration a longer history of local youth work dating back to 2002.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aims

VISION is a Christian charity working with young people in Rossendale. We believe that the Christian faith offers hope, freedom and wholeness for every person, and as such we aim to:

> present the never-changing Christian gospel message in an ever-changing youth culture, using every opportunity and all available means of communication;

> inspire and equip young Christians to thrive in their schools, colleges and homes;

> build lasting, positive links with local churches and others who share our vision and aims.

Public benefit

VISION meets the Charity Commission's public benefit requirement under the categories of general charitable purposes, the advancement of education and training through structured programmes, and the advancement of religious understanding and engagement.

Charitable objectives

To advance the Christian religion amongst young people mainly but not exclusively of secondary school age, first and foremost in Rossendale (Lancashire) by all means including such religious and other charitable activities as the trustees may decide, in accordance with the statement of faith.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by
Mrs. NJ Shadlock (Chair)

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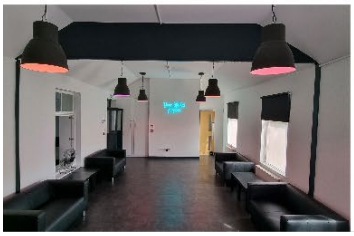
ABOUT VISION



Our building

VISION is based at Woodlea Mission - often simply called 'Woodlea' (pictured on left).

Woodlea Mission was built in 1894 near the spot where theologian and evangelist John Wesley famously preached to a 'large congregation of wild men' on 7 March 1747. The building was home to the *United Gospel Mission*, a Christian movement consisting mainly of working people. It was extended in 1930 with new Sunday School rooms on two levels, and served as an independent church for 116 years. Woodlea was always maintained by its own members and volunteers, with no paid officials.

In 2010, the church held its last service and the trustees unanimously voted to donate the building to VISION to be used to reach young people with a Christian message of hope. Thanks to the generosity of our financial supporters and the hard work of many volunteers, the building has slowly been transformed into a fantastic venue for children and teenagers.

Our main entrance on Tenterfield Street leads straight into our main hall, a versatile open space which can be easily set up for different activities with tables or up to 100 seats. The hall has a small stage equipped with a lighting rig, screens and a sound system. Next to the hall is our 'lounge', a smaller room with sofas, extra seating, a sound system with a TV screen, and two large mirrors for rehearsals. There are three staircases: one leads up to the mezzanine floor (built in 2015) where there's a large office space with staff kitchen and counselling room; the other staircases lead down to our main kitchen which has its own seating area for up to 40 people, making it perfect for meals, group work, training and other smaller activities. From the kitchen, a doorway leads outside to our garden (completed in 2021) which has a gate for access to the public car park on Millar Barn Lane.

Our team

In 2023 VISION had one full-time employee, Nathan Shepherd (pictured on right). Nathan leads the charity and currently manages all day-to-day activities; he co-ordinates events and volunteers, engages with our supporters, and works with young people at Woodlea and in schools. One of our long-term goals is to raise enough funding to recruit additional staff who can share the workload and expand our capacity to reach more young people.

Our youth counsellor is Amy Moriarty. Amy is a self-employed professional psychotherapist who is paid by VISION on a sessional basis to work with young people in crisis. You can read more about her work on page 11.

For a number of our school visits, Nathan and Amy were joined once again by award-winning actor and writer Matt Britton. Matt has 25+ years of experience working in schools with *The Message Trust*, *In Yer Face Christian Theatre Company* and *Press Red* and is paid by VISION on a sessional basis.

There are no other paid staff – the rest of our team are all volunteers! Some are retired and able to give many hours each week, but most of our team have full-time jobs and generously give up a few hours at evenings and weekends to help at events. Most activities held at Woodlea simply wouldn't be possible without our volunteers who bring so much enthusiasm, experience, and care for the young people. Their names are listed on page 15.

INTRODUCTION

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A few words from Nathan...

Here in little Rossendale – just like in every town and city in almost every corner of the world – we're *still* coming to terms with those two years of lockdowns, restrictions and fear for the future.

The full impact is yet to be seen, but we've already witnessed some of the ways that young people's wellbeing, mental health and development have been affected. And yet, the healing that is so desperately needed has not materialised; in fact, the world that has emerged from the pandemic seems even more chaotic, angry and uncertain than before. With relentless bad news bombarding young people 24 hours a day through their smartphones - distorted by the algorithms of social media, and filtered by artificial intelligence - it's no wonder so many feel like they have the weight of the world on their shoulders.

Young people need hope, purpose and faith, perhaps now more than ever. In this report, you'll read how...

+ Our small team ran **665 sessions** including weekly groups, large events, lessons in schools, and 1:1 counselling sessions.

+ We worked with **1,398** children and teenagers at Woodlea Mission and in **7** primary and secondary schools.

+ 18 young volunteers aged **4-17** were actively involved in running our events.

It's not been easy; we're just ordinary people, and most of the team are volunteers. Nevertheless, we try our best to trust in Jesus and follow His lead. After all, we believe that only He can heal broken hearts and set young people free.

Nathan Shepherd
Founder and Director

CONNECT (11-18s)

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Connecting young people

We want to help young people stay connected to one another and to Jesus. One of the key ways we do this is through *Connect*, a youth event held on Friday evenings during term time. *Connect* brings together young people aged 11-18 for fun activities, inspiring messages from the Bible, open discussions about life and faith, and the chance to ask meaningful questions. These regular activities help to reduce social isolation by building valuable social skills and creating lasting friendships. *Connect* is open to every young person, regardless of their beliefs, and for many, it's the highlight of their week.

January - July

In September 2022 we'd begun hosting weekly "Movie Nights" at *Connect* to watch Season 1 of *The Chosen*, a recent TV series that vividly brings the stories of Jesus to life. Like millions worldwide, the young people at *Connect* were drawn in by the show's authenticity, especially the way it portrays Jesus' followers – revealing doubts and flaws as well as their passion and faith. The series also helped young people understand Jesus' divine nature (seen through miracles and powerful words), while highlighting his humanity (with raw emotions, humour, and everyday interactions). Inspired by the positive impact of this show, we continued to watch *The Chosen* from January to July and completed all available episodes by the end of the summer term.

September - December

At the beginning of the new school year, *Connect* returned to its original format (with games, activities, short talks, and group discussions). Between September and December, 26 new young people joined, most of whom were aged 11-12. Many had never attended church before, so we focused on what the Bible reveals about God and how this is significant for us - for instance, "God is LOVE; I am LOVED" and "God is LISTENING; I am HEARD."

REACH PUPPETS (10-18s)

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About Reach Puppets

***Reach* is a popular puppetry group for young people aged 10-18.** Founded in 1999, *Reach* became part of VISION in 2018 and continues to inspire and engage young people through creative expression. The group meets at Woodlea every Tuesday evening during the school term to prepare performances and videos for children's events and local churches. Alongside rehearsals, each week includes a "recharge break" for refreshments, a Bible-based message, and an opportunity for puppeteers to pray for each other in small groups. *Reach* consistently helps young people build confidence, form friendships, learn new skills, work as a team, and experience the excitement of performing for a live audience.

January - July

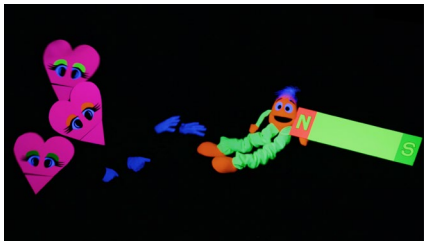
During the spring and summer terms, the puppeteers dedicated months to building arm strength and perfecting detailed choreography for new performances. In July, the group showcased seven songs for friends and family at the *Reach* "Summer Showcase" where puppeteers were each awarded a Certificate of Achievement to celebrate their progress.

September - December

The time and effort invested earlier in the year paid off during a packed autumn term filled with major performances. First up was the highly anticipated re-launch of VISION *Kids Club* (see page 8) - our puppeteers performed at all three events in October, November, and December. *Reach* also prepared two new tracks for *Lite Nite* (see page 7), made a guest appearance at our *Connect* Christmas Special, and visited Kay Street Baptist Church for their Christmas holiday club!

Highlights

Summer Showcase
This photo shows our 15 young puppeteers (alongside our volunteers from the *Reach* team) proudly displaying their Certificates of Achievement which were awarded at the end of the summer term as friends and family gathered to watch our annual "Summer Showcase."



Lite Nite
Our puppeteers always play a significant role in *Lite Nite* (page 7). *Reach* opened and closed the event this year, beginning with an energetic puppet routine and concluding with another new "glow-in-the-dark" song which, as always, was performed in complete darkness with dazzling props illuminated by UV lights!

Christmas Party
The *Reach* Christmas Party is a tradition that began in the early 2000s. With food, Secret Santa and plenty of games, the party is the perfect way to wrap up a busy year and express gratitude to all the puppeteers and the small team of volunteers who have worked tirelessly on performances and rehearsals.

All recent videos are available to view at visionkids.org.uk/videos

LITE NITE (4-11s)

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Lite Nite 2023

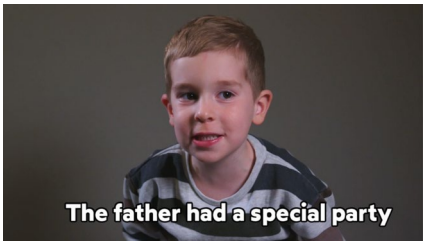
***Lite Nite* is our biggest and brightest event of the year; an action-packed Christian *alternative* to Halloween for children and families.** *Lite Nite* started in 1991 and merged with VISION in 2014 when we launched VISION KIDS. Like all large-scale events, plans had been disrupted by the pandemic; in 2020, the event was pre-recorded and streamed online for hundreds of families, while in 2021, we were unable to hold the event at all. However, *Lite Nite* had successfully returned in 2022, when we'd noted an increase in attendance after introducing online booking (allowing parents to reserve free seats), moving the start time (from 7pm to 6pm) and changing the date (from 31 October – often a school night - to the last Saturday of half term). We maintained these changes for 2023 and reached full capacity for the first time since moving to Woodlea!

Highlights

Features

This year's theme was 'Light the Way' and our memory verse was John 14:6: *'Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me."'*

As usual, the event included songs with our live band, a thrilling game of "Take Your Pick" with prizes (and surprises), a quiz, a story, prayer, and performances by *Reach Puppets*.



Young people

As always, the team included many young helpers, with 17 individuals aged 10-17 involved in hosting, production, stage management, and puppeteering. But it was our youngest helper, 4-year-old Frankie (pictured) who stole the show, reading the story in a pre-recorded video with animations drawn by Adam (one of our volunteers).

Party Bags

At the end of *Lite Nite*, every child received a complimentary party bag. This year's bag included a specially designed memory verse postcard along with some fantastic VISION KIDS stickers that had QR codes linking to our kids' videos. Additionally, there were "Jesus Loves You" stickers, sweet treats, and an invitation to VISION *Kids Club*!

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VISION KIDS CLUB (4-11s)

Kids Club is re-launched

October 2023 saw the long-awaited return of VISION *Kids Club*, a fun event where 4-11-year olds can learn more about Jesus. We originally started *Kids Club* in 2016 and the event ran every few months for four year (until the first 'lockdown' in 2020). Due to the many challenges of re-starting events following the pandemic, it has taken longer than expected to start *Kids Club* up again, but we were finally ready to re-launch in October 2023 with a fresh new format for a new generation of children and families.

What happens at Kids Club?

Kids Club is designed to be a safe space where children can make friends, have fun, and be inspired. *Kids Club* ran on the first Saturday morning of October, November and December, with games, challenges, songs, a Bible story, a memory verse, and refreshments. Parents and carers were encouraged to stay and join in (or enjoy a hot drink in our kitchen) or leave their children with our team during the events, which ran from 10:00-11:30am.

Our first 3 events

October

Our first *Kids Club* was held on 7 October, and the theme was 'God's Love'. Our memory verse from John 3:16: *God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him can have eternal life.*

November

Our second *Kids Club* was held just a week after *Lite Nite* on 4 November, and our theme was "God's Joy". We told the story of the Lost Sheep, and the memory verse was John 10:11: *'Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd."'*

December

Our Christmas special was held on 2 December, and our theme was "God's Peace". We told the Christmas story and learnt a verse from Luke 2:10: *The angel said, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy!"*

SCHOOLS

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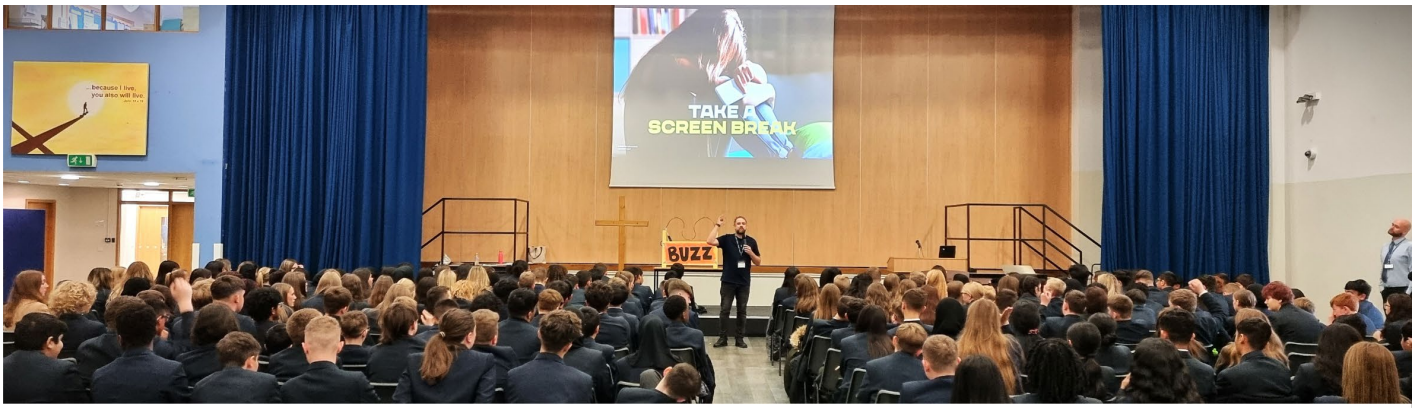


A milestone for Emotional Wellbeing

VISION has worked in schools since 2005, offering a variety of faith-based creative arts and R.E. sessions. However, in recent years, our most requested topic has been "Emotional Wellbeing." By the end of the 2022/23 school year, our sessions on this theme had helped more than 5,000 pupils in 12 primary and secondary schools, from year 3 (ages 7-8) to year 13 (ages 17-18).

These sessions have been developed to help young people (1) identify situations that cause anxiety, (2) understand how the body responds to stress, and (3) learn techniques to support their mental health. In Christian schools, we can also explore relevant Bible verses and invite children to reflect as our team read a prayer.

This year we've run sessions with 1,184 pupils at the schools shown below. Most sessions were subsidised or provided free of charge, thanks to a grant of £1,000 from the Youth Champion's Fund provided by Lancashire County Council (see page 13).

- **Alder Grange High School**
- **St Mary's CE Primary**
- **The Valley Leadership Academy**
- **St Nicholas CE Primary**
- **St Wilfrid's CE Academy**

All of the above sessions took place in school, but we have two schools right on our doorstep - and, like last year, we welcomed children from **Waterfoot Primary School** to Woodlea in June for a full day dedicated to beating stress and anxiety.

Finally, we're always invited to **St Christopher's CE Academy** for their Spirituality Week in July. This year, we ran sessions for years 7-9 focusing on the Bible story of Joseph, which explores important themes of bullying, pressure and potential. Nathan was also asked to speak and run a Question and Answer session for students at the school's Youth Church.

★★★★★

The activities were well thought out and demonstrated the points well. The children really engaged with everything and I felt they gained a great deal from the workshop.

CLASS TEACHER
ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

★★★★★

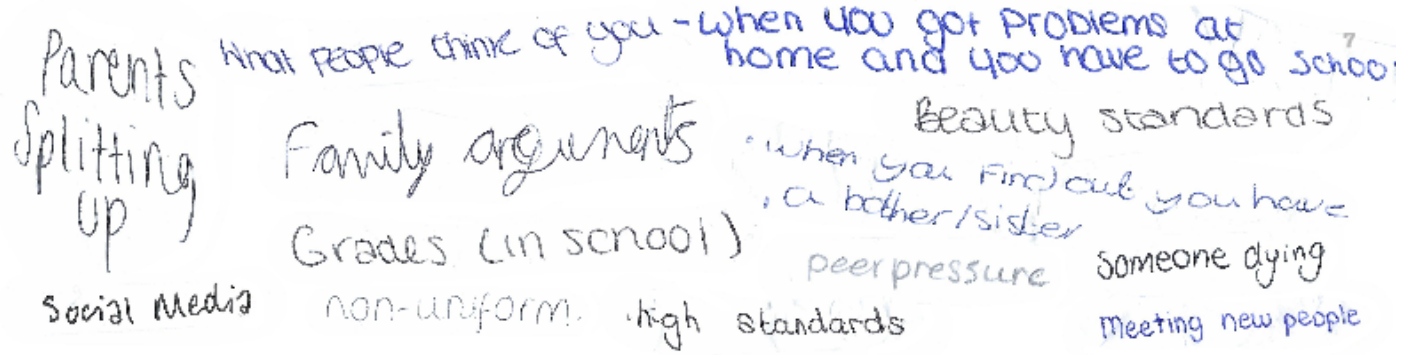
Very informative and got the children involved. There was a mix of activities, discussion, games and thinking. The children came away with strategies to help them.

UPPER KEY STAGE 2 LEAD
WATERFOOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

★★★★★

Engaging lessons on how to understand and manage worry and anxiety for years 9 and 10. A mix of age-appropriate discussion and activity. Well-presented and received.

ASSISTANT HEAD - PUPIL WELFARE
ALDER GRANGE SCHOOL



What do children worry about?

In each Emotional Wellbeing session, we give everyone a few minutes to write a list of things that make people their age feel anxious. Some students are happy to read their list out loud to the class, while others understandably prefer to remain anonymous. Either way, all the lists are collected into a large rucksack (to illustrate how we 'carry' our worries around with us) and used throughout the session to help us keep the session focused.

Back in the VISION office, we empty the rucksack and look through the lists. On average, each list has between 5-10 words or sentences (so for a year group of 150, we could have up to 1,500 responses). The vast majority of students take this seriously and are very honest, helping us build an accurate, up-to-date picture of what young people are worrying about.

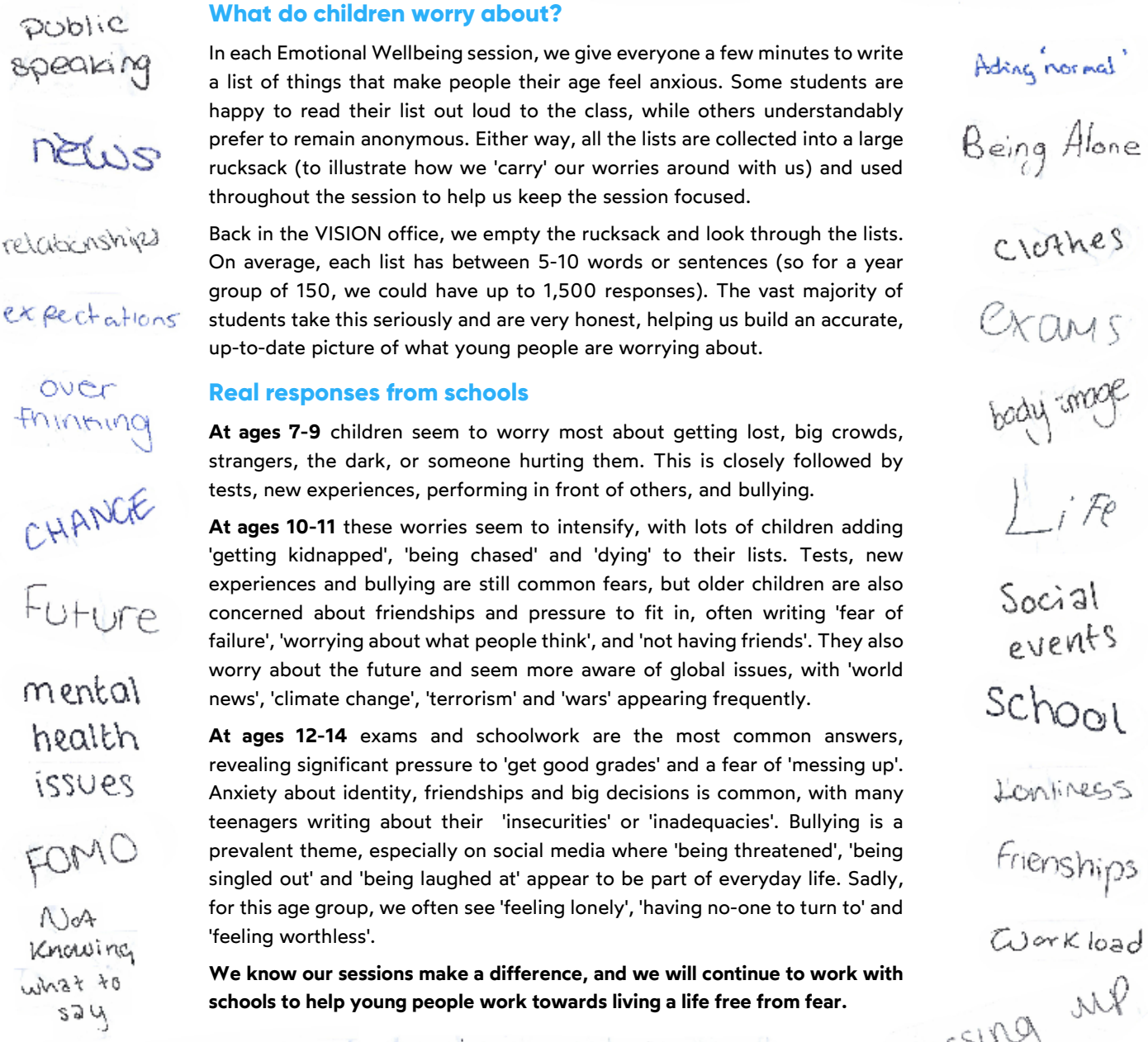
Real responses from schools

At ages 7-9 children seem to worry most about getting lost, big crowds, strangers, the dark, or someone hurting them. This is closely followed by tests, new experiences, performing in front of others, and bullying.

At ages 10-11 these worries seem to intensify, with lots of children adding 'getting kidnapped', 'being chased' and 'dying' to their lists. Tests, new experiences and bullying are still common fears, but older children are also concerned about friendships and pressure to fit in, often writing 'fear of failure', 'worrying about what people think', and 'not having friends'. They also worry about the future and seem more aware of global issues, with 'world news', 'climate change', 'terrorism' and 'wars' appearing frequently.

At ages 12-14 exams and schoolwork are the most common answers, revealing significant pressure to 'get good grades' and a fear of 'messing up'. Anxiety about identity, friendships and big decisions is common, with many teenagers writing about their 'insecurities' or 'inadequacies'. Bullying is a prevalent theme, especially on social media where 'being threatened', 'being singled out' and 'being laughed at' appear to be part of everyday life. Sadly, for this age group, we often see 'feeling lonely', 'having no-one to turn to' and 'feeling worthless'.

We know our sessions make a difference, and we will continue to work with schools to help young people work towards living a life free from fear.



COUNSELLING

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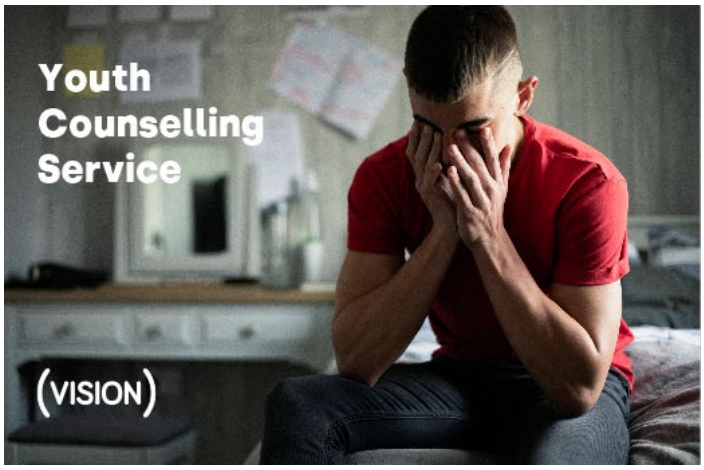

Our Youth Counselling Service

Emotional wellbeing sessions in schools can be highly effective, particularly for young people who feel anxious about everyday situations but otherwise have a strong support network in place (friends, family, youth activities) and have not been affected by any serious trauma. However, some young people require much more support, which is why we offer a Youth Counselling Service.

Our Youth Counselling Service was established during the pandemic and is led by Amy Moriarty, a professional psychotherapist and co-founder of VISION. In 2023, we focused all our efforts at The Valley Leadership Academy, one of our nearest secondary schools. Amy worked in school three days each week, conducting a total of 559 counselling sessions with 112 teenagers (more than double the sessions compared to 2022).

Young people are only referred to VISION for school-based counselling when classified as "high risk," meaning they are actively self-harming or struggling with suicidal thoughts, with some even having made attempts to end their lives. Each of these young people has a complex background, often involving experiences of abuse, neglect, or family issues such as domestic violence, mental illness, substance abuse, or criminal activity at home.

Regular sessions with a professional who genuinely listens and cares can be life-changing for a young person in crisis. Being able to express thoughts openly in a safe environment brings immense relief and often allows them to see their situation from a new perspective. Over time, counselling strengthens communication and interpersonal skills, builds confidence, and boosts self-esteem. With each session, young people gain resilience and can implement practical steps to manage anxiety, improve sleep, and find renewed motivation and hope. The impact of this service is reflected in the school feedback shared below.

The full cost of counselling is usually covered by the school; however, as in previous years, we were able to provide a number of free or discounted sessions thanks to a grant from St James' Place Charitable Foundation (received in 2022).

The counselling service provided by VISION YOUTH is invaluable to our school. I have worked with Amy for two years and seen first-hand the difference she makes to pupils in my year group. Our pupils would have no access to any counselling if we did not provide it at school, the ELCAS waiting list currently runs at two years in our area.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM, THE VALLEY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

There are no words that can explain or describe the value of having someone like Amy at The Valley. The students know and trust her. As Heads of Year, we are busy and not qualified to the extent of a counsellor. Knowing that my students have somebody that has time to build a caring relationship reassures me that we are half way to getting it right in school.

HEAD OF YEAR, THE VALLEY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Youth Emergency Fund

Alongside our counselling service, VISION also has a small Youth Emergency Fund. This allows Amy to offer same-day essential care packages for basic needs such as toiletries or food.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

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Work Experience

At the end of the summer term, we were privileged to have four work experience students join us. Jake and Rose (18) and Abi and Melody (16), have all been attending VISION activities for many years. Each young person volunteered for up to six days after completing their GCSEs or A-Levels, making an invaluable contribution to our end-of-term activities.

+ Abi, Jake, and Rose, along with five adult volunteers, supported Nathan and Matt in running our Emotional Wellbeing Day for **Waterfoot Primary School** in June. Using our own stage - complete with screens and lights - added an extra layer of excitement, and each class enjoyed two hours of games and activities (plus a choc ice break). For older children visiting for the second time, we introduced new content focused on smartphones, artificial intelligence, and social media. It was encouraging to see how much they remembered from their first visit—proof that these sessions are having a lasting impact.
+ Jake and Melody also visited **St Mary's CE Primary School** to assist Nathan and Matt with Emotional Wellbeing sessions for aged 9-11 (photo on top-right). During the visit, they were joined by Lancashire County Council's Champion for Young People, Cllr. Ash Sutcliffe, who'd arranged funding for these sessions and later shared his positive impressions on Facebook.
+ All four students also helped out in the office, helping to create the collage featured on page 10 and selecting photos and content for newsletters sent to our charity's supporters.

Work experience offers a valuable opportunity for young people to develop a range of skills in real-world settings. Through a blend of learning, rehearsing, and delivering content - with guidance and support from our team - they grow in confidence, learn to overcome challenges, gain a clearer understanding of their unique abilities, and build aspirations for the future.

Events for all ages

Mark's Gospel

In June, Matt Britton returned to VISION with a memorable live performance of Mark's Gospel as part of his nationwide tour. Recited word-for-word from the NIV Bible, his portrayal offered a moving experience for a "sell-out" audience of all ages at Woodlea Mission. Tickets were £5 for adults and £3 for young people.

Worship Nights

In April, we invited our volunteers to a simple Worship Night; an hour of songs led by our band, interspersed with short videos and Bible verses. In October, we ran the event again, this time extending the invitation to include all friends and supporters of VISION. The events were free of charge and included refreshments.

Women's Breakfasts

A small group of women meet every Tuesday afternoon to pray for VISION, and in 2023 this group organised three breakfasts for girls and women who support, volunteer and pray for the charity. The breakfasts included a time of encouragement and inspiration from the Bible and were free to attend.

FINANCES

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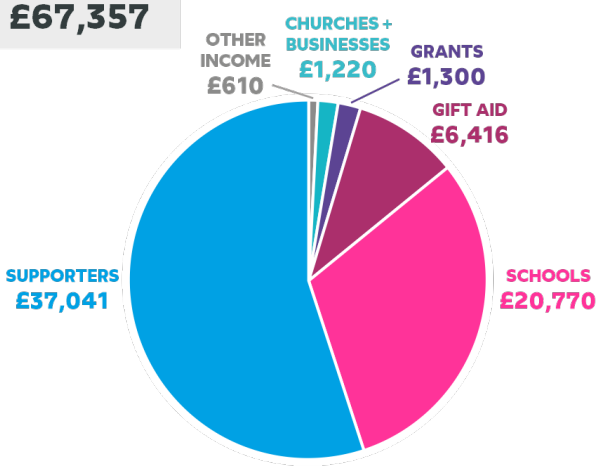
2023 INCOME

£67,357



FOR EVERY £1 SPENT IN 2023

£65,845

VISION received...

£37,041 from our amazing supporters; that's **£31,904** from monthly donations (standing orders and Direct Debits) and **£5,138** in one-off donations.
↑ £343 more than last year

£20,770 from schools for counselling services, Emotional Wellbeing sessions and R.E. sessions.
↑ £15,169 more than last year

£6,624 in Gift Aid from last year's donations.
↓ £208 less than last year

£1,300 in grants; **£1,000** from Lancashire County Council for Emotional Wellbeing in schools, and **£300** from the ASDA foundation (green token scheme).
↓ £30,988 less than last year *

£1,220 of corporate donations; **£700** from local businesses in response to our 'Cover the Cost' campaign, and **£520** from churches.
↓ £590 less than last year

£610 of other income from Amazon Smile, entry fees, cashback and interest.
↑ £328 more than last year

VISION spent...

£51,154 on staff costs. This primarily covers salaries and hiring sessional workers, but also includes training, DBS checks and out-of-pocket expenses such as travel costs.
↑ £3,661 more than last year

£5,452 on Woodlea Mission. This includes all development and refurbishment, plus day-to-day running costs (utility bills, cleaning, stock and supplies) along with licenses and subscriptions.
↓ £29,297 less than last year *

£5,204 on insurance and other professional services including accountants' fees and membership costs for ThirtyOne: Eight (safeguarding), Stewardship (legal and employment advice), and the Evangelical Alliance.
↑ £1,751 more than last year

£3,836 on resources, materials and equipment for charitable activities.
↓ £10,683 less than last year *

** Last year we received £27,173 from the Government's Youth Investment Fund to expand and improve our venue. This explains the significant drop in income from grants, and much lower spending on development/resources compared to this year.*

Financial position of the charity

More detailed information on the financial position of VISION is set out in the attached accounts.

Trustees' Policy on reserves

The policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue our charitable activities should income and fundraising fall short of the amounts needed to meet the costs of those activities in the short term. Projects requiring significant amounts of funding are only entered into when the income required to meet the associated expenditure is secured.

DEVELOPMENT

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Improvements to Woodlea Mission

As we reported last year, VISION successfully applied for £27,173 from the UK Government's *Youth Investment Fund* in 2022 which was set up to "create, expand and improve local youth facilities and their services in order to drive positive outcomes for young people." This enabled us to carry out substantial work on our building including impressive new signage and lighting, the installation of solar panels, refurbishment of walls and ceilings, computers for our office and new sofas for young people.

This left us with very few developments needed in 2023. In fact, the only noticeable change was the installation of two 'neon-style' LED signs. Some parts of this report may have made difficult reading, particularly in relation to our work in schools and counselling service. It can be easy to lose heart when we think about young people harming themselves, contemplating suicide, or feeling 'lonely', 'bullied' or 'worthless'. But the words on our signs were chosen by young people, and sum up why VISION exists: We want young people to know they are unique and precious, that their life matters, and that they have a purpose. As a Christian charity, we are inspired by Isaiah 61:1-3, a Bible passage that Jesus defined as his own mission statement: to bring good news; to heal broken hearts; to set captives free.

- **"Your life is precious"** - installed in the seating area next to our kitchen.
- **"Your life has purpose"** - installed in the lounge.

Safeguarding

We recognise that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. Our aim is that all children have a positive and enjoyable experience in a safe and child-centred environment, and are protected from any form of harm.

At the start of 2023, we already had in place:

- An internal safeguarding team, led by Amy (our youth counsellor).
- Membership of ThirtyOne:Eight (a national independent Christian safeguarding charity). This gives access to a Safeguarding Helpline along with DBS checks and up-to-date resources, templates and training. We have also signed up their 'Safer Places Pledge', which includes a commitment to put survivors first, make change happen, conceal nothing, speak up, take responsibility and hold each other accountable.
- A Safeguarding Pack which includes a safeguarding statement (a copy of which is publicly available on our website), a safeguarding policy and a range of safeguarding process documents.
- A Safer Recruitment Policy (including an interview, Eligibility Form, DBS check and regular training). All team members must complete this process. No other adult can help out, even informally.

In 2023, we made the following improvements and developments:

- We strengthened our safeguarding team by bringing in an independent officer who is not a VISION team member and is senior leader from a church outside of our working area.
- We developed a comprehensive new safeguarding log, linked to our existing database, which allows any VISION team member to quickly submit detailed reports using a QR code and digital report form.

Volunteers

VISION runs on the passion and dedication of ordinary people who believe that our small charity is making a big difference.

Alongside **Nathan** (full-time employee), **Amy** (sessional counsellor, 3 days/week) and **Matt** (sessional schools' worker) the charity is powered by a team of 36 volunteers - most of whom have been with VISION for 15+ years - who give their time freely to support young people in Rossendale. In 2023, their contribution added up to an incredible 3,880 voluntary hours! We would like to say a huge "thank you" to...

+ Karen and Steve Shepherd, the unsung heroes of VISION who have been working with children and teenagers for almost 50 years and are still our most active volunteers! Their passion, dedication, encouragement and wisdom know no bounds.
+ The core team of volunteers who helped run our weekly activities in 2023: Adam Shepherd, Alison and Stuart Aspin, Elizabeth Johnstone, Emma Shepherd, Jenny Broadhurst, Joseph Jones, Kathryn and Nathan Ashman, Lottie Quinn, Rose Shepherd, Suzie Elkington and Yvonne Lord.
+ Those who offer help with DIY, IT, and fundraising, especially Jane Shadlock, Matt Worrell and Paul Iddon.
+ The wider team of volunteers who are on standby to help wherever needed in a range of roles including safeguarding, event safety, music, production, registration, catering and much more. In 2023, this included Alan Davey, Amanda Shepherd, Christine McGuinness, Christine Moores, Ian Bury, Jake Burrell, Janet and Jim Barrie, Jason and Sarah Jones, Jenna and Josh Potts, Jess and Michael Aspin, Katie Heath, Nicole Mendez and Rachel Topham.

Last but not least, we would like to recognise all the young people who have volunteered on stage at events (as hosts, musicians, singers and puppeteers) and behind the scenes (as lighting/visual/sound engineers, stage managers and on the setup team). You play an integral part in VISION, and we couldn't run our events without you!

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PLANS FOR 2024

Charitable activities

As always, in 2024 we aim to:

- Help even more young people join in with our weekly youth activities like *Connect* and *Reach Puppets.*
- Work with even more pupils in classrooms at primary and secondary schools.
- Find ways to make our schools work and counselling more financially sustainable, relying less on grants which can be unpredictable and inconsistent, and gradually working towards a business model which encourages schools to contribute financially towards the services that benefit their pupils.
- Make sure that young people are continually given opportunities to be involved in volunteering.

Woodlea Mission

We have so many incredible rooms at Woodlea that are fully refurbished, have excellent facilities, and are in use regularly. There are just a few areas (like our storeroom and the cellar) which need to be de-cluttered and re-organised to maximise our space, with any equipment we no longer use being sold, donated or recycled.

Team

We will continue to offer in-house annual training to all of our volunteers, which includes basics on Fire Safety, Injuries and Illness, Security, and Safeguarding. We hope to increase the pool of volunteers to take some of the pressure off the existing team and to increase the number of activities we are able to run each week.

Systems, processes and policies

We will continue to develop our background systems and processes to cut admin time and increase efficiency. We will also keep developing our policies and protocols to make sure VISION is the safest possible place for young people.

Support

82 individuals or families donated to VISION in 2023; we sent out newsletters in summer and winter to thank them for their generosity and provide an update on the work of the charity. We also continued the tradition of designing our own Christmas Cards with Bible verses to send to all supporters in December. We will continue to look for new supporters to give monthly and hope to build on links with local businesses through 'Cover the Cost'. Our ultimate goal is to increase income so we can employ permanent youth workers to work alongside our existing team as we seek to offer hope and support to many more young people.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

DIRECTORS REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2023

HALLIWELL & COMPANY
ACCOUNTANTS & TAX ADVISORS LLP

IRWELL HOUSE
223 BACUP ROAD
RAWTENSTALL
LANCASHIRE
BB4 7PA

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Company Information

Directors
Ian Bury
Alan Davey
Jane Shadlock (Appointed 31.03.23)
Nathan Shepherd
Stephen Shepherd

Registered address
Woodlea Mission, Tenterfield Street, Rossendale, BB4 7BA

Bankers
Lloyds plc, Burnley, Lancashire.

Company Number
7315280

Charity Registered Number
1138523

Accountants
Halliwell & Company Accountants & Tax Advisors LLP
Irwell House, 223 Bacup Road, Rawtenstall, Lancashire, BB4 7PA.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

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1	Report of the directors
2	Independent Examiners Report
3	Statement of Financial Activities
4	Balance sheet
5-7	Notes to the accounts

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Report of the directors for the year ended 31st December 2023

The directors present their annual report together with the unaudited accounts of the company for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Principle Activities
The Charity was incorporated as a private company, limited by guarantee, on 15th July 2010.

On 12th August 2010 the trustees of Woodlea Mission donated their premises at Tenterfield Street, Rossendale to Vision Rossendale For £nil consideration.

On 1st January 2011 the "Vision" activities previously undertaken through St Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, and the assets related to them, were transferred to Vision (Rossendale) for £nil consideration. Also on that date the activities and assets of Engage Café operating on the Balladen Estate were transferred to the charity for £nil consideration. Since that date the company has continued activities to advance the Christian religion amongst young people in Rossendale.

Directors
The directors who held office through the year are as follows:

Ian Bury
Alan Davey
Jane Shadlock (Appointed 31.03.23)
Nathan Shepherd
Stephen Shepherd

This report was approved by the Board on the 26th September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

S Shepherd - Director
26th September 2024

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Independent Examiners Report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2023 which are set out in the following pages.

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent report

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 directors 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.

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 materials respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or

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

Halliwell & Company
Accountants & Tax Advisors LLP
Irwell House
223 Bacup Road
Rawtenstall
Lancashire
BB4 7PA

26th September 2024

VISION (ROSSENDALE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Incoming Resources						
Voluntary Income	(2)	44,677	0	0	44,677	45,392
Activities for generating funds		42	0	0	42	19
Grants		0	1,300	0	1,300	32,288
Incoming resources from charitable activities		0	0	0	0	0
Other incoming resources		21,338	0	0	21,338	5,754
Total Incoming Resources		**66,057**	**1,300**	**0**	**67,357**	**83,453**
Resources Expended						
Cost of generating voluntary income		0	0	0	0	0
Fundraising trading costs		0	0	0	0	0
Staff Costs		50,737	0	0	50,737	47,116
Charitable activities	(3)	15,108	0	0	15,108	46,791
Governance Costs		0	0	0	0	0
Other resources expended		5,758	0	0	5,758	6,307
Total Resources Expended		**71,603**	**0**	**0**	**71,603**	**100,214**
Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources Before Transfers		**(5,545)**	**1,300**	**0**	**(4,245)**	**(16,761)**
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds			0	0	0	0
Net Incoming resources before other recognised gains/losses		**(5,545)**	**1,300**	**0**	**(4,245)**	**(16,761)**
Other recognised gains/losses						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charities own use		0	0	0	0	0
Gains and losses on investment assets		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		**(5,545)**	**1,300**	**0**	(4,245)	**(16,761)**
Reconciliation of Funds						
Total funds brought forward from previous year		260,556	0	0	260,556	277,317
Total funds carried forward		**255,011**	**1,300**	**0**	**256,311**	**260,556**

The notes form part of these Financial Statements

VISION (ROSSENDALE)
BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £	Total Prior year £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	(5)	231,293	0	0	231,293	237,051
Investments		0	0	0	0	0
Total fixed assets		**231,293**	**0**	**0**	**231,293**	**237,051**
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock and work in progress		0	0	0	0	0
Debtors	(6)	7,112	0	0	7,112	6,416
(Short term) investments		0	0	0	0	0
Bank		12,830	5,846	0	18,676	17,860
Total current assets		**19,942**	**5,846**	**0**	**25,788**	**24,276**
CREDITORS-Amounts falling due within one year	(7)	770	0	0	770	771
NET CURRENT ASSETS		19,172	5,846	0	25,018	23,505
Total assets less current liabilities		**250,465**	**5,846**	**0**	**256,311**	**260,556**
CREDITORS-Amounts falling due after one year	(8)	0	0	0	0	0
Provisions for liabilities and charges		0	0	0	0	0
NET ASSETS		**250,465**	**5,846**	**0**	**256,311**	**260,556**
Funds of the charity						
General fund		255,011	1,300	0	256,311	260,556
Designated Funds		0	0	0	0	0
Restricted income funds		0	0	0	0	0
Endowment funds		0	0	0	0	0
Total funds		**255,011**	**1,300**	**0**	**256,311**	**260,556**

For the year ended 31st December 2023 the company was entitled to exemptions under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

No notice from members requiring an audit has been deposited under section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

The accounts were approved by the board on 26th September 2024 and signed on its behalf.

S Shepherd - Director

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation
These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown on market value) in accordance with:
Accounting and reporting by Charities - Statements of Recommended Practise (SORP 2005);
Financial Reporting Standards for smaller Enterprises (FRSSE);
and with the Charities act 1993.

Recognition of incoming resources
These are included in the statements of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources and related expenditure
Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations
Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts
Incoming resources from tax are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Tangible fixed assets for the use by charity
These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

Depreciation is provided at the following rates in order to wrote off each asset over its estimated useful life;

Freehold Building	2% on cost or revalued amount
Equipment	25% on cost

Goodwill
In accordance with the ASB's Statement of Principles for Financial Reporting Interpretation for Public Benefit Entities where the acquisition of entities is for nil or nominal consideration, the ecess for fair value of the assets acquired over the fair value of the liabilities assumed is treated as a gain and recognised as income.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

2. Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Voluntary Income					
Gifts and Donations	5,838	0	0	5,838	6,948
Regular Donations	31,904	0	0	31,904	31,150
Church Giving	520	0	0	520	560
Grants	0	1,300	0	1,300	32,288
Gift Aid Claims	6,416	0	0	6,416	6,734
Fundraising Income	42	0	0	42	19
Other Income	21,338	0	0	21,338	5,754
	66,057	**1,300**	**0**	**67,357**	**83,453**

3. Resources Expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Expenses Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Charitable Activities					
Woodlea Running Costs	4,182	0	0	4,182	6,713
Woodlea Development	2,186	0	0	2,186	24,178
Other Premises Costs	444	0	0	444	3,908
Computer, software and office equipment	555		0	555	6,862
Materials, printing and related costs	1,984	0	0	1,984	1,480
Travel and subsistence	418	0	0	418	377
other	5,339	0	0	5,339	3,273
	15,108	**0**	**0**	**15,108**	**46,791**

4. Staff Costs

4a. Wages and salaries

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and Salaries	50,737	47,116

4b. Payments to trustees

Travel expenses paid to trustees in respect of the normal activities of the charity amounted to Nil.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

5. Tangible Assets

	Property Cost	Land Cost	Equipment	Total
	£		£	£
Costs:				
At 1st January 2023	263,390	12,580	32,981	308,951
Additions	0	0		0
Disposals	0		0	0
At 31st December 2023	263,390	12,580	32,981	308,951
Depreciation:				
At 1st January 2023	44,433	0	27,467	71,900
Charge for the year	4,379	0	1,379	5,758
On disposals	0	0	0	0
At 31st December 2023	48,812	0	28,846	77,658
Net Book Values:				
At 31st December 2023	214,578	12,580	4,136	231,293
At 31st December 2022	218,957	12,580	5,514	237,051

6. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Debtors	7,112	6,416
	7,112	6,416

7. Creditors falling due within one year

	£	£
Accruals	648	648
PAYE and NI	0	0
Pension Contributions	122	123
	770	771

8. Creditors falling due after one year

	£	£
	0	0

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

England & Wales - Charity number 1138523

Accounts

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2022

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member of evangelical alliance
together making Jesus known

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

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Charity name	VISION (ROSSENDALE)
Working name	VISION
Registration	Registered in England and Wales no. 1138523
Registered office	Woodlea Mission, Tenterfield Street, Rossendale, BB4 7BA
Trustees	Jeanne Cottrell (chair), Ian Bury, Alan Davey, Nathan Shepherd, Stephen Shepherd The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, are named above. Appointment of Trustees is governed by the company's Articles of Association. The Board of Trustees meet on a regular basis to review the activities of the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document	Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 15 July 2010 (amended 20 March 2020)
Affiliation	VISION has been a member of the Evangelical Alliance since 2017
Accountants	Halliwell & Company Accountants and Tax Advisors LLP Irwell House, 223 Bacup Road, Rossendale, BB4 7PA
Team	In 2022 VISION's charitable activities were delivered by the following team members: Full-time employees (permanent): 1 Self-employed sessional workers: 2 Active volunteers: 32
History	The organisation became a registered charity in 2011 after running youth events in Rossendale for nine years. This report covers the 12th year of charitable activities undertaken by VISION (ROSSENDALE) taking into consideration a longer history of local youth work dating back to 2002.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aims

VISION is a Christian charity working with young people in Rossendale. We believe that the Christian faith offers hope, freedom and wholeness for every person, and as such we aim to:

> present the never-changing Christian gospel message to an ever-changing youth culture, using every opportunity and all available means of communication;

> inspire and equip young Christians to thrive in their schools, colleges and homes;

> build lasting, positive links with local churches and others who share our vision and aims.

Public benefit

VISION meets the Charity Commission's public benefit requirement under the categories of general charitable purposes, the advancement of education and training through structured programmes, and the advancement of religious understanding and engagement.

Charitable objectives

To advance the Christian religion amongst young people mainly but not exclusively of secondary school age, first and foremost in Rossendale (Lancashire) by all means including such religious and other charitable activities as the trustees may decide, in accordance with the statement of faith.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by
Mrs. NJ Shadlock (Chair) (Appointed 31 March 2023)

In loving memory of

Jeanne Cottrell

1947-2022

In December 2022, with heavy hearts, we said goodbye to our dear friend Jeanne.

Jeanne was our Chair of Trustees for 10 years, a role she carried out with skill and dedication. Jeanne preferred to work quietly behind the scenes, but we found a few photos in our archives which offer a glimpse into her immense contribution to VISION since our very first event 20 years ago.

Jeanne never missed an opportunity to help: serving food, making props and crafts, taking on fundraising challenges, teaching Bible stories, writing grant applications, interviewing team members, writing 'thank you' cards to supporters… the list goes on. We especially like the photo of Jeanne "trying out" the new zip wire at our Youth Alpha Weekend back in 2011. It's a testimony to the enthusiasm and energy she brought to VISION. She always had a smile on her face and a spring in her step.

Jeanne was committed to VISION because of her love for Jesus and her passion to see young people's lives transformed. At her funeral, Jeanne was described as a 'prayer warrior' – what a tribute to the way she prayed so earnestly and faithfully.

Jeanne passed away suddenly and unexpectedly. We will miss her every day. Our thoughts are with her husband, Jimmy, and all of her family and friends who loved her so dearly.

Thank you, Jeanne, for your advice, your wisdom, your laughter, your generosity, your love. You have left a legacy and paved the way for others to follow in your footsteps. You will never be forgotten. We will see you again soon.

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ABOUT VISION

Our building

VISION is based at Woodlea Mission (also known simply as 'Woodlea') pictured above in March 2022.

Woodlea Mission was built in 1894 near the spot where theologian and evangelist John Wesley famously preached to a 'large congregation of wild men' on 7 March 1747. The building was home to the *United Gospel Mission*, a Christian organisation consisting mainly of working people. It was extended in 1930 with new Sunday School rooms on two levels, and served as an independent church for 116 years. Woodlea was always maintained by its own members and volunteers, with no paid officials.

In 2010, the church held its last service and the trustees unanimously voted to donate the building to VISION to be used to reach young people with a Christian message of hope. Thanks to the generosity of our financial supporters and the hard work of many volunteers, the building has slowly been transformed into a fantastic, modern venue for children and teenagers.

The largest room is the hall, an open space which can be easily arranged with tables or up to 100 seats depending on the activity. The hall has a small stage equipped with a lighting rig, screens and a sound system. Next to the hall is our 'lounge', a smaller room with sofas and extra seating. Upstairs, a recently-installed mezzanine floor has a large office, staff kitchen and counselling room. Downstairs, there's a larger kitchen and seating for 50 visitors, and a doorway which leads outside to the garden.

Our team

In 2022 VISION had one full-time employee, Nathan Shepherd (pictured above leading an Emotional Wellbeing session). Nathan leads the charity and currently manages all day-to-day activities; he co-ordinates events and volunteers, engages with our supporters, and works with young people at Woodlea and in schools. One of our long-term goals is to raise enough funding to recruit additional staff who can share the workload and expand our capacity to reach more young people.

Also pictured above is Amy Moriarty, our youth counsellor. Amy is a self-employed professional psychotherapist who is paid by VISION on a sessional basis to work with young people in crisis. You can read more about her work on page 11.

Nathan and Amy were joined in schools this year by Matt Britton. Matt has 20+ years of school's work experience with *The Message Trust* and *In Yer Face Christian Theatre Company*. Matt also provided drama workshops for Inspire (see page 8).

There are no other paid staff – the rest of our team are all volunteers! Some are retired and able to give many hours each week, but most of our team have full-time jobs and give up a few hours at evenings and weekends to help at events. Most activities held at Woodlea simply wouldn't be possible without our volunteers who bring so much enthusiasm, experience, and care for the young people. Their names are listed on page 14.

INTRODUCTION

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A few words from Nathan...

On 21 December 2002 at 8pm, a group of teenage friends ran a small event called 'VISION' to help other young people find hope in Jesus. This paved the way for hundreds of other youth events and activities, from school weeks and huge open-air concerts to Youth Alpha courses, weekly worship nights and small groups... plus VISION KIDS and much, much more.

Over the last 20 years, VISION has reached an estimated 25,000 young people! Our work has developed and changed over two decades: the large, annual events gradually made way for smaller, more regular activities and schools work – but our mission remains the same. We know that young people still need hope and support - perhaps now more than ever. We must continue to listen to their voices and adapt our activities to help them navigate the new, post-pandemic world in which they find themselves, and to offer hope and stability in an unchanging and unshakeable God who loves them.

Here are just some of the highlights from 2022 which you'll read about in this report...

+ Our small team ran **524 youth activities** including weekly groups, large events, lessons in schools, and 1:1 counselling sessions.

+ We worked with **1,966** children and teenagers in six schools and at Woodlea Mission.

+ **21** young volunteers aged **8-17** were actively involved in every aspect of our largest events.

+ A Christmas video created by young puppeteers from *Reach* was viewed **63,368** times on YouTube!

+ We completed a **£29,000** refurbishment project in just 5 weeks following a short-term grant from the UK Government.

Above all else, I think this report demonstrates what can be achieved when ordinary people pray earnestly, devote their time selflessly, and give sacrificially to introduce young people to the life-changing message of the Christian faith.

Nathan Shepherd
Founder and Director

CONNECT (11-18s)

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Connecting young people

We want to help young people stay connected to each other and to Jesus. One way we achieve this is through *Connect*, held on Friday evenings in term time, which brings 11-18s together for games, inspiration from the Bible, opportunities to ask questions, and space to talk openly about life and faith. *Connect* welcomes every young person regardless of their beliefs, and for many it's a highlight of their week. Meeting regularly also helps to reduce social isolation, improve social skills, and forge strong friendships.

January - July

After 17 months on Zoom, *Connect* had returned to Woodlea in November 2021, but Government guidance still required everyone to wear face coverings and maintain social distancing which restricted many of our games and group discussions. This guidance was still in place when *Connect* re-started in 2022 after the Christmas break, but fortunately the rules were relaxed in mid-January and we could finally see and hear each other properly for the first time in almost two years! We were able to meet almost every week in spring and summer terms, focusing on Bible-based themes like 'Making It Count', 'Courage' and 'Hearing from God'.

September - December

After summer we were ready to try something different. Many of our team had been captivated by *The Chosen,* a crowd-funded TV series which portrays the life of Jesus - and those who knew him - in dramatic and authentic episodes. By September 2022, episodes from the first two seasons of *The Chosen* had been watched more than 400 million times worldwide, and we were excited to bring this content to *Connect*. So, instead of running activities upstairs in the hall, we moved downstairs to a smaller space with a larger screen and young people enjoyed weekly Movie Nights as we worked through season 1. As *The Chosen* is a drama series, some scenes, characters and plotlines have been carefully constructed for storytelling purposes, so we opened the Bible together after each episode to make sure young people knew which of the stories and characters are recorded in the Gospels. This was incredibly effective in helping the young people engage with the Bible in a new way, and *The Chosen* proved so popular with the group that we continued to watch seasons 2 and 3 in 2023!

Connect Specials

Beating Exam Anxiety

Many young people find the pressure surrounding exam season to be incredibly difficult to manage, which can leave them feeling overwhelmed, so in May we dedicated one Friday evening to 'Beating Exam Anxiety', using tried-and-tested content from our work in schools.

Festival Manchester

One rainy Friday in July we visited Wythenshawe Park for the opening night of *Festival Manchester*, a free open-air evangelistic event organised by *The Message Trust*. We had a brilliant night watching LZ7, Guvna B and Goodboys, and hearing the story of the Lost Son from the Bible.

Summer Social

As the school year came to a close in July, all young people who'd attended *Connect*, *Inspire* and *Reach Puppets* in 2022 were invited to a Summer Social at Woodlea, with games in the garden, home-made crazy golf in the hall, and 'Build-a-Burger' at supper time!

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REACH PUPPETS (10-18s)

About Reach Puppets

***Reach* is an award-winning puppetry group for young people.** The group meets every Tuesday night in term-time to work on exciting performances and videos. This provides young people with opportunities to build confidence, make friends, learn a variety of skills, work as a team, and enjoy the buzz of performing. *Reach* was founded in 1999 and became part of VISION in 2018.

The return of live performances

As we reported last year, the hands-on nature of puppeteering made it essential to get back to Woodlea as soon as it was safe to do so, and *Reach* was the first weekly activity to restart in person following the Covid-19 pandemic. However, there were still no large VISION events or church visits for the puppeteers to work towards, and so – other than performing two Christmas songs for parents in December - the group had continued to work on videos to be shown on our website and at local primary schools.

In 2022 our puppeteers could finally look forward to live performances, but many months of hard work was required to build arm strength and work on detailed choreography for a brand-new set of songs. This culminated in a large 'Summer Showcase' in July (see below) plus visits to church services and children's holiday clubs at Kay Street Baptist Church and Acre Mill Baptist Church.

New puppeteers

At the Summer Showcase, some of the older primary-aged children asked about joining *Reach*, so in September the minimum age was lowered to 10 so that children could start puppeteering in year 6, and we now have a consistent group of 17 puppeteers.

Highlights

Summer Showcase

Since 1999 *Reach Puppets* have created many memorable large-scale presentations, and this year was no exception. The 'Summer Showcase' featured 4 songs with puppets and 2 'glow-in-the-dark' performances interspersed with videos, a quiz, and the 'story of Reach'. There were 3 showings over 2 nights in July, attracting more than 200 visitors including 70 children.

Lite Nite

Everyone at VISION was excited for the return of *Lite Nite*, our scare-free alternative to Halloween (see page 9) and in September and October the puppeteers worked on two performances. The photo shows some of the puppeeters rehearsing for another new 'glow-in-the-dark' song, which as usual was performed in total darkness with stunning props illuminated by UV lights!

Christmas Video

During the pandemic, *Reach* videos had been seen by hundreds of primary school children as part of their Christmas assemblies, so in November-December the puppeteers worked on a new video for schools. We uploaded this to YouTube as usual, but astonishingly the song was watched more than 63,000 times, making it our most popular Reach video ever!

All videos are available to view at visionkids.org.uk/videos

INSPIRE (11-18s)

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Inspiring young people

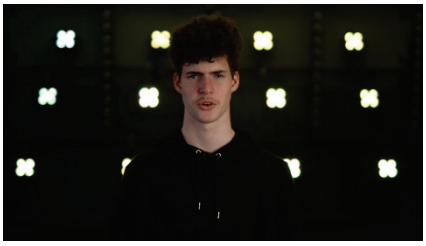
We want to help young people find purpose and equip them with skills and experience. One of the ways we achieve this is through *Inspire,* where 11-18s can develop a range of skills and demonstrate these in real-life settings. The combination of learning, rehearsing and showcasing - with coaching and encouragement from our team - helps young people grow in confidence, overcome challenges, better understand their unique skillset and build aspirations for the future.

Easter 2022

This year *Inspire* focused on a single event: an Easter celebration for all ages, the first large event held at Woodlea since Christmas Eve in 2019. After weeks of preparation, training, and support from our team, young people were involved in all of this...

+ **Music:** young singers and musicians joined VISION's band to lead worship and perform two tracks (see below).
+ **Theatre:** two young people performed a dramatic sketch based on the Easter story, written by Matt Britton.
+ **Speaking:** one young person wrote and delivered an inspirational Easter message (see below).
+ **Video:** many of the young people were involved in filming and editing short videos for the event (see below).
+ **Stage Managing:** young people were trained in stage management and helped with set changes throughout the night.
+ **Production:** young people helped with stage lighting, sound engineering and projection.
+ **Reach Puppets:** the event finished with a stirring UV performance by *Reach Puppets.*

Photos



Music

Our event started with a song called 'With Me All Along' which young people had recorded in lockdown and could now perform live on stage for the first time. The original video, filmed at home in 2021, was similtaneously played for the audience. This was a poignant reminder of how important it had been to stay in touch with young people and support them through months of lockdowns and uncertainty.

Videos

The event featured a series of short videos where young people read the Easter story directly from the Bible. One of our volunteers (a TV camera operator!) brought in some amazing professional equipment. The young people learned about the filming process and were involved in front of the camera (reading the verses) and behind the scenes (operating the camera, timing scenes, prompting the readers and editing the video).

Easter Message

The Biblical account of Jesus' death and resurrection was woven through the songs, theatre sketches, videos and performances, but it was still important to take a moment to explain how this can change our lives! One of the young people volunteered to take on this task, and worked with our team to write an excellent 10-minute Easter message which was delivered confidently and was very well-received by the audience.

'With Me All Along' is still available to view online at visionyouth.org.uk/videos

LITE NITE (4-11s)

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Lite Nite

Lite Nite is a super-exciting, action-packed Christian alternative to Halloween for children and families. Lite Nite started in 1991 and merged with VISION in 2014 when we launched VISION KIDS. Like all large-scale events, plans were interrupted by the pandemic; in 2020 the event was pre-recorded and watched online by hundreds of families, and in 2021 we were unable to run the event. However, the gap between events only increased the excitement for the return of Lite Nite in October this year!

What changed in 2022?

For nearly 30 years, Lite Nite was held on 31 October at 7pm, with no tickets required. For our 2022 re-launch, we made some changes: the event was held on the last Saturday of half term (28 October) so it wouldn't be on a school night; the start time moved an hour earlier to 6pm; the hot dog supper was replaced by cupcakes and a party bag (including sweet treats and Christian books); and parents could reserve free tickets online. These changes resulted in a much larger attendance than 2019. Our theme was 'Follow the Light' and followed the story of the 'Wise and Foolish Builders' in Matthew 7. Of course, some things never change, and the usual line-up of a live band, big games, memory verse, story, quiz and Reach Puppets proved as popular as ever!

Photos

Young people
21 young people aged 8-17 were involved in Lite Nite 2022, with roles including hosting, production, stage managing and Reach Puppets!

Reach Puppets
This photo is from the glow-in-the-dark finale from Reach, where young people use UV props and puppets to create a stunning performance!

Videos
This year's story was pre-recorded and read by two children (aged 8 and 10) with hand-drawn illustrations by one of our volunteers!

Back to school

After 18 months of disruption and livestreaming, 2022 saw an increased demand for Emotional Wellbeing sessions from primary and secondary schools, and VISION had the privilege of working with 1,700+ pupils in 6 schools.

To increase the impact of Emotional Wellbeing sessions, our team worked with each class twice. On our first visit we spoke about the 'panic button' in our body which triggers a stress response when we feel threatened or overwhelmed, or when we face new situations or sudden changes. Pupils anonymously wrote down situations that make them feel anxious. All the paper was placed into a large backpack, showing how we carry our fears around with us and how worry can easily build up and affect our health, mood, decisions and relationships. We addressed some of these worries during the lesson, and read through every answer afterwards.

On our second visit we gave practical ways to 'unpack' the backpack (i.e. reduce anxiety and increase resilience) using the latest scientific research. We used fun activities and visual demonstrations to help pupils understand why it's so important to breathe properly, get a good night's sleep, talk to someone they trust, know when to say "no", and take a screen break. In Church Schools, we also prayed with the pupils and reminded them that Jesus cares for us all and wants to help us.

Almost all sessions were held in school, but we do offer our own building for local pupils, and in February 90 children from Waterfoot Primary School walked down to Woodlea for their first ever 'Emotional Wellbeing Day' where we made the most of our stage, screens, lights (and kitchen!) to create a truly memorable experience for years 5 and 6.

★★★★★

Absolutely fantastic. The children and staff came back on a high and buzzing about ways they can reduce worries.

WATERFOOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

★★★★★

The workshops were excellent. The team were really good at reading the room so each class stayed informed and engaged.

THE VALLEY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

★★★★★

We really couldn't have asked for a more professional or inspirational organisation to work with our students.

BACUP & RAWTENSTALL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

★★★★★

Thank you for all your hard work. The team were really engaging, patient and fun, and have really helped the children.

ST ANNE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Schools can visit visionyouth.org.uk/emotional-wellbeing to book a session or find out more.

EXTRA SUPPORT

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Counselling

Our Emotional Wellbeing sessions help young people (1) identify situations that cause anxiety, (2) understand how the body responds to stress, and (3) learn techniques to support their mental health. This has proved very effective, especially for teenagers who also have a strong support network in place (friends, family, youth groups etc.) However, for some young people, the situations and obstacles in their lives are so serious that they require extra support on a one-to-one basis from a trained counsellor.

In our previous two reports we detailed how our Youth Counselling Service was set up in 2020. The service is run by Amy Moriarty, a professional psychotherapist and one of the founders of VISION. In 2022 Amy ran a total of 356 counselling sessions with 63 teenagers at The Valley Leadership Academy (one of our nearest secondary schools) and at Woodlea. Some sessions were free or discounted thanks to several grants including £2,500 from St James' Place Charitable Foundation (see page 12).

Young people are only referred to VISION for counselling at school in very complex circumstances. This includes those who are facing suicidal thoughts, self-harming, or in crisis as a result of abuse, neglect, or household dysfunction such as violence, mental illness, substance abuse or criminal activity at home. Talking regularly with a professional who wants to listen and genuinely cares can make all the difference to a young person in crisis. Saying thoughts 'out loud' in a safe place can bring a huge sense of relief and often helps young people see their situation from a different perspective. Talking regularly builds communication and interpersonal skills, and boosts confidence and self-esteem. Young people build resilience with each session, and are able to put practical steps in place to reduce anxiety, sleep better, and feel more motivated and hopeful.

The counselling support service provided by Amy via VISION has been imperative in supporting the young people within school. Feedback from pupils is always positive and we hear comments such as Amy is "helping me to manage when I struggle", "someone who understands me", and "someone who gives me time to talk".

SENIOR MENTAL HEALTH LEAD, THE VALLEY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Other support sessions

Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School is our nearest secondary school. In 2022, the school booked 10 days for our team to run Emotional Wellbeing sessions with every class in years 7-10, plus the new year 6 intake. The school also asked VISION to run workshops on 'Beating Exam Anxiety' for GCSE and A-Level students and their parents. These sessions were held at Woodlea in May and gained excellent feedback from students and parents.

★★★★★

As a parent who struggles with anxiety myself it was great and definitely something that should be rolled out.

PARENT

★★★★★

Excellent talk. Really useful techniques. Put across to students (and parents) in a different, less 'schooly' way.

PARENT

★★★★★

Well presented, interesting content and relatable. I liked the advice on what to do around revision and enjoyed the stories told.

STUDENT

★★★★★

Very informative and interesting. All 3 speakers were easy to listen to and the presentation had a relaxed, fun perspective.

PARENT

FINANCES

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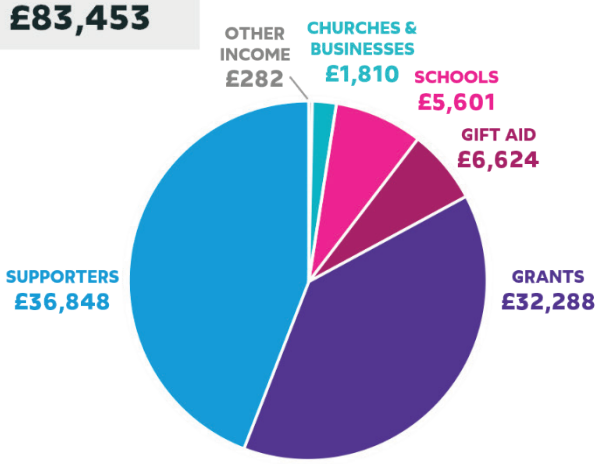
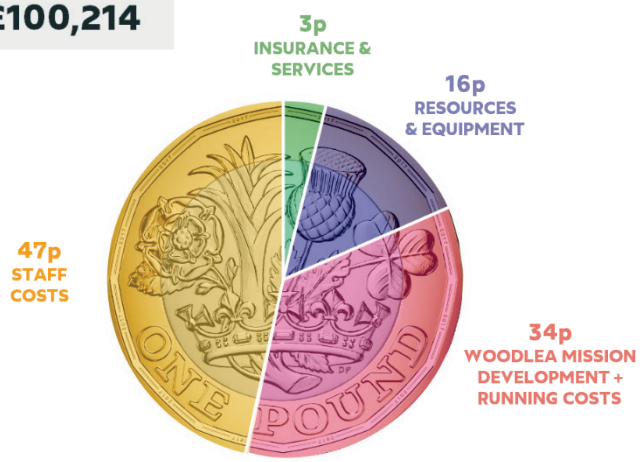
2022 INCOME

£83,453



FOR EVERY £1 SPENT IN 2022

£100,214



VISION received...

£36,698 from our amazing supporters; that's **£31,000** from monthly donations (standing orders and Direct Debits) and **£5,698** in one-off donations. This is an increase of nearly £2,000 compared to 2021.

£32,288 in grants; that's **£29,173** from UK Government (see page 13), **£2,500** from St. James Place Charitable Foundation to help provide free or subsidised counselling appointments for young people, and **£615** from Rossendale Borough Council towards Emotional Wellbeing projects.

£6,624 in Gift Aid from last year's donations.

£5,601 from Schools towards the cost of counselling and Emotional Wellbeing or RE lessons.

£1,810 of other donations; that's **£1,250** from local businesses in response to our 'Cover the Cost' campaign, and **£560** from churches.

£243 of other income from Amazon Smile, EasyFundraising, and the sale of old equipment.

VISION spent...

£47,493 on staff costs. This includes salaries, training, DBS checks and out-of-pocket expenses such as travel costs for employees and volunteers.

£34,749 on Woodlea Mission. This includes all development and refurbishment (see page 13), plus day-to-day running costs (utility bills, cleaning, stock and supplies) along with licenses and subscriptions.

£14,519 on resources, materials and equipment for charitable activities, including new laptops which were included as part of the grant from the Government's Youth Investment Fund (see page 13).

£3,453 on insurance and other professional services including accountants' fees and membership costs for ThirtyOne: Eight (safeguarding), Stewardship (legal and employment advice), and the Evangelical Alliance.

Financial position of the charity

More detailed information on the financial position of VISION is set out in the attached accounts.

Supporters

87 individuals or families donated to VISION in 2022; we sent out newsletters to thank them for their generosity and provide an update on the work of the charity. We also continued the tradition of designing our own Christmas Cards with Bible verses to send to all supporters in December.

Trustees' Policy on reserves

The policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue our charitable activities should income and fundraising fall short of the amounts needed to meet the costs of those activities in the short term. Projects requiring significant amounts of funding are only entered into when the income required to meet the associated expenditure is secured.

VENUE DEVELOPMENT

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Improvements to Woodlea Mission

In January 2022, the UK Government launched a *Youth Investment Fund* to "create, expand and improve local youth facilities and their services in order to drive positive outcomes for young people."

Phase 1 was designated for "building improvements, buying equipment and furnishings" but operated in an incredibly short timeframe, with youth organisations given just 5 weeks to spend funding. VISION successfully applied for £27,173 and despite the limited schedule we were able to make several noticeable improvements as summarised below:

Sir Jake Berry, our MP and Conservative Party Chair, posted this photo following his visit in October.

At our main entrance, new lighting and a handrail has improved safety for visitors, and impressive signage has made the venue more visible and attractive for young people. A matching sign was also installed at the back door with retrospective Planning Permission obtained in July 2022. Gutters and pipes were also painted to keep the entrance looking smart and welcoming.

The largest project was the installation of solar panels on the south-facing roof, an £8,000 upgrade which has already cut electricity costs by around a third. Around £4,000 was spent on a fresh coat of paint in the lounge, kitchen, staircases and office, and an LED lighting bar was installed outside where we display banners advertising our events and services.

Other significant improvements included new brickwork and lighting in the kitchen, IKEA sofas and blackout blinds in the lounge, removal of 1930s sliding doors to create more space, and safety features from fire exit signs to a digital door viewer. Last but not least we were able to buy 4 new computers including a laptop for schools work and a MacBook for video editing.

VISION TEAM

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Volunteers

VISION runs on the passion and dedication of ordinary people who believe that our small charity is making a big difference.

The charity is powered by an incredible team of volunteers - most of whom have been with VISION for 15 years or more – who continue to give their time freely to impact the lives of children and teenagers in Rossendale.

In 2022, approximately 3,300 voluntary hours were given to the charity, and the Trustees would like to recognise the efforts of:

+ Our core team of volunteers who help run activities like *Connect*, *Inspire* and *Reach Puppets* every week.
+ Everyone who volunteered 'behind the scenes' to help with admin, finances and fundraising.
+ The wider team of volunteers who are on standby to help at larger events like *Lite Nite*, and with DIY, IT, Safety, First Aid and more!

So... thank you to Adam Shepherd, Alan Davey, Alison Aspin, Christine McGuinness, Elizabeth Johnstone, Emma Shepherd, Ian Bury, Jane Shadlock, Jeanne Cottrell, Jenna Potts, Jenny Broadhurst, Jess Aspin, Joseph Jones, Josh Potts, Karen Shepherd, Kathryn Ashman, Lottie Quinn, Matt Worrell, Michael Aspin, Nathan Ashman, Paul Iddon, Steve Shepherd, Stuart Aspin, Suzie Elkington, and Yvonne Lord.

Last but not least, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the young people aged 8-17 who have volunteered on stage at events (as hosts, speakers, musicians, singers, actors, and Reach Puppeteers), behind the scenes (as lighting/visual/sound engineers, stage managers and on the setup team) and helped created videos (as readers, camera operators and video editors). You play an integral part in VISION, and we couldn't run our events without you!

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PLANS FOR 2023

The first 20 years of VISION have been incredible, a rollercoaster adventure of learning to rely entirely on our faithful, loving and generous God! But in some ways, it feels like we are still just getting started!

The world is still recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic, and we know that this generation of children and teenagers have missed out on so much, from educational opportunities to simply socialising with friends in person. We are yet to see the long-term effects of almost two years of lockdowns and restrictions on the wellbeing, mental health and development of young people, and when combined with the monumental cultural revolution brought about by social media - along with the pace at which new technologies like artificial intelligence and virtual reality are changing the world we live in - we must be ready to adapt to the new challenges and changes that lie ahead in 2023.

Charitable activities

Aims for 2023:

- We want to help more young people join in with our weekly youth events like *Connect*, *Inspire* and *Reach Puppets.*
- We hope to be able to work with even more pupils in classrooms at primary and secondary schools.
- Now that we've been able to run Lite Nite, a Reach Summer Showcase, and an Easter Celebration, we would love to see the return of other large all-age events and presentations, with a particular focus on worship and prayer.
- We will be focusing on ways to make our schools work and counselling more financially sustainable, relying less on grants which can be unpredictable and inconsistent, and gradually working towards a business model which encourages schools to contribute financially towards the services that benefit their pupils.
- As always, we want to make sure that young people are continually given opportunities to be involved in volunteering, and would like to enhance this further by offering work experience placements to older teenagers.

Woodlea Mission

Our building has benefitted from a significant amount of investment since being gifted to the charity in 2010, especially in 2020 and 2022 when we received large grants from the UK Government. We therefore do not have any development goals for the next 12 months, and instead want to put 100% of our time into making the most of this amazing venue and seeing it used to its full potential.

Team

We will continue to offer in-house annual training to all of our volunteers, which includes basics on Fire Safety, Injuries and Illness, Security, and Safeguarding. We hope to increase the pool of volunteers to take some of the pressure off the existing team and to increase the number of activities we are able to run each week.

Systems, processes and policies

We will continue to develop our background systems and processes to cut admin time and increase efficiency, particularly the digital system for registration and accounting which was built from scratch in 2020 and has proved to be incredibly effective. This not only ensures all data is collected, stored and used in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) but also makes it easier and faster for our team to process information and stay in touch with young people, parents/carers, volunteers and supporters.

We will also keep developing our safeguarding policies and protocols, and will aim to bring even more expertise into the safeguarding team to make sure VISION is the safest possible place for young people.

Support

We will continue to look for new supporters to give monthly and hope to build on links with local businesses through 'Cover the Cost'. Our ultimate goal is to increase income so we can employ permanent youth workers to support Nathan, Amy, and our team of volunteers, as we seek to offer hope and support to many more young people. We believe that Jesus really can heal broken hearts and set people free, and we want to see children and teenagers experience this for themselves.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

DIRECTORS REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2022

HALLIWELL & COMPANY
ACCOUNTANTS & TAX ADVISORS LLP

IRWELL HOUSE
223 BACUP ROAD
RAWTENSTALL
LANCASHIRE
BB4 7PA

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Company Information

Directors
Alan Davey
Jeanne Cottrell
Nathan Shepherd
Stephen Shepherd
Ian Bury

Registered address
Woodlea Mission, Tenterfield Street, Rossendale, BB4 7BA

Bankers
Lloyds plc, Burnley, Lancashire.

Company Number
7315280

Charity Registered Number
1138523

Accountants
Halliwell & Company Accountants & Tax Advisors LLP
Irwell House, 223 Bacup Road, Rawtenstall, Lancashire, BB4 7PA.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

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1	Report of the directors
2	Independent Examiners Report
3	Statement of Financial Activities
4	Balance sheet
5-7	Notes to the accounts

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Report of the directors for the year ended 31st December 2022

The directors present their annual report together with the unaudited accounts of the company for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Principle Activities
The Charity was incorporated as a private company, limited by guarantee, on 15th July 2010.

On 12th August 2010 the trustees of Woodlea Mission donated their premises at Tenterfield Street, Rossendale to Vision Rossendale For £nil consideration.

On 1st January 2011 the "Vision" activities previously undertaken through St Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, and the assets related to them, were transferred to Vision (Rossendale) for £nil consideration. Also on that date the activities and assets of Engage Café operating on the Balladen Estate were transferred to the charity for £nil consideration. Since that date the company has continued activities to advance the Christian religion amongst young people in Rossendale.

Directors
The directors who held office through the year are as follows:

Alan Davey
Jeanne Cottrell
Nathan Shepherd
Stephen Shepherd
Ian Bury

This report was approved by the Board on the 8th September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

N Shepherd - Director
8th September 2023

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Independent Examiners Report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2022 which are set out in the following pages.

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent report

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 directors 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.

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 materials respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or

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

Halliwell & Company
Accountants & Tax Advisors LLP
Irwell House
223 Bacup Road
Rawtenstall
Lancashire
BB4 7PA

8th Spetember 2023

VISION (ROSSENDALE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31st December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Incoming Resources						
Voluntary Income	(2)	33,415	11,977	0	45,392	43,929
Activities for generating funds		19	0	0	19	87
Grants		0	32,288	0	32,288	6,000
Incoming resources from charitable activities		0	0	0	0	0
Other incoming resources		5,754	0	0	5,754	2,413
Total Incoming Resources		**39,188**	**44,265**	**0**	**83,453**	**52,429**
Resources Expended						
Cost of generating voluntary income		0	0	0	0	57
Fundraising trading costs		0	0	0	0	0
Staff Costs		33,684	13,432	0	47,116	43,310
Charitable activities	(3)	17,618	29,173	0	46,791	23,728
Governance Costs		0	0	0	0	0
Other resources expended		6,307	0	0	6,307	7,008
Total Resources Expended		**57,609**	**42,605**	**0**	**100,214**	**74,103**
Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources Before Transfers		**(18,421)**	**1,660**	**0**	**(16,761)**	**(21,674)**
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds			0	0	0	0
Net Incoming resources before other recognised gains/losses		**(18,421)**	**1,660**	**0**	**(16,761)**	**(21,674)**
Other recognised gains/losses						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charities own use		0	0	0	0	0
Gains and losses on investment assets		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		**(18,421)**	**1,660**	**0**	(16,761)	**(21,674)**
Reconciliation of Funds						
Total funds brought forward from previous year		277,317	0	0	277,317	298,991
Total funds carried forward		**258,896**	**1,660**	**0**	**260,556**	**277,317**

The notes form part of these Financial Statements

VISION (ROSSENDALE)
BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £	Total Prior year £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	(5)	237,051	0	0	237,051	243,358
Investments		0	0	0	0	0
Total fixed assets		**237,051**	**0**	**0**	**237,051**	**243,358**
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock and work in progress		0	0	0	0	0
Debtors	(6)	6,416	0	0	6,416	6,306
(Short term) investments		0	0	0	0	0
Bank		11,610	6,250	0	17,860	28,983
Total current assets		**18,026**	**6,250**	**0**	**24,276**	**35,289**
CREDITORS-Amounts falling due within one year	(7)	771	0	0	771	1,330
NET CURRENT ASSETS		17,255	6,250	0	23,505	33,959
Total assets less current liabilities		**254,306**	**6,250**	**0**	**260,556**	**277,317**
CREDITORS-Amounts falling due after one year	(8)	0	0	0	0	0
Provisions for liabilities and charges		0	0	0	0	0
NET ASSETS		**254,306**	**6,250**	**0**	**260,556**	**277,317**
Funds of the charity						
General fund		258,896	1,660	0	260,556	277,317
Designated Funds		0	0	0	0	0
Restricted income funds		0	0	0	0	0
Endowment funds		0	0	0	0	0
Total funds		**258,896**	**1,660**	**0**	**260,556**	**277,317**

For the year ended 31st December 2022 the company was entitled to exemptions under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

No notice from members requiring an audit has been deposited under section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

The accounts were approved by the board on 8th September 2023 and signed on its behalf.

N Shepherd - Director

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation
These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown on market value) in accordance with:
Accounting and reporting by Charities - Statements of Recommended Practise (SORP 2005);
Financial Reporting Standards for smaller Enterprises (FRSSE);
and with the Charities act 1993.

Recognition of incoming resources
These are included in the statements of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources and related expenditure
Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations
Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts
Incoming resources from tax are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Tangible fixed assets for the use by charity
These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

Depreciation is provided at the following rates in order to wrote off each asset over its estimated useful life;

Freehold Building	2% on cost or revalued amount
Equipment	25% on cost

Goodwill
In accordance with the ASB's Statement of Principles for Financial Reporting Interpretation for Public Benefit Entities where the acquisition of entities is for nil or nominal consideration, the ecess for fair value of the assets acquired over the fair value of the liabilities assumed is treated as a gain and recognised as income.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022

2. Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Voluntary Income					
Gifts and Donations	6,948	0	0	6,948	7,233
Regular Donations	19,173	11,977	0	31,150	29,170
Church Giving	560	0	0	560	1,220
Grants	0	32,288	0	32,288	6,000
Gift Aid Claims	6,734	0	0	6,734	6,306
Fundraising Income	19	0	0	19	87
Other Income	5,754	0	0	5,754	2,413
	39,188	**44,265**	**0**	**83,453**	**52,429**

3. Resources Expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Expenses Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Charitable Activities					
Woodlea Running Costs	6,713	0	0	6,713	5,074
Woodlea Development	0	24,178	0	24,178	10,901
Other Premises Costs	3,908	0	0	3,908	3,922
Computer, software and office equipment	1,867	4,995	0	6,862	1,546
Materials, printing and related costs	1,480	0	0	1,480	414
Travel and subsistence	377	0	0	377	136
other	3,273	0	0	3,273	1,735
	17,618	**29,173**	**0**	**46,791**	**23,728**

4. Staff Costs

4a. Wages and salaries

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and Salaries	47,116	43,310

4b. Payments to trustees

Travel expenses paid to trustees in respect of the normal activities of the charity amounted to Nil.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022

5. Tangible Assets

	Property Cost	Land Cost	Equipment	Total
	£		£	£
Costs:				
At 1st January 2022	263,390	12,580	32,981	308,951
Additions	0	0	0	0
Disposals	0		0	0
At 31st December 2022	263,390	12,580	32,981	308,951
Depreciation:				
At 1st January 2022	39,964	0	25,629	65,593
Charge for the year	4,469	0	1,838	6,307
On disposals	0	0	0	0
At 31st December 2022	44,433	0	27,467	71,900
Net Book Values:				
At 31st December 2022	218,957	12,580	5,514	237,051
At 31st December 2021	223,426	12,580	7,352	243,358

6. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Debtors	6,416	6,306
	6,416	6,306

7. Creditors falling due within one year

	£	£
Accruals	648	648
PAYE and NI	0	682
Pension Contributions	123	0
	771	1,330

8. Creditors falling due after one year

	£	£
	0	0

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

England & Wales - Charity number 1138523

Accounts

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2021

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member of evangelical alliance
together making Jesus known

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

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Charity name	VISION (ROSSENDALE)
Working name	VISION
Registration	Registered in England and Wales no. 1138523
Registered office	Woodlea Mission, Tenterfield Street, Rossendale, BB4 7BA
Trustees	Jeanne Cottrell (chair), Ian Bury, Alan Davey, Nathan Shepherd, Stephen Shepherd The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, are named above. Appointment of Trustees is governed by the company's Articles of Association. The Board of Trustees meet on a regular basis to review the activities of the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document	Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 15 July 2010 (amended 20 March 2020)
Affiliation	VISION has been a member of the Evangelical Alliance since 2017
Accountants	Halliwell & Company Accountants and Tax Advisors LLP Irwell House, 223 Bacup Road, Rossendale, BB4 7PA
Team	In 2021 VISION's charitable activities were delivered by the following team members: Full-time employees (permanent): 1 Part-time employees (fixed term): 3 Self-employed sessional workers: 1 Active volunteers: 25
History	The organisation became a registered charity in 2011 after running youth events in Rossendale for nine years. This report covers the 11th year of charitable activities undertaken by VISION (ROSSENDALE) taking into consideration a longer history of local youth work dating back to 2002.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aims

VISION is a Christian charity working with young people in Rossendale. We believe that the Christian faith offers hope, freedom and wholeness for every person, and as such we aim to:

> present the never-changing Christian gospel message to an ever-changing youth culture, using every opportunity and all available means of communication;

> inspire and equip young Christians to thrive in their schools, colleges and homes;

> build lasting, positive links with local churches and others who share our vision and aims.

Public benefit

VISION meets the Charity Commission's public benefit requirement under the categories of general charitable purposes, the advancement of education and training through structured programmes, and the advancement of religious understanding and engagement.

Charitable objectives

To advance the Christian religion amongst young people mainly but not exclusively of secondary school age, first and foremost in Rossendale (Lancashire) by all means including such religious and other charitable activities as the trustees may decide, in accordance with the statement of faith.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by
Mrs. Jeanne Cottrell (Chair)

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ABOUT VISION

Our building

VISION is based at Woodlea Mission (also known simply as 'Woodlea') pictured above in March 2022.

Woodlea Mission was built in 1894 near the spot where John Wesley famously preached to a 'large congregation of wild men' on 7 March 1747. The building was home to the *United Gospel Mission*, a Christian organisation consisting mainly of working people. It was extended with new Sunday School rooms on two levels in 1930, and served as an independent church for 116 years. Woodlea was always maintained by its own members and volunteers, with no paid officials.

In 2010, the church held its last service and the trustees unanimously decided to donate the building to VISION to be used to reach young people with the good news of the Gospel. Thanks to the generosity of our financial supporters and the hard work of many volunteers, the building has slowly been transformed into a fantastic, modern venue for children and teenagers, and features in most of the photos you'll see in this report. Our main hall can seat around 100 people and has a small stage equipped with a lighting rig, screens and a sound system. There's a connected side hall with space for extra seating or rehearsals. A recently-installed mezzanine floor (2016) has a large office, staff kitchen and counselling room. Downstairs, a well-equipped kitchen with seating leads outside to the newest addition to Woodlea - our garden (read more about this on page 11).

Our team

VISION has one full-time employee, Nathan Shepherd (pictured above). Nathan leads the charity and currently manages all day-to-day activities. Nathan co-ordinates events and volunteers, engages with our supporters, and of course works directly with young people at Woodlea and in schools. Our long-term goal is to raise funding to bring in more permanent members of staff who can share the workload and expand our capacity to reach more young people.

Also pictured is Amy Moriarty, our youth counsellor. Amy is a self-employed professional psychotherapist who is paid by VISION on a sessional basis to work 1:1 with young people in crisis. You can read more about her work later in this report.

For the first 3 months of 2021, Nathan and Amy were joined by a 'Youth Support Team' thanks to a Government Grant. Jade, Marvin and Sarah worked for VISION on a part-time basis from December 2020 until March 2021.

There are no other paid staff – the rest of our team are all volunteers! Some are retired and able to give many hours each week, but most of our team have full-time jobs and give up their time at evenings and weekends to help at events. Many activities, especially our weekly youth events like *Connect*, *Reach* and *Inspire* simply wouldn't be possible without our volunteers, who bring so much enthusiasm, experience, and care for the young people. Their names are listed at the end of this report.

Our history

In 2002, a youth group from Rossendale wanted to run a worship night that would help other teenagers see church in a different light. They planned a small event in the church hall at Christmas, and called it 'VISION'. Further events were planned, and within a few months, hundreds of young people were attending the 'youth event with a difference'. By 2005, VISION had gained so much momentum that huge mission weeks were being organised in local schools, followed by open-air concerts attended by thousands of pupils. These annual missions continued for five years and were a springboard for countless other VISION activities from *Youth Alpha* courses and small groups, to a weekly youth café and even a Sunday evening church service. Established local children's events were also brought together under the banner of 'VISION KIDS'.

Since 2010 we've been developing new activities as Woodlea has slowly been refurbished, and although our core team is smaller and many activities have changed, our heart remains the same. VISION has impacted 25,000+ young people in the last 19 years, and our goal is to keep building on that foundation as we aim to see more young people find hope and new life in Jesus.

INTRODUCTION

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A few words from Nathan...

"God has put his Spirit in me [and] appointed me to tell the good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort those whose hearts are broken, to tell the captives they are free, and to tell the prisoners they are released." ***ISAIAH 61:1 - YOUTH BIBLE***

As a Christian charity, we believe that all those who choose to follow Jesus are given the same mission statement, and the Bible verse above has become a focal point for VISION in recent years as the world seems desperate for good news.

Back in 2020, our commitment to this mission was tested like never before. We were concerned that the loss of normality and routine, and the isolation that followed, could be overwhelming for many children and teenagers... yet as a charity we also faced restrictions and obstacles that seemed impossible to overcome. By the grace of God and the perseverance of our team, we were somehow able to find a way to keep hope alive as we found new ways to support and encourage young people.

This year, with schools closing in January after just one day, we faced new challenges. With the novelty of Zoom and working from home wearing thin, there was growing uncertainty over how much longer restrictions might last, and a feeling that perhaps life might not be the same again. Nevertheless, VISION is here to help young people when they need it most - and so we had to adapt all over again, holding plans loosely and being ready to change everything at a moment's notice. As a result:

+ Our small team ran **242 sessions** including weekly youth events, lessons for schools, mentoring and counselling.

+ We worked with **1,911** children and teenagers on Zoom, in schools, and at Woodlea Mission.

It wasn't easy. The photos above are taken from a music video we made this year (see *Inspire* on page 7) where we'd asked young people to write something they'd found hard during lockdowns. On the flip side, they each wrote a single line: "you were with me all along". This line – taken from the song title - refers to Jesus, who has once more proved his faithfulness, never leaving our side even on the darkest days. And as 2021 unfolded, restrictions did ease and old freedoms were regained, finally bringing us all back together in person – we hope now, for good! We trust that this report will leave you feeling encouraged and inspired.

Nathan Shepherd
Founder and Director

CONNECT (11-18s)

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Connecting young people

We want to help young people stay connected to each other and to Jesus. One way we achieve this is through *Connect*, a weekly youth event which brings together small groups of 11-18s for games, inspiration from the Bible, opportunities to ask questions, and space to talk openly about life and faith. *Connect* welcomes every young person regardless of their beliefs, and for many it's a highlight of their week, helping them understand more about God. Meeting regularly also helps to reduce social isolation, improve social skills, and forge strong friendships.

On Zoom

Connect remained on Zoom from January-July 2021, with young people and volunteers faithfully logging in to enjoy games, talks, interviews and discussions, all livestreamed from the office at Woodlea on Friday evenings. No-one anticipated that *Connect* would stay on Zoom for 17 months, but as we look back we can see that this was one of the most important activities we've ever run. *Connect* consistently brought young people together when they needed it most, bringing much-needed laughter and respite, and providing hope and purpose through the challenges of the pandemic.

Back to Woodlea

Our *Summer Social* in July was a brief but welcome opportunity to see one another in person (see page 7) but *Connect* didn't restart in person until November. Even then activities were restricted, with face coverings and social distancing still in place, creating new challenges - especially for discussions. Nevertheless, we were joined by some new faces and the young people were delighted to be moving back towards some sense of normality. The year finished with a memorable Christmas special at Woodlea.

Themes

Here are the main themes we covered at *Connect* in 2021...

What does the Bible say?

At *Connect* we try to cover topics that are important and relevant to young people, but we always ask: "what does the Bible say?" We believe God speaks to us through His Word, so every week we use Bible verses and stories to bring timeless insight, wisdom and truth into everyday situations.

Ready to Grow?

Jesus famously told a story about seeds to warn us about things that stop us from growing strong. In our first Zoom series of 2021 we asked: What competes for our attention? What distracts us? How can we go beyond temporary, shallow experiences to see real growth and impact the world around us?

Under Pressure

In our second Zoom series we focused on pressure that teenagers can feel:

> Pressure to look good
> Pressure to drink alcohol
> Pressure to have sex
> Pressure to achieve

This was a high-impact series prompting a new level of honesty from young people who told us they found it very helpful.

Fear Not

When *Connect* restarted in person, we were 21 months into a pandemic that had taken fear to a whole new level. So, for our final series of 2021, we looked at ordinary people in the Bible who did extraordinary things because God said "don't be afraid" – or in some translations, "Fear NOT".

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REACH PUPPETS (11-18s)

About Reach Puppets

***Reach* is an award-winning puppetry group for ages 11-18.** The group meets every Tuesday night in term-time to work on exciting performances and videos. This provides young people with opportunities to build confidence, make friends, learn a variety of skills, work as a team, and enjoy the buzz of performing. *Reach* was founded in 1999 and became part of VISION in 2018.

On Zoom

Reach continued on Zoom from January-July 2021. Games were fun, but puppetry proved difficult (telling right from left can be tricky when videos are mirrored, wired headphones present a challenge, and there's no interaction with other puppets!) But even so, young people and volunteers logged in every Tuesday and like other weekly Zoom activities, we can now see that the benefits went far beyond the puppeteering; it was another consistent place where young people knew they could be themselves, see their friends, and be confident that our team would be looking out for them - and praying for them - during very difficult times.

Back to Woodlea

However, due to the hands-on nature of puppeteering, it was important to get back to Woodlea as soon as it was safe to do so, and *Reach* was the first weekly activity to restart in person. After a great deal of planning over summer, young people were able to return to Woodlea at the start of the new school year. Despite face coverings, social distancing and other restrictions, puppeteers rehearsed and filmed three new videos between September-December (see below). A particular highlight was the evening that family members were invited into Woodlea at the end of the weekly rehearsal to watch performances of two Christmas songs - the first time puppeteers had performed to a live audience for nearly 2 years!

Vision Kids Videos

With puppeteers now able to work together again, there were opportunities to create new content for *Vision Kids at Home* ...

Vision Kids: Easter Special

Our *Vision Kids at Home* presenters (Nathan and Kathryn) and two of our puppeteers (Melody & Theo) are all in the same family! They worked together to make a brilliant video for Easter which was viewed by more than 100 families online.

Help is on the Way

We couldn't run Lite Nite this year, so in October we released two new *Reach* videos. The first song, *Help is on the Way*, reminds us that we can trust God to help us. His timing is perfect and as the lyrics say, "He's never early and never late".

This Little Light

For 30 years Lite Nite taught children that Jesus is the Light of the World, and this inspired our second video. Performed in total darkness, with props illuminated by UV lights, the song has a stunning 'glow-in-the-dark' effect!

Light of Christmas

Our final video of the year was filmed for *Vision Kids at Home* in December. A link was also emailed to local primary schools and was seen by hundreds of children and families as part of Christmas assemblies.

All videos are available to view on *Vision Kids Catch Up* at visionkids.org.uk

INSPIRE (11-18s)

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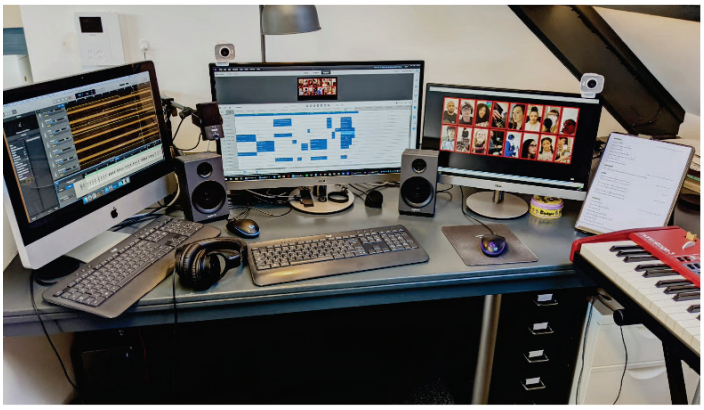

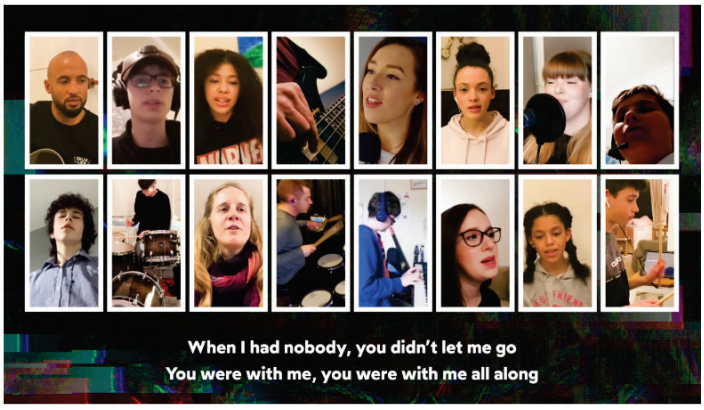

Inspiring young people

We want to inspire young people to find purpose, and equip them with skills and experience. One of the ways we achieve this is through *Inspire,* where 11-18s can develop a range of skills and demonstrate these in real-life settings. The combination of learning, rehearsing and showcasing - with coaching and encouragement from our team - helps young people grow in confidence, overcome challenges, better understand their unique skillset, and build aspirations for the future.

New music video

Back in 2020 we produced two *Inspire* music videos, with instruments and vocals recorded at home. These songs caught the imagination of the Baptist Union, and this year we were invited to make a new music video for the National Baptist Assembly. We chose *'With Me All Along'* by MOBO Award-Winning artist *Guvna B*, and once again started the process of learning the song over Zoom, creating a guide track, then recording at home. To include those who don't sing or play an instrument, we asked some of the young people to write something they'd found difficult during the pandemic on a piece of card (see Introduction on page 4). After carefully piecing together 80+ video clips from 23 young people and team members, we submitted the finished video. Our song was used to open the final session of the conference, and has been viewed almost 20,000 times on YouTube!

'With Me All Along' is available to view online at visionyouth.org.uk/videos

SUMMER SOCIAL (11-18s)

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Together again!

When the school year ended in July, restrictions began to ease and there was an opportunity to run a *Summer Social* to briefly bring together all the young people from *Connect*, *Inspire* and *Reach* for the first time in 15 months. It was a very exciting occasion, especially as many of the young people were seeing friends in person for the first time in well over a year! But there was another cause for celebration as this was the first youth event to make full use of the new garden (a small patch of land behind Woodlea which was purchased by VISION in 2018 and transformed into a fantastic outdoor space). We cooked pizzas, burgers and hot dogs, enjoyed games and quizzes, and handed out 'Zoom Award' certificates – a wonderful evening!

SCHOOLS

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On Zoom

Back in 2020 when pupils first returned to classrooms, we'd trialled an adapted version of our Emotional Wellbeing sessions using Zoom for year 6 at Waterfoot Primary School. The technology worked well and pupils were very responsive to the content, which paved the way for more livestreams this year. As well as revisiting Waterfoot Primary, we streamed multiple sessions for Sharneyford Primary and St Mary's CE Primary School. Zoom sessions for schools usually run with around 30 pupils, but when St. Wilfrid's CE Academy asked if their whole school could take part, we set up 4 sessions with 500 pupils joining each time live from their classrooms!

Back to school

When restrictions on school visits eased, Sharneyford Primary asked if we could run our Emotional Wellbeing session in person with years 3-4. At the time, this was the youngest group to participate in our Emotional Wellbeing sessions, but the children were so engaged that we have now extended the age range for this topic to include any group aged 8+.

The school year finished with two visits to St. Christopher's CE High School for their annual "Spirituality Week". With secondary school pupils still required to wear face coverings, we asked for special permission for classes to use their mobile phones to vote for a discussion topic on the theme of 'Under Pressure. Pupils could also use their phones to ask anonymous questions during the lesson. This gave each session a feeling of spontaneity and interactivity, and staff were so impressed that Nathan was asked to return to school at the end of the week to give an inspirational end-of-year message to all pupils and staff.

★★★★★

Interesting, sensitive and relevant to our school. Pupils thought the presenter was engaging and liked the interaction.

ST WILFRID'S CE ACADEMY

★★★★★

It was just what our pupils and staff needed to hear. As well as top quality content, it was expertly communicated every time.

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CE HIGH SCHOOL

★★★★★

Fun, interactive, engaging sessions. The practical elements were very good and visual. A winner with the children!

SHARNEYFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

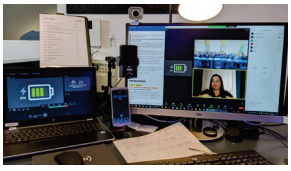
★★★★★

The sessions were very well planned and led. The children found it really engaging, informative and helpful.

WATERFOOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Photos

For almost 2 years, Nathan's office has doubled up as a 'studio' for livestreams on Zoom.



The Government grant helped us buy high quality equipment for professional livestreaming.

With face masks required, mobile phones in classrooms actually improved engagement!

Nathan spoke to every year group at St. Christopher's at the end of term in July.

Schools can visit visionyouth.org.uk/emotional-wellbeing to book a session or find out more.

EXTRA SUPPORT

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What is extra support?

Our Emotional Wellbeing sessions for schools are designed to help young people (1) identify situations that cause anxiety, (2) understand how the body responds to stress, and (3) learn techniques to support their emotional wellbeing and mental health. This approach has proved very effective, especially for teenagers who also have a strong support network in place (friends, family, youth groups etc.) However, for some young people, the situations and obstacles in their lives are so serious that they require extra support on a 1:1 basis, from weekly mentoring with a youth worker to professional support from a trained counsellor.

Funding

Providing consistent extra support over a long period of time can be very costly and not all parents can afford to pay for weekly sessions. To ensure we can help those who need it most, we've worked hard to find alternative sources of funding:

Government Funding: In last year's report we detailed the support received from the UK Government's *Coronavirus Community Support Fund*. This was temporary funding with a six-month time limit on spending but was nevertheless an opportunity for VISION to increase short-term support and trial new services. We received £37,319 to cover staff, running costs, Covid safety measures, online resources, and any necessary building work or maintenance from 1 October 2020 – 31 March 2021.

Cover the Cost: In June 2021 we launched a new campaign inviting local businesses to 'Cover the Cost' of supporting young people. Several businesses responded, donating £2,530 in total. One company (Trickett's Insurance Brokers) also paid for a billboard advertisement in Rawtenstall Town Centre (see photo above) which ran for three weeks and raised our profile locally.

NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG): In September 2021, we received a £5,000 NHS grant, administered by Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service (BPRCVS), to provide free or subsidised counselling and related support.

Counselling

As we reported last year, one of VISION's founders and longest-serving volunteers, Amy Moriarty, is a professional counsellor who had already been leading our Safeguarding and Pastoral Care Team. After receiving the Government Funding back in 2020, we invited Amy to set up a Youth Counselling Service on a self-employed, sessional basis, and Amy was ready to accept referrals within a few weeks of VISION receiving the grant.

In 2021, the Youth Counselling Service has developed significantly. For the first 3 months, the Government funding enabled us to offer all counselling sessions free of charge. After the spending deadline on 31 March, some of the young people continued to access the service at Woodlea, and Amy was invited to work with students at The Valley Leadership Academy one day each week with invoices paid by the school. Thanks to our 'Cover the Cost' campaign and the NHS CCG grant, Amy was able to continue running discounted counselling sessions at the school throughout 2021, with additional free and discounted sessions held at Woodlea. In total, Amy ran 120+ counselling sessions in 2021 which helped 56 individual young people.

Additional youth workers

As detailed in last year's report, a large proportion of the Government Grant was used to employ three additional youth workers on a part-time basis to increase short-term support. Jade, Marvin and Sarah were employed as a 'Youth Support Team' from December 2020 until the end of the grant period in March 2021. With a national 'lockdown' announced just 4 weeks after joining VISION, the team faced many challenges on top of the temporary basis of their employment, but were still able to help seven very vulnerable young people by offering frequent 1:1 mentoring sessions and working with parents and social workers. The team also contributed to Zoom sessions for schools, filmed content for future lessons, and helped with admin and social media. It was hard to say goodbye after such a short time, but as a charity we gained insight from this project that will help us in future and we trust that Jade, Sarah and Marvin have also benefitted from the experience of supporting young people with VISION.

FINANCES

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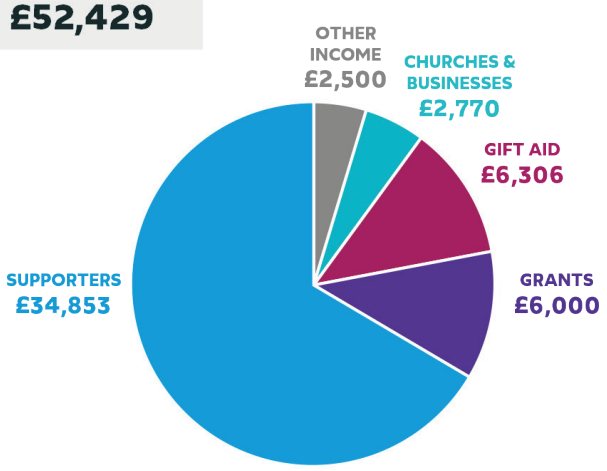
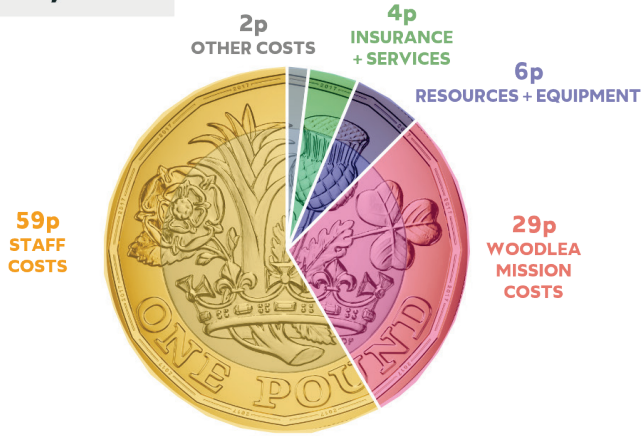
2021 INCOME

£52,429



FOR EVERY £1 SPENT IN 2021

£74,103



VISION received...

£34,853 from our amazing supporters; that's **£29,170** from monthly donations (standing orders and Direct Debits) and **£5,683** in one-off donations. Despite the financial pressures of the pandemic, donations to VISION increased by almost £10,000 in 2021, bringing the total amount raised to almost double pre-Covid donation levels (based on figures from 2019).

£6,000 in grants; that's **£5,000** from NHS East Lancs. CCG (see Extra Support on page 9) for Youth Counselling and **£1,000** from Lancashire County Council for Emotional Wellbeing.

£6,306 in Gift Aid from last year's donations.

£2,770 of other donations; that's **£1,550** from local businesses in response to our 'Cover the Cost' campaign, and **£1,220** from churches.

£2,500 of other income; that's **£1,780** from schools to cover Youth Counselling and Emotional Wellbeing, and **£720** from Amazon Smile, EasyFundraising, and the sale of old equipment.

VISION spent...

£43,310 on staff costs. This includes salaries, training, DBS checks, and out-of-pocket expenses such as travel costs for employees and volunteers.

£21,443 on Woodlea Mission running costs. This includes day-to-day costs (utility bills, cleaning, stock and supplies) along with licenses, subscriptions and all development costs.

£4,683 on resources, materials and equipment.

£3,131 on insurance and other professional services including accountants' fees and membership costs for ThirtyOne: Eight (safeguarding), Stewardship (legal and employment advice), and the Evangelical Alliance.

£1,536 on other costs including fundraising (not visible on chart).

Financial position of the charity

More detailed information on the financial position of VISION is set out in the attached accounts.

Supporters

More than 100 people donated to VISION in 2021. We wrote to each person every term to thank them for their generosity and provide an update on the work of the charity. We also continued the tradition of designing our own Christmas Cards with Bible verses to send to financial supporters and volunteers in December.

Trustees' Policy on reserves

The policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue our charitable activities should income and fundraising fall short of the amounts needed to meet the costs of those activities in the short term. Projects requiring significant amounts of funding are only entered into when the income required to meet the associated expenditure is secured.

CHARITY DEVELOPMENT

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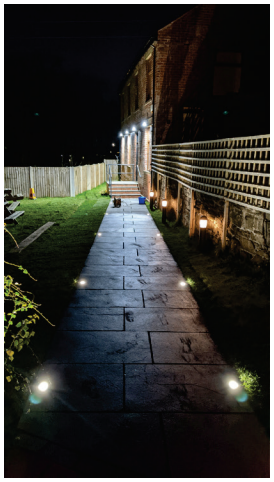
Woodlea Mission

One of the goals we set out last year was to make VISION more visible and accessible for the next generation and their families. Thanks to the Government funding received in 2020, we were able to continue the development of Woodlea Mission in the first three months of 2021. New equipment was purchased and a number of improvements and repairs were made to improve functionality throughout the venue, but the most notable developments were as follows:

+ A new path was constructed (see photos below) providing all-weather access through the garden.
+ New lighting was installed on the path and on the rear of the building for safety and security.



Training

Last year we invested in external training resources, allowing our team to choose from 20 online courses - from First Aid and Food Safety, to Personal Development and Customer Service - which could be completed in their own time from home. In addition to these courses, VISION offered funded training places for core team members including:

+ "PG Workshop" by *Visible Ministries*, focusing on the effects of pornography and how parents and youth workers can help
+ "A Mind of Their Own" by *Care for the Family*, helping adults understand emotional challenges faced by young people

Covid-19 Safety

Our team have always worked incredibly hard to make sure our activities are safe. In 2021 we continued to stay up-to-date with the latest information from the National Youth Agency (in partnership with Public Health England) to provide information for youth organisations via free webinars and comprehensive guidance documents. A great deal of time and attention was taken every day to ensure our building was as safe as possible for our team and for visitors, particularly when offering counselling for young people or filming performances.

Links with churches

2021 saw the return of the "Leaders Lunch" which brings together clergy and other church leaders from across Rossendale. This is a great opportunity to strengthen links between those involved in local Christian ministry, and team members from VISION have attended whenever possible for more than 10 years. Nathan also spoke at two church services in 2021: first, at Kay Street Baptist Church in May (broadcast live on YouTube) where he was interviewed following a specially-filmed video outlining our work with young people, and then at Helmshore Christian Fellowship in July.

Other developments

One of our long-term goals has been to streamline our background systems and processes to cut admin time and increase efficiency. In 2021 we continued to develop the new digital system for registration and accounting which we'd built from scratch in 2020. This not only ensures all data is collected, stored and used in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) but also makes it easier and faster for our team to process information and stay in touch with young people, parents/carers, volunteers and supporters.

SNAPSHOTS

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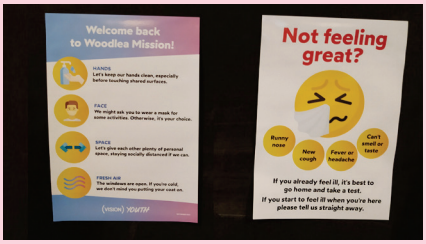
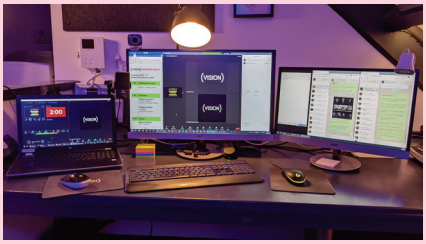
As rules changed throughout the year, we worked hard to make sure VISION was as safe as possible. We set up a covid testing area for team members, introduced recyclable face masks alongside existing PPE, and ensured signage always displayed the most up-to-date rules and guidance.



Once again - despite all the restrictions and disruption - Woodlea Mission remained open throughout the year come rain or shine (or snow!) for our team to offer hope and provide support for young people.

We continued to use green screens to create professional-looking videos. For live events, various rooms at Woodlea were once again used as 'studios' as we streamed into homes and classrooms.



Although we had been able to offer counselling and mentoring in person, there was such a relief and sense of excitement when we were finally able to get the building ready for larger activities. We began outdoors with the Summer Social in August, followed by refresher training (and lots of food!) to welcome back our regular volunteers in September. Weekly youth events like *Reach Puppets* and *Connect* were then able to restart.

VISION TEAM

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Volunteers

VISION runs on the passion and dedication of ordinary people who believe that our small charity is making a big difference.

The charity is powered by an incredible team of volunteers - most of whom have been with VISION for 15 years or more – who continue to give their time freely to impact the lives of children and teenagers in Rossendale.

The Trustees would like to recognise the efforts of everyone who volunteered in 2021: those who gave up many hours of their time to help run weekly youth events (on Zoom and at Woodlea); those who worked behind the scenes to create videos or help with admin, finances and fundraising; and those on standby to help with DIY, IT, Safety, First Aid and more…

Adam Shepherd, Alan Davey, Alison Aspin, Christine McGuinness, Elizabeth Johnstone, Emma Shepherd, Ian Bury, Jane Shadlock, Jeanne Cottrell, Jenna Potts, Jenny Broadhurst, Jess Aspin, Joseph Jones, Josh Potts, Karen Shepherd, Kathryn Ashman, Lottie Quinn, Matt Worrell, Michael Aspin, Nathan Ashman, Paul Iddon, Steve Shepherd, Stuart Aspin, Suzie Elkington, Yvonne Lord.

Last but not least, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the young volunteers aged 11-17: thank you to all our *Reach Puppeteers* and young people from *Inspire* who helped create some fantastic videos under very challenging circumstances!

PLANS FOR 2022

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As we reflect on the last two years, we can see that some of our long-term goals have been achieved despite the pandemic. However, most plans have needed to be adapted, postponed or even cancelled – sometimes at very short notice. At the start of the Covid-19 outbreak we expected some short-term disruption, but it is increasingly clear that the virus has not gone away and that we need to hold our plans lightly. With this in mind, this section is once again much shorter than usual, with our plans for 2022 laid out in broad terms.

Charitable activities

In 2022 we aim to hold as many activities in person as possible. Weekly youth events like *Connect*, *Inspire* and *Reach Puppets* will continue at Woodlea, and we hope to be able to work with more pupils in classrooms at primary and secondary schools. We'd love to see the return of larger events like Lite Nite, as well as all-age events and presentations. In particular, we want to make sure that young people have opportunities to be involved in our bigger events, as they always have been in the past - this is crucial as restrictions ease, providing teenagers with something exciting to focus on and look forward to.

Woodlea Mission

Our building has benefitted from a significant amount of investment since being gifted to the charity in 2010. The next step is to make the venue more visible by installing permanent signage. We'd also like to improve lighting in the kitchen, create more comfortable seating areas in the lounge, and replace older computer equipment.

Support

We will continue to look for new supporters to give monthly and hope to build on links with local businesses through 'Cover the Cost'. Our ultimate goal is to increase income so we can employ permanent youth workers to support Nathan, Amy, and our team of volunteers, as we seek to offer hope and support to many more young people. We believe that Jesus really can heal broken hearts and set people free, and we want to see children and teenagers experience this for themselves.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

DIRECTORS REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2021

HALLIWELL & COMPANY
ACCOUNTANTS & TAX ADVISORS LLP

IRWELL HOUSE
223 BACUP ROAD
RAWTENSTALL
LANCASHIRE
BB4 7PA

Company Information

Directors
Ian Bury
Jeanne Cottrell
Alan Davey
Nathan Shepherd
Stephen Shepherd

Registered address
Woodlea Mission, Tenterfield Street, Rossendale, BB4 7BA

Bankers
Lloyds plc, Burnley, Lancashire.

Company Number
7315280

Charity Registered Number
1138523

Accountants
Halliwell & Company Accountants & Tax Advisors LLP
Irwell House, 223 Bacup Road, Rawtenstall, Lancashire, BB4 7PA.

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1	Report of the directors
2	Independent Examiners Report
3	Statement of Financial Activities
4	Balance sheet
5-7	Notes to the accounts

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Report of the directors for the year ended 31st December 2021

The directors present their annual report together with the unaudited accounts of the company for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Principle Activities
The Charity was incorporated as a private company, limited by guarantee, on 15th July 2010.

On 12th August 2010 the trustees of Woodlea Mission donated their premises at Tenterfield Street, Rossendale to Vision Rossendale For £nil consideration.

On 1st January 2011 the "Vision" activities previously undertaken through St Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, and the assets related to them, were transferred to Vision (Rossendale) for £nil consideration. Also on that date the activities and assets of Engage Café operating on the Balladen Estate were transferred to the charity for £nil consideration. Since that date the company has continued activities to advance the Christian religion amongst young people in Rossendale.

Directors
The directors who held office through the year are as follows:

Ian Bury
Jeanne Cottrell
Alan Davey
Nathan Shepherd
Stephen Shepherd

This report was approved by the Board on the 11th July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

N Shepherd - Director
29th July 2022

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Independent Examiners Report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2021 which are set out in the following pages.

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent report

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 directors 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.

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 materials respect, the requirements:
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or

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

Halliwell & Company
Accountants & Tax Advisors LLP
Irwell House
223 Bacup Road
Rawtenstall
Lancashire
BB4 7PA

29th July 2022

VISION (ROSSENDALE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31st December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Incoming Resources						
Voluntary Income	(2)	49,929	0	0	49,929	70,889
Activities for generating funds		87	0	0	87	368
Investment income		0	0	0	0	0
Incoming resources from charitable activities		0	0	0	0	0
Other incoming resources		2,413	0	0	2,413	1,019
Total Incoming Resources		**52,429**	**0**	**0**	**52,429**	**72,276**
Resources Expended						
Cost of generating voluntary income		57	0	0	57	54
Fundraising trading costs		0	0	0	0	0
Staff Costs		43,310	0	0	43,310	22,188
Charitable activities	(3)	23,728	0	0	23,728	21,962
Governance Costs		0	0	0	0	0
Other resources expended		7,008	0	0	7,008	6,977
Total Resources Expended		**74,103**	**0**	**0**	**74,103**	**51,181**
Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources Before Transfers		**(21,674)**	**0**	**0**	**(21,674)**	**21,095**
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds			0	0	0	0
Net Incoming resources before other recognised gains/losses		**(21,674)**	**0**	**0**	**(21,674)**	**21,095**
Other recognised gains/losses						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charities own use		0	0	0	0	0
Gains and losses on investment assets		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		**(21,674)**	**0**	**0**	(21,674)	**21,095**
Reconciliation of Funds						
Total funds brought forward from previous year		298,991	0	0	298,991	277,896
Total funds carried forward		**277,317**	**0**	**0**	**277,317**	**298,991**

The notes form part of these Financial Statements

VISION (ROSSENDALE)
BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £	Total Prior year £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	(5)	243,358	0	0	243,358	247,538
Investments		0	0	0	0	0
Total fixed assets		**243,358**	**0**	**0**	**243,358**	**247,538**
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock and work in progress		0	0	0	0	0
Debtors	(6)	6,306	0	0	6,306	5,125
(Short term) investments		0	0	0	0	0
Cash at bank and in hand		19,064	9,919	0	28,983	47,529
Total current assets		**25,370**	**9,919**	**0**	**35,289**	**52,654**
CREDITORS-Amounts falling due within one year	(7)	1,330	0	0	1,330	1,201
NET CURRENT ASSETS		24,040	9,919	0	33,959	51,453
Total assets less current liabilities		**267,398**	**9,919**	**0**	**277,317**	**298,991**
CREDITORS-Amounts falling due after one year	(8)	0	0	0	0	0
Provisions for liabilities and charges		0	0	0	0	0
NET ASSETS		**267,398**	**9,919**	**0**	**277,317**	**298,991**
Funds of the charity						
General fund		267,398	9,919	0	277,317	298,991
Designated Funds		0	0	0	0	0
Restricted income funds		0	0	0	0	0
Endowment funds		0	0	0	0	0
Total funds		**267,398**	**9,919**	**0**	**277,317**	**298,991**

For the year ended 31st December 2021 the company was entitled to exemptions under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

No notice from members requiring an audit has been deposited under section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

The accounts were approved by the board on 29th July 2022 and signed on its behalf.

N Shepherd - Director

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation
These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown on market value) in accordance with:
Accounting and reporting by Charities - Statements of Recommended Practise (SORP 2005);
Financial Reporting Standards for smaller Enterprises (FRSSE);
and with the Charities act 1993.

Recognition of incoming resources
These are included in the statements of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:
- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources and related expenditure
Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations
Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts
Incoming resources from tax are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Tangible fixed assets for the use by charity
These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

Depreciation is provided at the following rates in order to wrote off each asset over its estimated useful life;

Freehold Building	2% on cost or revalued amount
Equipment	25% on cost

Goodwill
In accordance with the ASB's Statement of Principles for Financial Reporting Interpretation for Public Benefit Entities where the acquisition of entities is for nil or nominal consideration, the ecess for fair value of the assets acquired over the fair value of the liabilities assumed is treated as a gain and recognised as income.

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021

2. Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Voluntary Income					
Gifts and Donations	7,233	0	0	7,233	5,961
Regular Donations	29,170	0	0	29,170	18,964
Church Giving	1,220	0	0	1,220	240
Grants	6,000	0	0	6,000	40,059
Gift Aid Claims	6,306	0	0	6,306	5,665
Fundraising Income	87	0	0	87	368
Other Income	2,413	0	0	2,413	1,019
	52,429	**0**	**0**	**52,429**	**72,276**

3. Resources Expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Charitable Activities					
Youth Events	0	0	0	0	0
Vision Kids	0	0	0	0	0
Woodlea Running Costs	5,074	0	0	5,074	8,082
Woodlea Development	10,901	0	0	10,901	1,490
Other Premises Costs	3,922	0	0	3,922	5,325
Computer, software and office equipment	1,546	0	0	1,546	3,143
Materials, printing and related costs	414	0	0	414	0
Travel and subsistence	136	0	0	136	685
other	1,735	0	0	1,735	3,237
	23,728	**0**	**0**	**23,728**	**21,962**

4. Staff Costs

4a. Wages and salaries

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and Salaries	43,310	22,188

4b. Payments to trustees

Travel expenses paid to trustees in respect of the normal activities of the charity amounted to Nil.

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021

5. Tangible Assets

	Property Cost	Land Cost	Equipment	Total
	£		£	£
Costs:				
At 1st January 2021	263,390	12,580	30,152	306,122
Additions	0	0	2,829	2,829
Disposals	0		0	0
At 31st December 2021	263,390	12,580	32,981	308,951
Depreciation:				
At 1st January 2021	35,405	0	23,179	58,584
Charge for the year	4,559	0	2,450	7,008
On disposals	0	0	0	0
At 31st December 2021	39,964	0	25,629	65,592
Net Book Values:				
At 31st December 2021	223,426	12,580	7,353	243,358
At 31st December 2020	227,985	12,580	6,973	247,538

6. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Debtors	6,306	5,125
	6,306	5,125

7. Creditors falling due within one year

	£	£
Accruals	648	648
PAYE and NI	682	553
	1,330	1,201

8. Creditors falling due after one year

	£	£
	0	0

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

England & Wales - Charity number 1138523

Accounts

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2020

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member of evangelical alliance
together making Jesus known

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name	VISION (ROSSENDALE)
Working name	VISION
Registration	Registered in England and Wales no. 1138523
Registered office	Woodlea Mission, Tenterfield Street, Rossendale, BB4 7BA
Trustees	Mrs. Jeanne Cottrell (chair), Mr. Ian Bury (appointed 24 April 2020), Mr. Alan Davey, Mr. Nathan Shepherd, Mr. Stephen Shepherd The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, are named above. Appointment of Trustees is governed by the company's Articles of Association. The Board of Trustees meet on a regular basis to review the activities of the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document	Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 15 July 2010
Affiliation	VISION has been a member of the Evangelical Alliance since 2017
Accountants	Halliwell & Company Accountants and Tax Advisors LLP Irwell House, 223 Bacup Road, Rossendale, BB4 7PA
Staff	Four employees worked for VISION in 2020 (one full-time/permanent; three part-time/fixed-term)
Volunteers	29 volunteers gave their time to help run VISION activities and events in 2020
History	The organisation became a registered charity in 2011 after running youth events in Rossendale for nine years. This report covers the tenth year of charitable activities undertaken by VISION (ROSSENDALE) taking into consideration a longer history of local youth work dating back to 2002.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aims

VISION is a Christian charity working with young people in Rossendale. We believe that the Christian faith offers hope, lasting freedom and wholeness for every person, and as such we aim to:

> present the never-changing Christian gospel message in an ever-changing youth culture, using every opportunity and all available means of communication;

> inspire and equip young Christians to thrive in their schools, colleges and homes;

> build lasting, positive links with local churches and others who share our vision and aims.

Public benefit

VISION meets the Charity Commission's public benefit requirement under the categories of general charitable purposes, the advancement of education and training through structured programmes, and the advancement of religious understanding and engagement.

Charitable objectives

To advance the Christian religion amongst young people mainly but not exclusively of secondary school age, first and foremost in Rossendale (Lancashire) by all means including such religious and other charitable activities as the trustees may decide, in accordance with the statement of faith.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by
Mrs. Jeanne Cottrell (Chair)

INTRODUCTION

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A year like no other

"God has put his Spirit in me [and] appointed me to tell the good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort those whose hearts are broken, to tell the captives they are free, and to tell the prisoners they are released." ***ISAIAH 61:1 - YOUTH BIBLE***

As a Christian charity, we believe that all those who choose to follow Jesus are given the same mission statement: to share the good news of the gospel, to comfort the broken-hearted, and to help others find lasting freedom. As such, Isaiah 61:1 has become a focal point for VISION in recent years as the world seems desperate for good news.

This year, our commitment to this mission statement was tested like never before. As 2020 unfolded, we all faced a rapidly-escalating crisis as Covid-19 brought fear and uncertainty across the globe. With many young people already facing a daily battle with anxiety, we were concerned that the loss of normality and routine, and the isolation that followed, could be overwhelming for many children and teenagers... yet as a charity we also faced restrictions and obstacles that seemed impossible to overcome.

Nevertheless, VISION is here to help young people when they need it most - and so, like so many other organisations in our position, we had to find a way to keep going. Thankfully, by the grace of God and the perseverance of our team, we were somehow able to keep hope alive as we found new ways to support and encourage local young people (who seem to have adapted incredibly well under the circumstances). It hasn't been easy, and even as we write this report, the pandemic is far from over, but we believe that the same Jesus who won our trust, and has proven faithful all these years, is still with us now, so we must continue to pray for peace in the chaos and offer help to those who need it most.

About this report

Here are just some of the highlights from 2020 that you'll read about in this report:

+ Our team ran **111 events and activities** at Woodlea Mission, in local schools... and for the first time, on Zoom!
+ We created **22 videos** which were watched by **1,600+ children and teenagers** and many others around the UK and the world.
+ The charity became an employer and paid **5 team members** alongside our incredible team of volunteers.
+ We launched a **youth counselling service** to support 11-18s in crisis.

We trust that this report will leave you feeling encouraged and inspired,

Nathan Shepherd
Founder and Director

CONNECT (11-18s)

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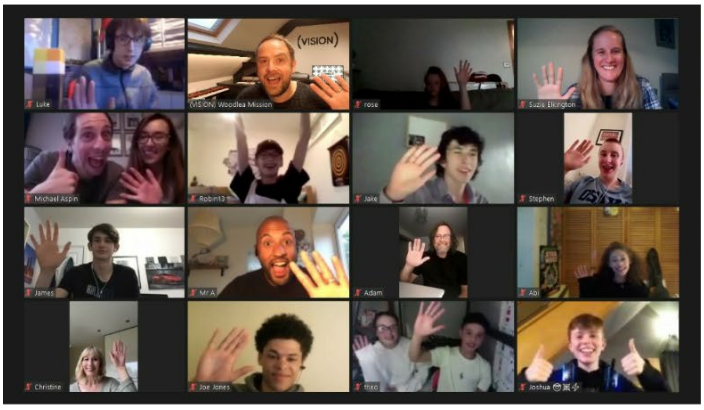
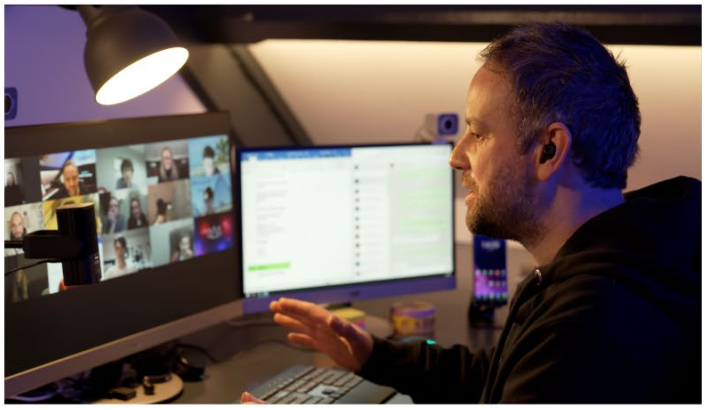




Connecting young people

We want to help young people stay connected to each other and to their Christian faith. To achieve this, we run *Connect* which brings together small groups of 11-18s on Friday nights for games, challenges, inspiration from the Bible, and space to talk honestly about life or ask questions about God. For many young people, *Connect* is a highlight of the week, helping them grow in their faith as well as reducing social isolation, improving social skills, and forging strong friendships.

Before the pandemic

In 2019 we'd introduced two new monthly events for 11-18s on Friday nights at Woodlea Mission (*Inspire* and *Friday Night Worship*) with *Connect* running on Fridays in between. After an extended Christmas break, *Connect* restarted in February when we announced an exciting line up of events leading up to Easter.

Moving online

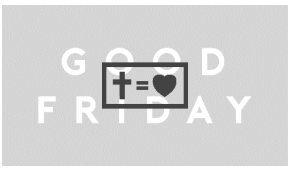
After just six Fridays, the first lockdown forced our plans to change. *Friday Night Worship* was postponed and we invited the young people to join us on Zoom to try out *Connect* online. Thankfully, everyone adapted quickly to livestreaming and we continued to log on every Friday night in term-time for the rest of the year.

Themes

Here are the main themes we covered at *Connect* in 2020...

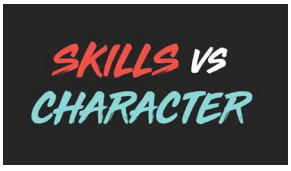
The 4 Points
Before the pandemic we looked at how 'The 4 Points' can help us explain what Christians believe to our friends or family.

Top 5
With the lockdown bringing uncertainty, our first few weeks on Zoom focused on practical ways to reduce anxiety.



Good Friday
On Good Friday we read the Easter story together and talked about how we can give our worries, fears and burdens to Jesus.

The World Needs You
We thought about our skills and what we enjoy doing, and considered how we each have something unique to offer.



Skills vs. Character
We looked at famous Bible stories to discuss how flaws in a person's character can undermine their skills and talents.

#GOALS
Jesus taught that our highest goals in life should be to love God and love others. How do our goals measure up to this?

What Now?
We compared Joseph's story (from the Bible) to our current situation – how can we find purpose when bad things happen?

Peace on Earth
Jesus' birth was anything but peaceful - how can we experience peace in the midst of uncertainty or pain?

INSPIRE (11-18s)

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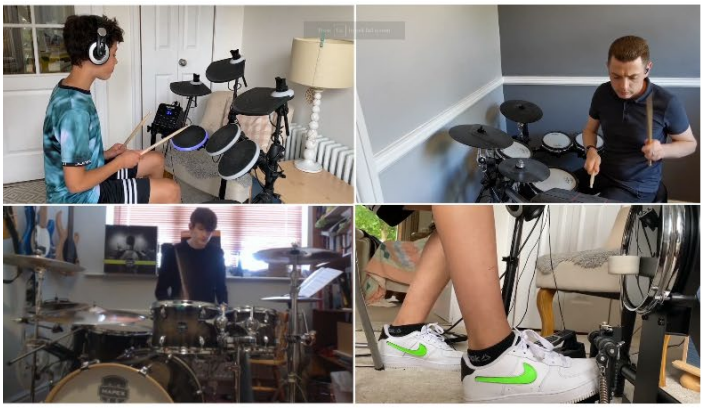

Inspiring young people

We want to inspire young people to find purpose, and equip them with skills and experience. To achieve this, we run *Inspire* where 11-18s can develop a range of skills and demonstrate these in real-life settings. The combination of learning, rehearsing and showcasing - with coaching and encouragement from our team - helps young people grow in confidence, overcome challenges, and better understand their unique skillset and aspirations for the future.

Before the pandemic

Inspire workshops were held at Woodlea Mission in February and March in preparation for the upcoming *Friday Night Worship* event. As usual, we'd invited the young people to take the lead at this event by hosting and playing/singing in the band. Sadly, the pandemic put the brakes on, and in fact our second *Inspire* workshop - a 'Band Jamming Session' held on 13 March - turned out to be the last big youth event we'd run at Woodlea Mission in 2020.

Moving online

When *Connect* moved online (see previous page), we were focused on giving hope to young people and allowing them to talk honestly about life in lockdown. But as schools closed and many teenagers lost their routine and structure, we also wanted to provide something to work towards, so *Inspire* also moved to Zoom with a series of "Lockdown Challenges".

Themes and Lockdown Challenges

Here are the main themes and "Lockdown Challenges" from *Inspire* in 2020...

Sharing our faith
Before the pandemic we had linked our '4 Points' theme from *Connect* with an *Inspire* workshop on 'Communicating with Confidence'. We wanted to help young people practise explaining their faith in a way that others can understand, whether in front of a large audience or in personal conversations.

Challenge Pack
Our first 'Lockdown Challenge' was to read Jesus' life story from the book of Mark (one chapter every day in the build-up to Easter). Every young person who signed up received a free Challenge Pack in the post which included a 4 Points Wristband, a specially-designed postcard and lots of other little treats.

Teen Takeover
For our second 'Lockdown Challenge', we invited young people to prepare something inspiring for Zoom. This led to a superb 'teen takeover' night where young people showed their artwork, played music or videos they'd created, gave short talks and impressed us all with new hobbies taken up while stuck indoors.

Music Videos
Our most ambitious (and rewarding) challenges were our two music videos: we learned songs together over Zoom, created a guide track, then invited aspiring young singers and musicians to record their own videos at home. The finished results were incredible and were viewed over 600 times on our website.

Our *Inspire* 2020 music videos - 'Amazing Grace' and 'With Me All Along' – are available to view online at visionyouth.org.uk

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REACH PUPPETS (11-18s)

About Reach Puppets

***Reach* is an award-winning puppetry group for ages 11-18.** The group meets every Tuesday night in term-time to work on exciting performances and videos. This provides young people with opportunities to build their confidence, make new friends, learn different skills, work as a team, and enjoy the buzz of performing. *Reach* was founded in 1999 and officially joined VISION in 2018 after many years of working together on events, particularly for *Vision Kids*.

Before the pandemic

Like our other weekly activities, *Reach* returned to Woodlea in February 2020 after an extended Christmas break. The puppeteers were preparing for performances at two local churches, but rehearsals sadly had to stop when Woodlea closed on 17 March.

Moving online

It wasn't possible for *Reach* to move online during the first lockdown, but the team wrote a weekly blog to encourage the puppeteers and invited them to join *Connect* and *Inspire* on Friday nights. After several months, with social distancing guidelines still ruling out the possibility of rehearsing at Woodlea, we made contact-free puppet deliveries to doorsteps and *Reach* moved to Zoom in September.

Video performances

Although the young people couldn't rehearse together, updated Government guidance in autumn allowed us to set up a covid-secure stage at Woodlea where puppeteers could be filmed individually (at pre-arranged time slots) using a green screen. This enabled us to create some memorable video performances which were viewed hundreds of times on our website...

Smile

The lyrics of this uplifting song inspired our theme for *Lite Nite*, and the eye-catching video from *Reach* – created by filming each puppeteer individually on a green screen - has been watched hundreds of times on our website.

Ding Dong

Another popular video was a comical version of 'Ding Dong Merrily on High' featuring a guitar-playing sheep and three cheeky camels. The video was included in Christmas assemblies for two primary schools.

Who Would Imagine

This gentle solo considers the birth of Jesus through the eyes of his mother, Mary. The song was performed by Jenny, one of our original *Reach* puppeteers who now choreographs and teaches the next generation.

Good News

The final video of 2020 was an original sketch, recorded at home by the puppeteers. The finished video was featured on *Vision Kids at Home* in December, and shares the Good News of the first Christmas.

These videos are available to view on *Vision Kids Catch Up* at visionkids.org.uk

VISION KIDS (4-11s)

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Lite Nite

Lite Nite is an exciting, action-packed Christian alternative to Halloween for children and families, held every October since 1991. Although this was set to be the 30th Lite Nite, Government guidance prevented us from holding the event at Woodlea, so volunteers of all ages stepped in to help adapt the content for an online audience.

Wanted to say a massive thank you for Lite Nite... it was great it was available in the afternoon for us to watch together as a family (in the dark with glow sticks!)

We thoroughly enjoyed watching it, the kids loved it. It really was brilliant!

It was awesome!!! We sat round and watched it as a family, danced, did the memory verse and loved every minute of it.

Thanks so much for all your hard work putting it together, just wanted you to know what a blessing it was to us and many other families too I'm sure.

After weeks of Zoom rehearsals and socially-distanced filming - and many hours of video editing - Lite Nite was ready to watch online from 2pm on Saturday 31 October. For the first time in 30 years, every child could have a 'front-row seat' from the comfort of their own homes to enjoy songs, games, a story, memory verse, performances, a fantastic competition, and much more!

Lite Nite was watched by almost 500 households
That's an estimated 1,000 children plus family members... our biggest audience ever!

People watched from all over the world
Viewers tuned in from 122 towns and cities across England, Wales, Scotland... and 15 other countries!

Vision Kids at Home

Our *Vision Kids* team usually runs monthly events throughout the year for children and families. To stay in touch during lockdown, we filmed a series of short videos called *Vision Kids at Home* which were available on our website and social media. Videos included Bible stories, memory verses, craft ideas, performances and a prayer. The series was watched by around 230 households, giving an estimated audience of around 450 children.

Easter

Summer

Back to school

Christmas

These videos are available to view on *Vision Kids Catch Up* at visionkids.org.uk

Before the pandemic

2020 started promisingly for VISION's work with local schools:

- Whitworth High became the latest secondary school to invite our team to run Emotional Wellbeing sessions. On our first visit – just one week before lockdown - we worked with 135 pupils from year 7, with plans in place for all pupils to see our team before the end of term.
- We'd booked Easter assemblies at 7 primary schools (although these were sadly cancelled when schools closed).
- Three primary schools had asked if we could adapt our Emotional Wellbeing sessions for year 6.

★★★★★

The session was interactive and informative. All the students were engaged and left having more knowledge about mental health.

WHITWORTH HIGH SCHOOL

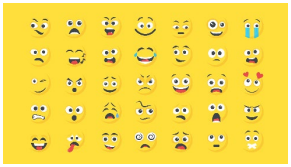
★★★★★

The lesson covered lots of ways for children to manage their stress and anxieties, and made it clear that children should not be worried about asking for support.

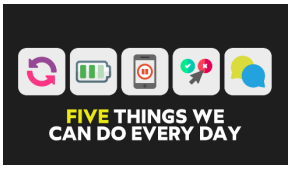
WATERFOOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Moving online

Before schools closed we'd been working with Waterfoot Primary to prepare Emotional Wellbeing activities for year 6. While we couldn't hold this at Woodlea as planned, we were able to livestream sessions directly to classrooms when children returned to school (see screenshot above). The technology worked well and paved the way for more livestreams and videos for schools...

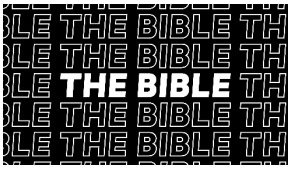


For the fourth year running, Emotional Wellbeing was the most requested session by secondary schools. We adapted our content for Zoom and streamed lessons live from Woodlea Mission into classrooms.



With primary schools also requesting help with Emotional Wellbeing, we used our existing resources to create a new session for ages 10-11, focusing on 'five things we can do every day' to reduce anxiety.

St Christopher's CE High School asked us to record a 'Faith at Home' video for pupils and parents in June. Nathan talked about our individuality; how we can be certain that God has a plan and purpose for our lives.



St John with St Michael Primary School invited us to talk to children in years 5/6 about the Bible. We ran an interactive Zoom session in November with games, Bible stories and the opportunity for questions - with great feedback!

Schools can visit visionyouth.org.uk/emotional-wellbeing to book a session or find out more.

YOUTH SUPPORT TEAM

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Funding from UK Government

When the pandemic started, our priority was to keep in touch with the children and teenagers we'd normally see at our events, but we knew there were many others who needed help. To offer wider support we needed extra staff and funding, but with our resources already stretched to full capacity, this seemed impossible - until the UK Government launched its *Coronavirus Community Support Fund*. This was a temporary fund offering 6 months' funding, but was nevertheless an opportunity for VISION to offer support in the short-term. We successfully applied, and received £37,319 to cover staff, running costs, Covid-19 safety measures, online resources, and any necessary building work or maintenance from 1 October 2020 – 31 March 2021.

Counselling

Our first step was to set up provision for young people in crisis. One of VISION's founders and longest-serving volunteers, Amy Moriarty, is a professional counsellor and was already leading our Safeguarding and Pastoral Care Team. This enabled us to quickly set up a youth counselling service where teenagers could be referred by an adult. Government guidance at the time allowed us to set up a covid-secure counselling space at Woodlea Mission, and we were also able to visit young people in school.

Additional youth workers

Our next step was to bring in additional youth workers. This was the first time VISION had ever recruited paid employees, and the process of preparing the employment pack, advertising positions and interviewing candidates took longer than we expected (especially as we received 130+ applications in the first few days) but by the beginning of December, three successful candidates had joined our team. Jade, Sarah and Marvin were employed on a part-time basis with fixed term contracts lasting until the end of the grant period (31 March 2021). The final few weeks of 2020 were spent creating short videos to introduce the team to young people on social media, and planning for January; the full impact of the team will be seen in next year's Annual Report.

CHRISTMAS 2020

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Woodlea Mission is usually at capacity on 24 December as families enjoy our annual Christmas Eve event. As we sadly couldn't run the event in 2020, our band recorded their favourite carol, *O Holy Night* (filmed individually), which was included on Rossendale Churches 'Carols at Home' service and heard on Rossendale Radio. The videos received more than 1,000 views.

CHARITY DEVELOPMENT

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Employment

VISION has come such a long way since the first event in 2002. No-one could have anticipated that a small worship night, organised by a church youth group, would grow into an established and trusted charity with its own youth centre, meeting 20,000+ children and teenagers along the way! VISION has relied entirely on God's faithful provision, and nowhere has this been more evident than in the generosity of His people who have given time and money so freely, compelled by a desire to see young people come to trust and follow Jesus.

For many years, VISION thrived on the energy and enthusiasm of young adults who had been impacted as teenagers at our first events and later chose to volunteer full-time. But even the most dedicated team members cannot volunteer indefinitely, so last year we began preparing employment options to support those on whom the charity depends – and it is our pleasure to announce that our Director and Lead Youth Worker, Nathan Shepherd, became VISION's first employee in April 2020. Nathan's passion and determination for this work has been an inspiration to the Board of Trustees and many others, both young and old.

Later in the year, the short-term grant we received from the UK Government enabled us to employ three part-time youth workers on a temporary basis (see Youth Support Team on page 9). Our goal is now to increase VISION's income each year so we can recruit further paid staff who will, of course, be assisted by our amazing team of existing volunteers.

New Trustee

We are also delighted to announce that Ian Bury joined our Board of Trustees in April. Ian has faithfully supported VISION since day one, taking on a range of roles from First Aid to extreme fundraising (including the entire 42-mile Rossendale Way). Ian has lived in Rossendale since the age of 3; as a teenager he attended Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School, before graduating with a degree in Nursing Studies from the University of Manchester. Ian now works as an Advanced Nurse Practitioner and will bring a wealth of expertise and experience from 30+ years in healthcare. Ian and his wife Debbie are members of Lumb Baptist Church and have two daughters who love attending *Vision Kids* events! We look forward to working with Ian as the charity continues to grow and develop.

Branding and website

One of the goals we set out for 2020 was to make VISION more visible and accessible for the next generation and their families.

Our events for 4-11s already had a strong identity in the name **VISION KIDS**, with a distinct web address, *visionkids.org.uk*. For simplicity and consistency, our events for 11-18s were renamed **VISION YOUTH**, with a new web address, *visionyouth.org.uk*.

With so many activities moving online in 2020, we invested a lot of time over the summer holidays making it easier for people to find VISION on Google searches, and rebuilding our website:

+ We added information and photos showing our recent work with young people.
+ We made it much easier for supporters to give, with a wide range of donation choices including a Direct Debit option.
+ We added a dedicated area for parents and carers which includes updates, event calendars and links to consent forms.
+ We added new information for schools to make it easier to book lessons or find out what we can offer.
+ We simplified our contact options and made the website easier to navigate with simple menus.

Our Youth Team mobile number was changed to **07454 50 80 30** to match our existing office number **01706 50 80 30**. The phone was on every weekday for any young person who needed to talk, or for parents/carers to get in touch with our team.

Covid-19 Safety

Our team have always worked incredibly hard to make sure our activities are safe. We were very careful to stay up-to-date with the latest information from the National Youth Agency who worked in partnership with Public Health England to provide information for youth organisations. A great deal of time and attention was taken every day to ensure our building was as safe as possible for our team and for visitors, particularly when offering counselling for young people or filming performances.

Other developments

As we reported last year, another of our goals was to streamline our background systems and processes to cut admin time and increase efficiency. We built a new digital system for registration and data, and made improvements to our accounting system to allow our team to access information and up-to-date statistics more easily. We also invested in external training resources, allowing our team to choose from 20 online courses - from First Aid and Food Safety, to Personal Development and Customer Service - which could be completed in their own time from home.

PHOTO GALLERY

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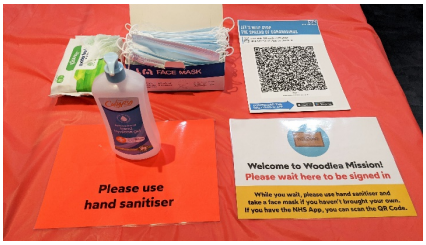
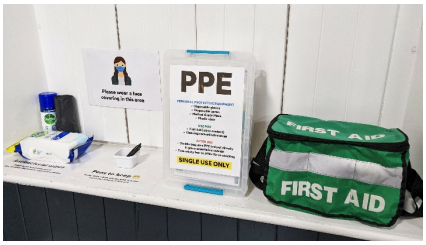
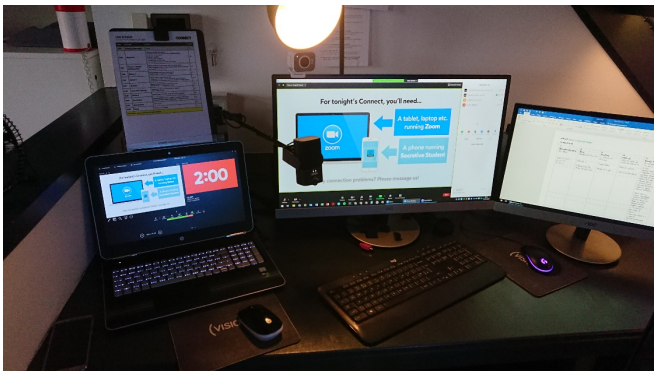
In March, all events were postponed and the building was equipped with hand sanitiser, face coverings, and PPE...





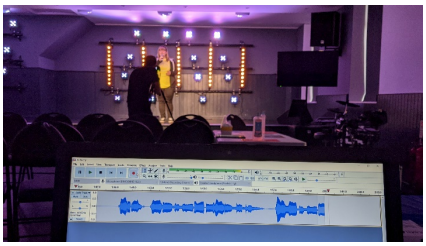
The office was soon transformed into a studio for livestreaming into homes and classrooms...

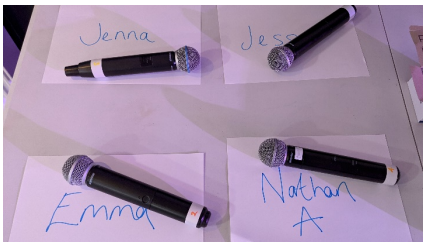


For performances, everyone had to be filmed separately. For some performances we used green screens...

When a bigger setup was needed, we used our existing stage and lighting to create an exciting atmosphere for videos...

We took great care to follow safety guidance, even when giving out cake to our team to celebrate 30 years of Lite Nite!!





FINANCES

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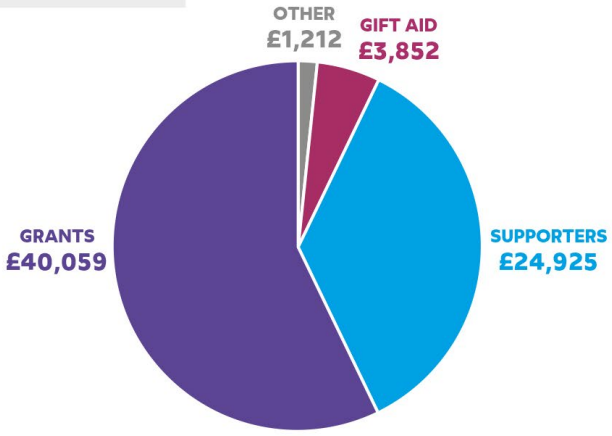
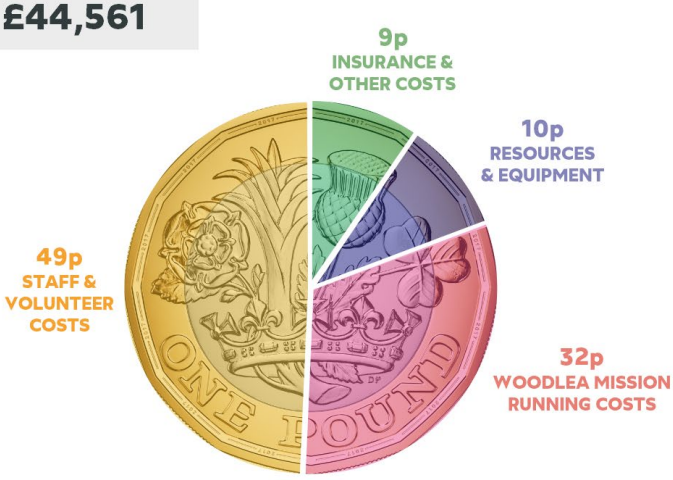
2020 INCOME

£70,048



FOR EVERY £1 SPENT IN 2020

£44,561



VISION received...

£40,059 in grants: **£37,319** was given by the UK Government to enable VISION to run a temporary Youth Support Team from October 2020 until March 2021. We also received **£500** from the TK Maxx Foundation, **£680** from Rossendale Borough Council, **£500** from Tesco and **£1,060** from Sport England.

£24,925 from our amazing supporters; that's a total of **£18,964** from monthly donations (standing orders and Direct Debits) and **£5,961** in one-off donations. Despite the financial pressures of the pandemic, donations to VISION increased by almost £7,500 compared to 2019. This is mainly due to a new campaign, launched in May, to encourage new supporters to give £5/month.

£3,852 in Gift Aid from donations made in 2019.

£1,212 of other income; that's **£468** from churches and related organisations, and **£744** from other sources including Amazon Smile, EasyFundraising, and the sale of old equipment.

VISION spent...

£22,040 on staff and volunteer costs. This includes salaries for 4 employees (see Youth Support Team on page 9) along with training, DBS checks, and out-of-pocket expenses such as travel costs.

£14,075 on Woodlea Mission running costs. This includes day-to-day costs (utility bills, cleaning, stock and supplies) along with licenses, subscriptions and all development costs.

£4,326 on resources and equipment (in particular, equipment for live streaming and video production).

£4,065 on insurance and other professional services including accountants' fees and membership costs for ThirtyOne: Eight (safeguarding), Stewardship (legal and employment advice), and the Evangelical Alliance.

£55 on fundraising (not visible on chart).

Financial position of the charity

More detailed information on the financial position of VISION is set out in the attached accounts.

Supporters

We wrote to our financial supporters every term to say 'thank you' for their generosity and provide an update on the work of the charity. We also continued the tradition of designing our own Christmas Cards to send to supporters in December.

Trustees' Policy on reserves

The policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue our charitable activities should income and fundraising fall short of the amounts needed to meet the costs of those activities in the short term. Projects requiring significant amounts of funding are only entered into when the income required to meet the associated expenditure is secured.

2020 BEHIND THE SCENES

VISION TEAM

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About our team

VISION runs on the passion and determination of ordinary people who believe that this small charity is making a big difference.

Staff

As we've noted in this report, VISION became an employer in 2020. Our Director and Lead Youth Worker, Nathan Shepherd, became our first employee in April. Later in the year, Amy Moriarty set up our Youth Counselling Service and was paid for her services as a self-employed professional psychotherapist. In December, we were joined by our new Youth Support Team, Jade Jennings, Marvin Gilbert and Sarah Al-Warfali, who each worked part time.

Volunteers

Our staff were supported by an amazing team of volunteers - most of whom have been with VISION for 15 years or more - who continued to give their time freely to impact the lives of children and teenagers in Rossendale.

VISION would like to recognise the efforts of all our volunteers: those who gave up many hours of their time every week throughout the pandemic to help out with online youth events (*Connect, Inspire* and *Reach Puppets*); those who worked behind the scenes to create videos or help with admin, finances and fundraising; and those on standby to help with everything else from DIY and I.T. support to Safety and First Aid. Thank you so much to… Adam Shepherd, Alan Davey, Alison Aspin, Christine McGuinness, Elizabeth Johnstone, Emma Shepherd, Ian Bury, Jane Shadlock, Janet Barrie, Jason Jones, Jeanne Cottrell, Jenna Potts, Jenny Broadhurst, Jess Aspin, Jim Barrie, Joseph Jones, Josh Potts, Karen Shepherd, Kathryn Ashman, Lottie Quinn, Matt Worrell, Michael Aspin, Nathan Ashman, Paul Iddon, Sarah Jones, Steve Shepherd, Stuart Aspin, Suzie Elkington, Yvonne Lord.

Last but not least, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the young volunteers aged 11-17 who helped make some truly incredible videos: thank you to all our *Reach* Puppeteers, our *Vision Kids* dancers and storytellers, and all the other teenagers who gave up their time to rehearse and perform under very challenging circumstances!

2020 CLOSING STATEMENT

PLANS FOR 2021

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Looking back at last year's report, we can see that some of our goals for 2020 were achieved despite the pandemic; however, most of our plans needed to be adapted, postponed or even cancelled, and while we initially thought coronavirus may disrupt things for a short time, it has become increasingly clear that the virus has not gone away and we need to hold our plans lightly. With this in mind, this section is much shorter than usual, with our plans for 2021 laid out more broadly.

Charitable activities

We will continue to run weekly youth events on Zoom, and hope to continue expanding our work with local primary and secondary schools by offering livestreamed sessions. We will continually assess the safety of re-opening Woodlea Mission and returning to classrooms in person. Larger events, especially those at Christmas or Easter, may not resume until later in 2021.

Development

Around £6,000 of the Government Grant has been set aside to lay a path through the garden at Woodlea Mission and install lighting so young people can use this new entrance in winter (when the grass is wet and there's less sunlight). This is particularly important as the Youth Support Team have set up a covid-secure counselling space downstairs which could be much more accessible once the path is complete. We also hope to install suitable signage on the front and back of the building.

Support

We will continue to encourage new supporters to give monthly, but will also aim to build links with local businesses who may be able to support our work with larger donations. Our Youth Support Team will be employed until the Government grant ends on 31 March 2021: our ultimate goal is to increase income so we can employ permanent youth workers to support Nathan and our team of volunteers, as we seek to offer hope and support to many more young people. We believe that Jesus really can heal broken hearts and set people free, and we want to see children and teenagers experience this for themselves.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

DIRECTORS REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2020

HALLIWELL & COMPANY
ACCOUNTANTS & TAX ADVISORS LLP

IRWELL HOUSE
223 BACUP ROAD
RAWTENSTALL
LANCASHIRE
BB4 7PA

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Company Information

Directors
Alan Davey
Jeanne Cottrell
Nathan Shepherd
Stephen Shepherd
Ian Bury (appointed May 2020)

Registered address
Woodlea Mission, Tenterfield Street, Rossendale, BB4 7BA

Bankers
Lloyds plc, Burnley, Lancashire.

Company Number
7315280

Charity Registered Number
1138523

Accountants
Halliwell & Company Accountants & Tax Advisors LLP
Irwell House, 223 Bacup Road, Rawtenstall, Lancashire, BB4 7PA.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Contents

Page	
1	Report of the directors
2	Independent Examiners Report
3	Statement of Financial Activities
4	Balance sheet
5-7	Notes to the accounts

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Report of the directors for the year ended 31st December 2020

The directors present their annual report together with the unaudited accounts of the company for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Principle Activities
The Charity was incorporated as a private company, limited by guarantee, on 15th July 2010.

On 12th August 2010 the trustees of Woodlea Mission donated their premises at Tenterfield Street, Rossendale to Vision Rossendale For £nil consideration.

On 1st January 2011 the "Vision" activities previously undertaken through St Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, and the assets related to them, were transferred to Vision (Rossendale) for £nil consideration. Also on that date the activities and assets of Engage Café operating on the Balladen Estate were transferred to the charity for £nil consideration. Since that date the company has continued activities to advance the Christian religion amongst young people in Rossendale.

Directors
The directors who held office through the year are as follows:

Alan Davey
Jeanne Cottrell
Nathan Shepherd
Stephen Shepherd
Ian Bury (appointed May 2020)

This report was approved by the Board on the 18th August 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

N Shepherd - Director
19th August 2021

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Independent Examiners Report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2020 which are set out in the following pages.

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent report

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 directors 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.

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 materials respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or

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

Halliwell & Company
Accountants & Tax Advisors LLP
Irwell House
223 Bacup Road
Rawtenstall
Lancashire
BB4 7PA

19th August 2021

VISION (ROSSENDALE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31st December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Incoming Resources						
Voluntary Income	(2)	70,889	0	0	70,889	24,132
Activities for generating funds		368	0	0	368	107
Investment income		0	0	0	0	0
Incoming resources from charitable activities		0	0	0	0	0
Other incoming resources		1,019	0	0	1,019	2,130
Total Incoming Resources		**72,276**	**0**	**0**	**72,276**	**26,369**
Resources Expended						
Cost of generating voluntary income		54	0	0	54	126
Fundraising trading costs		0	0	0	0	0
Staff Costs		22,188	0	0	22,188	0
Charitable activities	(3)	21,962	0	0	21,962	24,329
Governance Costs		0	0	0	0	0
Other resources expended		6,977	0	0	6,977	7,042
Total Resources Expended		**51,181**	**0**	**0**	**51,181**	**31,497**
Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources Before Transfers		**21,095**	**0**	**0**	**21,095**	**(5,128)**
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds			0	0	0	0
Net Incoming resources before other recognised gains/losses		**21,095**	**0**	**0**	**21,095**	**(5,128)**
Other recognised gains/losses						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charities own use		0	0	0	0	0
Gains and losses on investment assets		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		**21,095**	**0**	**0**	21,095	**(5,128)**
Reconciliation of Funds						
Total funds brought forward from previous year		277,896	0	0	277,896	283,024
Total funds carried forward		**298,991**	**0**	**0**	**298,991**	**277,896**

The notes form part of these Financial Statements

VISION (ROSSENDALE)
BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £	Total Prior year £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	(5)	247,538	0	0	247,538	252,101
Investments		0	0	0	0	0
Total fixed assets		**247,538**	**0**	**0**	**247,538**	**252,101**
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock and work in progress		0	0	0	0	0
Debtors	(6)	5,125	0	0	5,125	3,312
(Short term) investments		0	0	0	0	0
Cash at bank and in hand		47,529	0	0	47,529	23,131
Total current assets		**52,654**	**0**	**0**	**52,654**	**26,443**
CREDITORS-Amounts falling due within one year	(7)	1,201	0	0	1,201	648
NET CURRENT ASSETS		51,453	0	0	51,453	25,795
Total assets less current liabilities		**298,991**	**0**	**0**	**298,991**	**277,896**
CREDITORS-Amounts falling due after one year	(8)	0	0	0	0	0
Provisions for liabilities and charges		0	0	0	0	0
NET ASSETS		**298,991**	**0**	**0**	**298,991**	**277,896**
Funds of the charity						
General fund		298,991	0	0	298,991	277,896
Designated Funds		0	0	0	0	0
Restricted income funds		0	0	0	0	0
Endowment funds		0	0	0	0	0
Total funds		**298,991**	**0**	**0**	**298,991**	**277,896**

For the year ended 31st December 2020 the company was entitled to exemptions under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

No notice from members requiring an audit has been deposited under section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

The accounts were approved by the board on 19th August 2021 and signed on its behalf.

N Shepherd - Director

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation
These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown on market value) in accordance with:
Accounting and reporting by Charities - Statements of Recommended Practise (SORP 2005);
Financial Reporting Standards for smaller Enterprises (FRSSE);
and with the Charities act 1993.

Recognition of incoming resources
These are included in the statements of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources and related expenditure
Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations
Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts
Incoming resources from tax are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Tangible fixed assets for the use by charity
These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.

Depreciation is provided at the following rates in order to wrote off each asset over its estimated useful life;

Freehold Building	2% on cost or revalued amount
Equipment	25% on cost

Goodwill
In accordance with the ASB's Statement of Principles for Financial Reporting Interpretation for Public Benefit Entities where the acquisition of entities is for nil or nominal consideration, the ecess for fair value of the assets acquired over the fair value of the liabilities assumed is treated as a gain and recognised as income.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020

2. Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Voluntary Income					
Gifts and Donations	5,961	0	0	5,961	5,387
Regular Donations	18,964	0	0	18,964	13,484
Church Giving	240	0	0	240	480
Grants	40,059	0	0	40,059	1,014
Gift Aid Claims	5,665	0	0	5,665	3,767
Fundraising Income	368	0	0	368	107
Other Income	1,019	0	0	1,019	2,130
	72,276	**0**	**0**	**72,276**	**26,369**

3. Resources Expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total this year £	Total Prior year £
Charitable Activities					
Youth Events	0	0	0	0	2,609
Vision Kids	0	0	0	0	799
Woodlea Running Costs	8,082	0	0	8,082	5,142
Woodlea Development	1,490	0	0	1,490	4,858
Other Premises Costs	5,325	0	0	5,325	2,998
Computer, software and office equipment	3,143	0	0	3,143	2,199
Materials, printing and related costs	0	0	0	0	1,823
Travel and subsistence	685	0	0	685	1,331
other	3,237	0	0	3,237	2,570
	21,962	**0**	**0**	**21,962**	**24,329**

4. Staff Costs	2020	2019
4a. Wages and salaries	£	£
Wages and Salaries	22,188	0

4b. Payments to trustees

Travel expenses paid to trustees in respect of the normal activities of the charity amounted to Nil.

VISION (ROSSENDALE)

Notes forming part of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020

5. Tangible Assets

	Property Cost	Land Cost	Equipment	Total
	£		£	£
Costs:				
At 1st January 2020	263,390	12,580	27,738	303,708
Additions	0	0	2,414	2,414
Disposals	0		0	0
At 31st December 2020	263,390	12,580	30,152	306,122
Depreciation:				
At 1st January 2020	30,752	0	20,855	51,607
Charge for the year	4,653	0	2,324	6,977
On disposals	0	0	0	0
At 31st December 2020	35,405	0	23,179	58,584
Net Book Values:				
At 31st December 2020	227,985	12,580	6,973	247,538
At 31st December 2018	232,638	12,580	6,883	252,101

6. Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Debtors	5,125	3,312
	5,125	3,312

7. Creditors falling due within one year

	£	£
Accruals	648	648
PAYE and NI	553	0
	1,201	648

8. Creditors falling due after one year

	£	£
	0	0