

Discover DeCrypt, Gloucester Annual Report for 2022



Discover DeCrypt is a charity based in the Church of St Mary de Crypt and the adjacent old schoolroom in Southgate Street in the centre of Gloucester. Our £2.1 million restoration project, completed in 2019, was made possible through a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and donations from other trusts, organisations and individuals. We aim to share our faith in Jesus Christ, to promote the story of our history and heritage and to enhance the life of our city.

Inspired by the vision of sharing our 'Faith', our 'Story' and our 'Life', Discover DeCrypt has continued throughout 2022 to maintain our mission to welcome people in the spirit of Christian hospitality. In addition to groups which use our buildings on a regular basis, we have welcomed 22,000 visitors over the course of the year. Visitors are greeted by our team of well-briefed volunteers, who are always keen to share their passion for our heritage and their interest in the story of the city of Gloucester.



This report highlights some of the major events we have held in 2022 and the groups we have supported in order to fulfil the three-fold objectives at the heart of Discover DeCrypt's vision.

Objective 1 – FAITH:

To share an inclusive sacred space

- As a consecrated Christian church, we continue to offer space within our busy city for people to pray, reflect or simply take in the tranquillity of our building.
- We hold a weekly service of 'Prayers for the City' each Friday lunchtime; a particular focus this year has been to pray for the people of Ukraine.

- Special Eucharist services have taken place on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Ascension Day and Pentecost; the year ended with a service of carols and Christmas readings. On Good Friday we had a prayer board outside the church where people could stop and write their prayers and concerns for Ukraine. This was extremely well received.
- In June we contributed to the Churches Count on Nature, recording the diversity of life in the churchyard and giving thanks for the glory of God's creation. We are working towards the national Gold Eco Church Award.
- The annual Gloucester Day service, which takes place in September, is held in the church followed by a parade through the four main gated streets led by the Town Crier.



Objective 2 – STORY:

To preserve and enhance our heritage, making heritage and history accessible

- Our team of volunteer guides has been on hand throughout the year to escort visitors around all areas of the church and schoolroom, focusing on the architecture and historical characters who have given interest to this place. Specialist tower tours have also been provided.
- Planning has continued for a major conservation project of the unusual medieval wall painting of the Adoration of the Magi in our chancel. Condition reports on the painting, stonework and stained glass in this area have been undertaken.
- Significance reports have also been commissioned on the wall monuments in St Katherine's Chapel in order to begin to understand their conservation needs. Developing access to this area forms the basis of the faculty application made for the removal of the Victorian organ.



- The exhibition created by students from the University of Gloucestershire has remained in a prominent location to explain George Whitefield's links with slavery and to set his career in the context of his time. It featured on a BBC Points West report in February.
- We played a full part in the city's Tall Ships Festival in June and ran a competition in which participants designed, built and raced their own 'small ships'; we also hosted a fascinating Siege of Gloucester tabletop re-enactment.

- Throughout the year we have had the pleasure of hosting a series of art exhibitions. These have included: an 'Inside Out' exhibition by art therapist trainees; an exhibition by members of Hardwicke Art Club; an exhibition of artwork by primary school children; a display of fine art, sculpture, carving and ceramics by the Gloucestershire Society of Artists; and an exhibition on the Cotswolds by local artist Joanna Howe.

Objective 3 – LIFE:

To provide an inspiring community space that is affordable, accessible and welcoming

- The café in the schoolroom has been enhanced with additional seating and a wider range of refreshments. It supports our weekly Coffee, Cake and Conversation mornings, and hosts events such as the 'Rainbow Cuppa' attended by members of the LGBTQI+ community. The café is popular with its own customers and groups which hold meetings at Discover DeCrypt.
- The groups which lease our premises on a regular basis reflect a diverse range of different interests. Among those included are the Heart of Gloucester community choir, a tai chi group, an Inclusion Gloucestershire drama group, AA meetings and the Cuddesdon, Gloucester and Hereford training course for ordinands.



- We hold a weekly 'Stay and Play' drop-in session for parents, carers and under-5s, which has gone from strength to strength with an increasing number of participants supported by their own WhatsApp group.
- Community events to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of her late Majesty were a real highlight of 2022. We hosted a Jubilee concert and a vintage tea dance, both of which were greatly enjoyed and supported by community workshops in flower arranging, bunting-making and frocks and frills up-cycling.

- The year ended with a Christmas Tree Festival, which saw a variety of organisations from across the city put up trees around the church as well as a popular wreath-making workshop.



Thank You

We are grateful to have received continued funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to support professional consultancy advice into Discover DeCrypt's organisational resilience. A range of meetings has been held with many individuals and groups with an interest in our work. The result should be lots of fresh initiatives to implement in 2023 and beyond!

We would like to thank all those who have enabled Discover DeCrypt to flourish and move forward this year. A particular debt of thanks is due to Jess Gordon, who has contributed so much to Discover DeCrypt over many years and sadly relinquished the role of Community Manager this summer. We are also grateful to: our devoted volunteers, who welcome visitors week after week; our faith community, on whose continued prayer we rely; our regular hirers, who are always so appreciative of our facilities; and all our visitors and supporters, whose continued engagement and interest has made all we seek to do worthwhile.

One visitor comment which seems to sum up the year was: "Very welcoming and well-organised; we loved the tea dance on Jubilee Sunday!"



Jubilee Tea Dance

Charity Details

Registered Charity Number: 1167097

Address: St Mary de Crypt Church and School, Southgate Street,
Gloucester, GL1 1TP

The following have continued to be trustees throughout 2022: Rev Canon Nicola Arthy (Ex-Officio Chair); Mr Peter Gould (Treasurer & Vice-Chair); Mr David Evans (Secretary); Rev Dr Sandra Millar, Ms Ursula Corcoran, Rev Guy Treweek and Mr Richard Ryan.

Trustees are either nominated by the PCC or appointed by the Chair following consultation with existing trustees. The full Board of Trustees has at least four meetings a year, whilst a smaller group referred to as the Operations Board meets more frequently.

The charity employs an Operations Manager and a Community Manager and others in duty manager, café manager and cleaning roles. We also rely extensively on our volunteers, all of whom work hard to help make Discover DeCrypt the lively and vibrant community it is.

David Evans on behalf of Discover DeCrypt

SECTION A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds	
A1 Receipts					
NHLF Delivery grants	527			527	
DCMS LPOW VAT Delivery	1520			1520	
NHLF Operations grants	25539			25539	
NHLF Resilience grant	31400			31400	
Kick Start	1115			1115	
Covid recovery	1700			1700	
Other donations /grants/GA	9577			9577	
Insurance claim	0			0	
PCC	6200			6200	
School account	897			897	
Trading	39212			39212	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	117686	0	0	117686	0
A2 Investment sales					
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total					
Total Receipts	117686	0	0	117686	0

A3 Payments					
Glos DBF Loan repayment	0			0	
Fabric maintenance	7537			7537	
Window repair (Insurance)	3995			3995	
Energy/Insurance/Water	16336			16336	
Website/Telecomms	4296			4296	
Legal/Accounting/Marketing	1048			1048	
Payroll/ Payroll admin	52878			52878	
Resilience	19502			19502	
School account	1297			1297	
Other	17482			17482	
Sub total	124370	0	0	124370	0
A4 Asset & Investment purchases					
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0	0
Total payments	124370	0	0	124370	0

Net of receipts/(payments)	-6684	0	0	-6684	
A5 Transfer between funds		0	0	0	
A6 Cash funds last year end	38342	0	0	38342	
Cash funds this year end	31659	0	0	31659	

Bank accounts Y/C balances:

Cooperative	3595	0	0	3595	
NatWest	33835			33835	
Lloyds	912	0	0	912	
Total	38342	0	0	38342	

Bank accounts Y/E balances:

Cooperative	5180	0	0	5180	
NatWest	25967			25967	
Lloyds	512	0	0	512	
Total	31659	0	0	31659	

SECTION B Statement of assets and liabilities at Y/E

Details		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment
B1 Cash funds		31659	0	0
B2 Other monetary assets		0	0	0
B3 Investment assets		0	0	0
Assets retained for the charity's own use		0	0	0
Liabilities	Diocesan Loan	30000		
	NHLF Resilience; balance of first drawdown	11898	0	0



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
Discover DeCrypt

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1167097

Set out on pages

1,2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Pauline B. Bolton

Date:

10 July 2023

Name:

Pauline Buckley Bolton

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

B.Sc(Hons)

Address:

70 Amberley Way

Wickwar, Wotton Under Edge

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.