

Connect 2 Purpose

England & Wales · Charity number 1190770

Details

Other names	PLAS LLANMIHANGEL
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2020-08-07
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	31 Telegraph Lane Four Marks Alton Hants GU34 5AX
Phone	07506458476
Email	GJSaralis@Gmail.com
Website	www.connecttopurpose.co.uk

Activities

Objects: 1. To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation and protection of the historic buildings from which the charity operates, in particular by implementing a programme of renovation and subsequent maintenance to sustain the building for the public. 2. TO ADVANCE IN LIFE AND RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE BASED IN THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS THROUGH:A) THE PROVISION RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES PROVIDED IN THE INTEREST OF SOCIAL WELFARE, DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE;B) ADVANCING EDUCATION;C) PROVIDING SUPPORT AND ACTIVITIES WHICH DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS, CAPACITIES AND CAPABILITIES TO ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY AS MATURE AND RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS.

Activities: We provide retreats for rest and renewal for young people (11-16), and their families, across UK, who seek support in challenging times. We operate from heritage properties of cultural importance to the local community, sustained by social enterprise run by young adults, connecting heritage with young people and their families, to engender a sense of belonging, inclusion and social wellbeing.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Vale Of Glamorgan

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees	
2025-03-21		£0	£0	-	-
2024-03-21		£348	£0	-	-
2023-03-21		£700	£51	-	-
2022-03-21		£650	£0	-	-
2021-03-21		£700	£0	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Neil Clark	Chair	2020-08-07
Alison Grafton		2020-08-07
Georgina Saralis		2020-08-07

Connect 2 Purpose

England & Wales - Charity number 1190770

Accounts



CONNECT 2 PURPOSE TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 22.03.2024- 21.03.2025



Charity Number: 1190770
www.connecttopurpose.co.uk

Welcome to our Annual Report

Connect to Purpose is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation founded on 9 August 2020 by Georgina Saralis, Ali Grafton and Neil Clark. Our work is rooted in the belief that every young person deserves the opportunity to thrive, and that families flourish when they are supported, connected and empowered.

Our Charitable Objects

1. **To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation and protection of the historic buildings from which the charity operates**, in particular by implementing a programme of renovation and subsequent maintenance to sustain the building for the public.
2. **To advance in life and relieve the needs of young people in the UK** through:
 - a. the provision of recreation and leisure activities in the interests of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life;
 - b. advancing education;
 - c. providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society.

Our Values

Identity and heritage

Nature and nurture

Spiritual and personal growth

Love and compassion

These values guide every aspect of our work with young people, families and communities.

Structure and Governance

Connect to Purpose is governed by its constitution as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The charity was founded by three trustees who previously worked together to pioneer an outstanding alternative provision for disengaged young people aged 8–18, with a strong emphasis on supporting families beyond the school gates.

Our Trustees

Georgina Saralis (PGCE, M.Ed)

Former Regional Executive Headteacher at Compass Community, with extensive experience in residential, fostering and educational services for children in care. Georgina has completed a placement as a trainee Family Therapist with Oxford NHS Trust CAMHS, volunteered with Eikon and Home-Start, and is now in her second year as a Family Support volunteer with Hampshire Children's Services. She currently works as a SEN teacher in Farnborough, where she is preparing to pilot our first Family Hub and deliver the Parent CONNECT Programme.

Neil Clark (B.A. Hons Oxon)

A retired headteacher with over 40 years' experience, including 17 years leading Trelors, a nationally acclaimed specialist school for disabled children.

Ali Grafton

A Senior Paediatric Occupational Therapist with extensive experience supporting children and young people

with additional needs, working closely with local authorities and statutory services. The trustees share a deep commitment to improving the life chances of young people and their families, grounded in the belief that every child matters.

Governance and Leadership Development

Additional trustees may be appointed by resolution at a trustees' meeting. We are committed to ensuring that young people aged 16–25 are represented on our board and play an active role in shaping the charity's leadership.

We currently have two volunteers:

- **Jonathan Pine**, retired bank manager and farm owner
- **Joe Johnson**, former student and now a filmmaker

We are committed to equality, inclusion and diversity, and aim for leadership that reflects the communities we serve, including individuals from marginalised groups such as women, BAME communities, LGBTQIA+ individuals, disabled people, care-experienced young people, and those with lived experience of socio-economic disadvantage.

All trustees receive training appropriate to their role. Those working directly with beneficiaries undertake safeguarding training and are registered on the DBS Update Service.

We also have three trained facilitators for the CONNECT Programme: **Bernadette Davis**, **Emillia Dolton** and **Lisa Hicks**, each bringing experience from social care and mental health settings.

Activities

The trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when planning and delivering the charity's work.

Connect to Purpose supports young people aged 8–25 who feel their lives are not moving in the direction they hope for themselves. Our aim is to help them thrive with joy, purpose and confidence, rather than simply cope or survive.

We focus on young people who are struggling to succeed in the education system — those vulnerable to low attainment, disengagement, persistent absence or exclusion. These young people often face significant barriers, including family stress, bereavement, trauma, financial hardship, caring responsibilities, or the challenges of special educational needs.

We also work to support families at risk of breakdown and to reduce the number of children entering care, including supporting care leavers aged 16–25 as they transition into adulthood. Our work is currently focused in areas of high deprivation in Hampshire, including Gosport and Havant.

Evidence That Drives Us

- An estimated 1.4 million UK families are living in relationships described as “distressed” (Relate).
- In 2022/23, approximately 107,000 children were looked after in the UK, with numbers rising year on year (NSPCC).
- Exclusions and suspensions increased in the 2022/23 academic year, including among children under six (DfE).
- One in five children and young people in England had a probable mental disorder in 2023 (NHS England).
- There was a 7% increase in 10–14-year-olds entering the youth justice system for the first time in 2022–23.

Evidence That Motivates Us

“A loving family is worth more than money and will give you guidance, support, love and advice.”

Boy, 11 (The Big Ask, The Big Answer, 2021)

“Where children do not live with their immediate family, they care about having a happy home. If they were unhappy at home, they were nine times more likely to be unhappy with life overall.”

The Big Ask, The Big Answer, 2021

Importance of the Work We Do

We provide long-term, relational support for young people and their families at times of crisis — support that is increasingly difficult to access through overstretched statutory services. While national policy is moving toward the creation of family hubs, our approach addresses the deeper, underlying circumstances that shape a young person’s life trajectory.

COVID-19 intensified the need for this work. Although children were less affected physically, the psychosocial impact was profound. Many young people report heightened anxiety, loss of motivation and increased emotional distress.

Our core objective is to provide developmental, relational and family-centred support that strengthens young people’s skills, confidence and sense of belonging, helping families stay together and thrive wherever possible.

Activities and Achievements (2024/25)

This year, Connect to Purpose has strengthened its commitment to supporting young people by bringing our work directly into school communities. In response to the growing pressures facing children and families, we have focused on creating safe, relational spaces within schools where young people can build confidence, develop emotional and social skills, and access supportive activities designed to improve their overall wellbeing and participation in daily life. This early, school-based work enables us to identify families who may benefit from deeper developmental opportunities, forming a natural pathway into the recreational and educational retreat programmes we will deliver from our restored heritage properties. By meeting young people where they are and offering practical, strengths-based support, we continue to advance their skills, capacities and life chances while preserving our long-term vision for the buildings that anchor our charitable purpose.

Our Three Core Activities

1. The Family Hub

The Family Therapy Hub is our frontline, school-based offer, designed to strengthen family relationships, build confidence, and improve young people’s engagement in education and daily life. Working in partnership with schools and community settings, we create safe, relational spaces where young people and their caregivers can access supportive activities, develop social and emotional skills, and receive practical guidance that helps improve their conditions of life. This work aligns directly with our charitable purpose of advancing education, improving wellbeing through social-welfare activities, and developing young people’s skills and capacities to participate fully in society.

2. The CONNECT Programme

CONNECT is our structured, evidence-based programme for parents and carers of teenagers who are finding family life challenging. The programme strengthens parent–teen relationships by helping caregivers understand adolescent development, build connection, and develop new ways of responding to difficult behaviour. CONNECT is delivered in small groups over ten weekly sessions, each lasting 90

minutes and led by two trained facilitators. Parents explore new perspectives on communication, boundaries and emotional regulation through discussion, role-plays and practical exercises. The programme offers caregivers a supportive space to reflect, learn and build confidence in their parenting approach. CONNECT is designed to help parents feel more equipped to support their teenagers through periods of emotional intensity, social difficulties or behavioural challenges. The focus is on strengthening relationships, increasing understanding, and expanding the choices parents have in responding to everyday struggles.

The programme aligns with our charitable purpose by improving family relationships, enhancing wellbeing through social-welfare activities, and developing the skills and capacities of caregivers so that young people can participate more fully in education, family life and their wider community.

3. Countryside Retreats

What makes us unique is our intention to deliver transformative, developmental support through countryside retreats for young people and their families. These retreats provide time and space for rest, reflection and renewal, away from the pressures of daily life. Families are welcomed into a peaceful sanctuary where they can tell their stories, be heard, express their needs and recognise their own strengths and capacity to move forward.

We operate from heritage properties of cultural importance to the local community, sustained by social enterprise led by young adults. This model connects heritage with young people and their families, fostering belonging, inclusion and social wellbeing. By locating our retreats in heritage settings, cultural heritage becomes a meaningful part of each family's experience, encouraging connection with local history, identity and community.

Retreat activities include creative arts, outdoor pursuits, education, life-skills sessions, and opportunities to participate in the preservation of the heritage home and gardens. These purposeful activities strengthen family relationships, build capability, and support young people to re-engage with education and wider society. The retreat venue also provides opportunities for volunteering, community engagement and local employment, giving the heritage home ongoing social and economic value.

An integral part of this vision is our Supported Independent Rural Living (S.I.R.L.) project, offering transition, housing, education and employment pathways for disadvantaged young adults aged 16–25. Through this, young people can access training, apprenticeships, leadership opportunities and supported rural living as they move into adulthood.

Activities to Date

Since our founding, Connect to Purpose has focused on developing a heritage-based model of support for young people and their families. Our early work centred on identifying and securing a suitable historic property to restore as a retreat venue. This began with our first major project: an attempt to purchase and renovate Plas Llanmihangel, a C12th manor house of significant cultural importance. Although the property was ultimately sold before funds could be raised, the campaign strengthened our public profile, expanded our networks, and deepened our understanding of heritage restoration, community engagement and social investment.

Following this, we reviewed our strategy and refined our identity, including a change of name to Connect to Purpose to reflect our broader vision. We continued to explore potential retreat venues and invested in strengthening our digital presence, supported by the Heritage Trust Network's Digital Heroes programme. This enabled us to redesign our website, improve accessibility for donors and volunteers, and communicate our mission more effectively.

Over the past two years, we have focused on developing the skills, knowledge and partnerships needed to deliver our programmes. This has included training in retreat facilitation, family support, and multidisciplinary practice with children and young people. We have also begun building capacity to deliver

the Parents/Carers CONNECT Programme, an evidence-based approach designed to strengthen parent-teen relationships. Engagement with schools, local authorities and community partners has helped us lay the groundwork for future delivery, both as outreach and as part of our retreat offer.

Alongside this, we have continued to explore potential heritage properties suitable for our long-term retreat vision, including a recent site visit in the Brecon Beacons. Each stage of this journey has contributed to the development of a robust, values-driven model that integrates heritage, community, education and family development forming the foundation for the work we are now undertaking.

Future Plans

Over the coming year, Connect to Purpose will continue developing its three-strand model of support for young people and their families. Our priority is to strengthen our school-based Family Hub work, deepening partnerships with local schools and community organisations to ensure young people can access relational, developmental support at the earliest opportunity. We will also expand the CONNECT Programme, building our capacity to deliver both parent/carer groups and youth-focused sessions as part of our outreach offer.

Alongside this, we will continue exploring suitable heritage properties that can serve as long-term retreat venues. Our aim is to secure a site that enables us to integrate heritage, nature, recreation and family development in a way that reflects our values and charitable purpose. We will also continue building relationships with local authorities, funders and community partners to support the sustainability of this vision.

Our focus remains on creating meaningful, strengths-based opportunities for young people to develop their skills, confidence and sense of belonging, while preserving and celebrating heritage spaces that can be shared with the wider community. Each step we take is designed to move us closer to delivering restorative, educational and socially-beneficial retreats that bring families together and support young people to thrive.

Financial Review

For the financial year ending **21 March 2025**, Connect to Purpose received:

- **Unrestricted income:** £0
- **Restricted income:** £0
- **Total income for the year:** £0
- **Total expenditure:** £0
- **Surplus for the year:** £0

As of 21 January 2026, the balance of our bank account is £1,041.49, which includes:

- £693.24 raised in our 2021 crowdfunding campaign
- £348.25 donated directly via the Connect to Purpose website during the 2023/24 financial year.

The trustees continue to manage funds prudently, ensuring that all income is directed toward the development of our charitable activities.

Reserves Policy

Given the early stage of the charity's development, the trustees aim to build modest reserves to ensure financial stability and support future programme delivery. All funds are currently held for the purpose of developing our Family Hub, CONNECT Programme and retreat model.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review risks associated with governance, finance, safeguarding, and programme delivery. Key risks include:

- securing sustainable funding
- identifying a suitable heritage property
- maintaining volunteer and trustee capacity
- ensuring safeguarding compliance

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and financial statements in accordance

with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, safeguarding the assets of the charity, and ensuring compliance with charity law.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees of Connect to Purpose on **[insert date]**.

Signed:

Date: 19th January 2026

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G Saralis". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Georgina Saralis

Chair of Trustees

Connect 2 Purpose

England & Wales - Charity number 1190770

Accounts



CONNECT 2 PURPOSE TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 22.03.2023- 21.03.2024

Charity Number: 1190770 www.connecttopurpose.co.uk



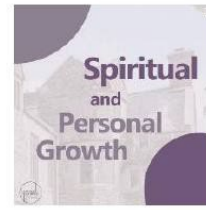
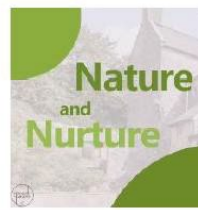
About Us

Welcome to our annual report for 2023/24. We are a charitable incorporated company founded on 9th August 2020, by our founders: Georgina Saralis, Ali Grafton and Neil Clark.

Our Objectives:

1. To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation and protection of the historic buildings from which the charity operates, in particular, by implementing a programme of renovation and subsequent maintenance to sustain the building for the public.
2. To advance in life and relief the needs of young people in the UK through a) the provision of recreation and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; b). advancing education; c). providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society.

Our values are identity and heritage, nature and nurture, spiritual and personal growth, love and compassion.



Structure and Governance

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Company governed by its constitution. Connect to Purpose was founded by three trustees who worked together previously, pioneering an outstanding alternative provision for disengaged young people (aged 8-18), the success of which included going beyond the school gates in supporting families.

- **Georgina Saralis** (PGCE, M.Ed) was recently Regional Executive Headteacher at Compass Community, which operates residential, fostering and educational services for children in care, and independent special schools. She is now a trainee Family Therapist at Oxford NHS Trust CAMHS, and as a volunteer Family Support at Hampshire Children's Services.
- **Neil Clark** (B.A.Hons Oxon), a retired headteacher, has over 40 years' experience, including 17 years as head of Trelors, a nationally acclaimed specialist school for disabled children.
- **Ali Grafton** is a specialist Senior Paediatric Occupational Therapist who works with children, young people and their families particularly with children with special needs, which involves partnerships with a range of local authority agencies and statutory bodies.

The trustees are passionate about working with young people and committed to making a difference to their life chances, underpinned by a belief that every child and their family matter.

Other trustees may be appointed by two or more trustees being present at a trustees meeting. It is our intention to ensure we have a balanced representation of young people aged 16-25 serving on our board of trustees and to them being integral to the leadership of the organization.

We have 2 volunteers. Jonathon Pine, retired bank manager (Newzealand Bank) and a farm owner, and Joe Johnson, who was one of our students and is now a film maker. (It is our intention to ensure we have a balanced representation of young people aged 16-25 serving on our board of trustees.)

We are committed to equality, inclusion and diversity in the leadership of our charity and to aim for a cross section of society. We strive to have representation from individuals who fall into marginalised groups such as women, BAME, LGBTQIA+, disabled, those who have been in care and those who have lived experience of socio-economic disadvantage, since they reflect the nature of our beneficiaries.

We encourage and have attracted volunteers.

All trustees will have an opportunity to undertake training for the role of trustees. All trustees working with our beneficiaries will have safeguarding training and will be registered on the DBS Update system.

We also have three experienced trainers to deliver our CONNECT Programme, with a background in social care and mental health: Bernadette Davis, Emillia Dolton and Lisa Hicks.

Activities

The trustees believe they have displayed due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance, which is known to the trustees and adhered to when making decisions in relation to the activities of the charity, and as described in this report.

This first section outlines our intentions for the charity.

Connect to Purpose supports young people aged 8-25 who feel their life is not going in the direction they want for themselves, so they can thrive and live with joy and purpose, rather than simply survive.



Our focus is on young people who feel they are struggling to succeed in our education system - who are vulnerable to low-attainment and who are in danger of becoming a 'lost-learner' by refusing to attend school, and/or to being excluded - since prospects for those who leave school without good grades are bleak. For instance, the consequences for young people who are excluded from school are reported to be poverty, loneliness and social isolation, alcohol and substance misuse, poor mental health, homelessness, the criminal justice system and even suicide.

Our holistic approach to supporting the young people along with their family is underpinned by evidence that these young people also experience dysfunctional family or foster situations that are often a reflection of their parents/carers suffering wider problems, such as family breakdown, single parenting, poor mental and physical health, bereavement, trauma, substance abuse, lack of employment, financial difficulties, or coping with a child with special needs or challenging behaviour and poverty.

Our focus is also on redressing the high number of children and young people going into care, at both points of prevention and intervention, including supporting post 16 care leavers' support in the community and, if appropriate, reunification with their family.

One of our starting points is South Wales where there are several areas of high deprivation and here there has been a 7% increase in children going into care, with 23-31% (1 in 3) children living in poverty, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and exclusion from school has risen by 51% since 2015.

We are also working in Hampshire, in the areas of Gosport and Havant that also have high areas of deprivation.

Evidence that drives us:

- A staggering 1.4 million UK families are living in relationships that could be described within clinical practice as 'distressed' (RELATE).
- In 2022/23, there were approximately 107,000 looked after children in the UK. In the last five years the population of looked after children in the UK has increased by 8%, and 33% of care-experienced children received youth caution or conviction (NSPCC).
- Published DfE statics for the Autumn term 2022/23 showed an increase in exclusions and suspensions from school compared to the previous year (including children under the age of 6).
- According to NHS England, in 2023, one in five children and young people in England had a probable mental disorder
- In 2022-2023 there was a 7% increase in younger children (aged between 10 and 14) entering the youth justice system for the first time.

Evidence that motivates us:

A loving family is worth more than money and will give you guidance, support, love and advice.'

Boy, 11. The Big Ask, The Big Answer, 2021

Where children do not live with their immediate family, they care about having a happy home. They told us if they were unhappy at home, and with their family life, they were nine times more likely to be unhappy with their life overall, and 70% of them were unhappy with their mental health'

The Big Ask, The Big Answer, 2021

Importance of the work we do

We provide long-term support for children and young people and their families in crisis, a service that is not currently available due to the limited capacity of schools to outreach, and with Children's Services and Social and Health Care at breaking point. In response to the alarming rise in mental ill health, and the call for more services to be accessible by charities such as MIND, there is a move to provide family hubs in each town. However, we tackle the issue of children and young people struggling, by addressing its root cause, which is family circumstance that requires a bespoke approach enabling all members to find a way to create the life they want for themselves, to achieve a long lasting impact on their futures.

COVID-19 exacerbated the need for our work. Although children were minimally susceptible to COVID-19, evidence of a sharp rise in mental health issues now shows how they were hit hardest by its psychosocial impact. The charity Young Minds reports that following the second lockdown, some young people say they are 'deeply anxious, have started self-harming again, are having panic attacks, or are losing motivation and hope for the future.'

Our main objective is to provide targeted personal development, relational, and mental health support for children, young people, and their families, to prevent family breakdown, both to ensure families stay together and thrive, or engage in reunification when children are taken into care.

1. Provide a countryside retreat for families in crisis, to support them to find a way forward together
2. Deliver Parent/Carers CONNECT programme to build a bridge between families and schools.

Our Retreats

What makes us unique is our intention to deliver this transformative support by providing countryside retreats for these young people and their families, giving them the time and space for rest and renewal. Coming away

from their home situation, away from stress and worry, and experiencing a peaceful sanctuary where they can tell their story, be listened to, say what they need, and realise they have the answers and capacity themselves to find a way forward.

We operate from heritage properties of cultural importance to the local community, sustained by social enterprise run by young adults, connecting heritage with young people and their families, to engender a sense of belonging, inclusion and social wellbeing.

Harnessing the power of personal development and transformation for all the family is an innovative strategy as an alternative contribution to the way our society is dealing with:

- the alarming rise in the number of young people with mental ill health,
- the disengagement in education of underserved young people
- eradicating the attainment gap in education,
- reducing the numbers of students excluded from school
- supporting the prevention of children moving into care.

By locating our retreats in heritage properties cultural heritage becomes integral to encouraging our young people and their families to make that connection with their local community; as a starting point for exploring their own family history. In doing so, we hope they will develop a sense of belonging to their local community, and feel empowered to shape its future, as well as their own.

An important part of their long-term programme of personal development support involves engagement in positive and purposeful activities together. Everyone who attends the retreats will be encouraged to participate in the preservation of the heritage home and its gardens, where encouraging care about local heritage is integral to awareness of identity, healing family relationships and building capability to overcome difficulties.

They will have access to personal development coaching and appropriate health and wellbeing therapies; as well as education, creative arts, and holiday activities, and outdoor pursuits. Family support workers will be available to give them information and advice they feel they need, such as in cooking and healthy living, budgeting and finances. The young people, along with their family, will plan their own timetable.

Running the heritage home as a retreat will provide opportunities for community engagement, for both local employment and a high level of volunteering, giving the heritage home an economic value and encouraging social interaction and wellbeing.

An integral part of this is our 'Supported Independent Rural Living (S.I.R.L.) project that will provide transition, housing, education and employment support for 16-25year olds who:

- have left residential care and/or
- have an Educational Health Care Plan and/or
- are disadvantaged by circumstance.

Projected outcomes are:

Our young people will:

- re-engage with their education and be better able to attain their academic potential and personal aspirations.
- connect to purpose and live with joy.

The parents/carers of our young people will:

- feel supported to find ways to overcome their difficulties;
- increase their confidence and capacity to support their children both at home and at school;
- feel personally empowered to achieve their own aspirations.

The whole family will:

- build connection and purpose as a family together, enjoying enhanced opportunities to participate in education, employment and society
- become part of a network of sustainable support, where the retreat venue is a hub for families in the local community;

Disadvantaged young people (16-25) will access:

- education, training, apprenticeship, employment, in crafts, hospitality, land-based and animal care etc;
- leadership as trustees of the charity;
- supported independent rural living, to transition into adult life.

PROJECT ONE (March 2020 – September 2021)

Our first project was to purchase the C12th manor house, Plas Llanmihangel, which is one of the oldest homes in Wales. The aim of the project was the rescue of one of Wales' oldest homes and, rather than let it fall into the hands of private residents, restore it to a comfortable family home to be shared with its wider community; including a diverse range of people who would not normally experience a stay in historic accommodation.

Previously, in September 2019, we applied to the Architectural Heritage Fund for an Impact Fund and were turned down but advised to apply for the Viability Fund. In June 2020, we contacted Eurig Williams from Alwyn Jones Architects, who kindly spent a great deal of (unpaid) time supporting us in producing a plan for the renovation and restoration of Plas Llanmihangel and advising us on the reports we needed for our project and for grant applications. This supported trustees to produce a detailed business plan.

On May 2021, we invited Peter Thomas, a senior planner from the Vale of Glamorgan, and Eurig Williams to visit Plas Llanmihangel to seek further guidance following our struggle with acquiring funding. Following this, with the help of Sarah Woodcock who volunteered her time as a Heritage Consultant, we applied for AHF funding, but it was again rejected. Our grant for the National Lottery Heritage Fund submitted in May 2021 was also turned down in July and they advised we applied again for the AHF's Viability Fund again to validate our application.

Alongside these applications, during lockdown, we launched a crowdfunding campaign to raise awareness of the charity and to raise funds for the purchase of Plas Llanmihangel. We reviewed and improved our website and are grateful for the voluntary work of Florence Saralis, a professional social media producer, for building our new website and setting up a social media platform for the charity, including Facebook and Instagram.

In March, the trustees contacted Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, whom they knew had visited Plas Llanmihangel when he presented the TV programme Hidden Houses of Wales, in 1998, and were very pleased when he agreed to support our charity. On Saturday 24th April 2021, with Laurence attending, we launched the campaign as an online Zoom event and we raised £693. Following this, Laurence took part in several publicity events, including a visit to Plas Llanmihangel on 12th May. With the help of Claire Saralis, Communications Consultant, we had articles published in Wales Online, The Vale, South Wales Argos, Penarth Times, Cowbridge News and Travel Life Magazine.

In addition, the trustees and their wider contacts of friends and business contacts showed tremendous support, and we are grateful for their attempts to raise social investment. Unfortunately, before we could raise the funds to purchase Plas Llanmihangel it was bought by cash buyers in September 2021.

However, we continue to be inspired by Laurence's enthusiasm and ideas he contributed to our vision:

PROJECT TWO (October 2021- July 2022)

We evaluated our campaign and discussed lessons learned. The main issue was that Plas Llanmihangel required a great deal of renovation and restoration, the cost of which was relatively unpredictable. Also, lockdown had an impact on fund raising as many grants focused on recovery from the pandemic.

However, we continue to search for a retreat venue and raise awareness of the charity.

To put us in a better position for attracting social investment, our next project is to carry out a small-scale project, a retreat in a local historical property, to provide an evidence-based programme to validate our approach.

There was a need to consider our identity going forward, now that we had not managed to purchase Plas Llanmihangel, including a change of name.

On 10th July 2022, we received an email of confirmation from the Charity Commission, of the charity's change of name to 'Connect to Purpose'. This was required since we had not purchased Plas Llanmihangel. We also removed reference to Plas Llanmihangel from Objective 1 of the Governance document and replaced this by the more generic term, 'a historic property'; this change was confirmed also on 10th July, by email.

PROJECT THREE (September 2022 – January 2023)

In June 2022, our application for the Heritage Trust Network's Digital Heroes project was successful. This was funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund to support the Heritage Trust Network's members with their digital development and with the aim to encourage a wider range of people to be involved with heritage (this refers to the Digital Heroes themselves), and provide opportunities for learned skills for the Digital Heroes, who will be taking part in training as part of the project, as well as the charity staff.

This access to digital expertise was timely as we now had to change our website, to remove Plas Llanmihangel, and it was an opportunity to create a 'new look'. Georgina Saralis worked with Gopika Jayasree on transforming the charity's website, including adding the ability for users to donate and volunteer.

The new website is here: [Ngo For Young People And Families | Connect To Purpose | Wales](#)

We are very grateful for the work Gopika did and she writes about her experience here, where she explains how it transformed her career and confidence:

[How becoming a Digital Hero transformed my career and my confidence | The National Lottery Heritage Fund](#)

PROJECT FOUR

June 2023 – December 2024

This was a time for developing the knowledge and skills of the charity's founders and innovating the approach to supporting our beneficiaries further. In June 2023, founder Georgina Saralis qualified as a Courage and Renewal Retreat Facilitator and in July, attained a post graduate certificate in 'Child, Adolescent and Family

Mental Health and Wellbeing Multidisciplinary practice at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Education Centre, with a view to training as a child psychotherapist. She is also now a Family Support volunteer with both Home-start, and Hampshire Children's Services, as well as a trainee Family Therapist at the Oxford NHS Trust CAMHS department, in Salisbury.

In November, we recruited three people who, in January 2024, along with Georgina Saralis, trained to deliver the Parents/Carers CONNECT Programme.

After researching the various parenting courses available, such as Triple P, Strengthening Families etc, we discovered CONNECT, which has been co-developed over the last 10 years by a team of clinical psychologists at the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre and Dr. Marlene Moretti of Simon Fraser University (British Columbia). It is well-supported by research evidence and is rated as a Level 1 intervention.

Research shows that a strong relationship with parents is the key to helping teenagers thrive and stay safe during adolescence the Connect is an expert-led program designed to help parents/carers build and strengthen connection with their teenage children.

Over 7000 families have participated in Connect© and 900+ families have enjoyed participating in the evaluation study. It is run by a variety of trained professionals in settings such as schools, community agencies and mental health offices across Canada, Sweden, Norway, and Italy, and we are now introducing it in the UK.

It is a 10-week evidenced-based course that helps parents to support their teenage children who are struggling with depression, anxiety or other intense emotional issues, or who are having social and behavioural difficulties. Parents meet in small groups with two trained group leaders for 90 minutes each week. Each session provides parents with a new perspective on parent-teen relationships and adolescent development. Parents watch role-plays and try exercises that encourage more choices for responding to their teens' difficult behaviour.

Parents who have taken part have expressed that they appreciate how the role-plays showed them how to handle different problems, and they value the confidence that they have gained as a parent. Parents have also shared that the leaders have helped them feel positive and hopeful about their parent-child relationship, and they have been excited to see gradual growth in their relationship.

We aim to deliver Parent/Carers CONNECT programme during our retreats, and we will also be developing this as an outreach activity. We aim to deliver the Parent/Carers CONNECT programme in schools, by our qualified trainers, to build a bridge between families and schools. We will establish a network of contacts by liaising with schools and local authorities to work with the young people whom require further support as a stay at the retreat.

The training was delivered Dr Marlene Moretti herself, over six 3-hour sessions that included teaching practice for assessment. To achieve qualified status, we must deliver the course under supervision, and this is what we are now working towards.

We attempted to contact several schools in Cardiff and Newport, to promote the CONNECT course, which we had arranged to deliver at the local sports centre, but we did not have the response required.

In September, Georgina did a presentation to a headteacher at a PRU in Gosport, in Hampshire, and from this has made presentations to two groups of local headteachers, who have expressed interest in the Parents/Carers CONNECT programme and funding is being sourced for this.

In December, we visited a farm in the Brecon Beacons as a possible site for a retreat and this is being investigated further.


Financial Review

As of 19th January 2024, the balance of our bank is £1041.49, which includes £693.24 raised in the Crowdfunding Campaign in 2021, and £348.25 donated directly to the Connect 2 Purpose website during 2024.

Financial Year	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024
Unrestricted income			
Restricted income	693.24		348.25
Total income	693.24	693.24	1041.49
Wages and salaries			
All other expenditure			
Total expenditure	0	0	0
Surplus/Deficit	693.24	693.24	1041.49

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signed: 
 Georgina Saralis
 Date: 15th January 2024

Connect 2 Purpose

England & Wales - Charity number 1190770

Accounts



CONNECT 2 PURPOSE TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 22.03.2022- 21.03.2023

Charity Number: 1190770 www.connecttopurpose.co.uk



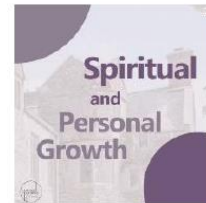
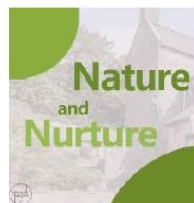
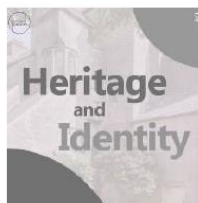
About Us

Welcome to our annual report for 2022/23. We are a charitable incorporated company founded on 9th August 2020, by our founders: Georgina Saralis, Ali Grafton and Neil Clark.

Our Objectives:

1. To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation and protection of the historic buildings from which the charity operates, in particular, by implementing a programme of renovation and subsequent maintenance to sustain the building for the public.
2. To advance in life and relief the needs of young people in the UK through a) the provision of recreation and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; b). advancing education; c). providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society.

Our values are identity and heritage, nature and nurture, spiritual and personal growth, love and compassion.



Structure and Governance

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Company governed by its constitution. Connect to Purpose was founded by three trustees who worked together previously, pioneering an outstanding alternative provision for disengaged young people (aged 8-18), the success of which included going beyond the school gates in supporting families.

The trustees are passionate about working with young people and committed to making a difference to their life chances, underpinned by a belief that every child and their family matter.

Other trustees may be appointed by two or more trustees being present at a trustees meeting. It is our intention to ensure we have a balanced representation of young people aged 16-25 serving on our board of trustees and to them being integral to the leadership of the organisation.

We are committed to equality, inclusion and diversity in the leadership our charity and to aim for a cross section of society. We strive to have representation from individuals who fall into marginalised groups such as women, BAME, LGBTQIA+, disabled, those who have been in care and those who have lived experience of socio-economic disadvantage, since they reflect the nature of our beneficiaries.

We encourage and have attracted volunteers.

All trustees will have an opportunity to undertake training for the role of trustees. All trustees working with our beneficiaries will have safeguarding training and will be registered on the DBS Update system.

Activities

The trustees believe they have displayed due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance, which is known to the trustees and adhered to when making decisions in relation to the activities of the charity, and as described in this report.

This first section outlines our intentions for the charity.

Connect to Purpose supports young people aged 8-25 who feel their life is not going in the direction they want for themselves, so they can thrive and live with joy and purpose, rather than simply survive.

Our focus is on young people who feel they are struggling to succeed in our education system - who are vulnerable to low-attainment and who are in danger of becoming a 'lost-learner' by refusing to attend school, and/or to being excluded - since prospects for those who leave school without good grades are bleak. For instance, the consequences for young people who are excluded from school are reported to be poverty, loneliness and social isolation, alcohol and substance misuse, poor mental health, homelessness, the criminal justice system and even suicide.



Our holistic approach to supporting the young people along with their family is underpinned by evidence that these young people also experience dysfunctional family or foster situations that are often a reflection of their parents/carers suffering wider problems, such as family breakdown, single parenting, poor mental and physical health, bereavement, trauma, substance abuse, lack of employment, financial difficulties, or coping with a child with special needs or challenging behaviour and poverty.

Our focus is also on redressing the high number of children and young people going into care, at both points of prevention and intervention, including supporting post 16 care leavers' support in the community and, if appropriate, reunification with their family.

Our starting point is South Wales where there are several areas of high deprivation and here there has been a 7% increase in children going into care, with 23-31% (1 in 3) children living in poverty, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and exclusion from school has risen by 51% since 2015.

COVID-19 exacerbated the need for our work. Although children were minimally susceptible to COVID-19, evidence of a sharp rise in mental health issues now shows how they were hit hardest by its psychosocial impact. The charity Young Minds reports that following the second lockdown, some young people say they are 'deeply anxious, have started self-harming again, are having panic attacks, or are losing motivation and hope for the future.'

It is our intention to provide retreats for rest and renewal for young people based in the UK, who seek support in challenging times. We operate from heritage properties of cultural importance to the local community, sustained by social enterprise run by young adults, connecting heritage with young people and their families, to engender a sense of belonging, inclusion and social wellbeing.

Harnessing the power of personal development and transformation for all the family is an innovative strategy as an alternative contribution to the way our society is dealing with:

- the disengagement of disadvantaged young people,
- eradicating the attainment gap in education,
- reducing the numbers of students excluded from school
- and ending children living in poverty in the UK.

By locating our retreats in heritage properties cultural heritage becomes integral to encouraging our young people and their families to make that connection with their local community; as a starting point for exploring their own family history. In doing so, we hope they will develop a sense of belonging to their local community, and feel empowered to shape its future, as well as their own.

An integral part of this is our 'Supported Independent Rural Living (S.I.R.L) project that will provide transition, housing, education and employment support for 16-25year olds who:

- have left residential care and/or
- have an Educational Health Care Plan and/or
- are disadvantaged by circumstance.

Projected outcomes are:

Our young people will:

- re-engage with their education and be better able to attain their academic potential and personal aspirations;
- connect to purpose and live with joy.

The parents/carers of our young people will:

- feel supported to find ways to overcome their difficulties;
- increase their confidence and capacity to support their children both at home and at school;
- feel personally empowered to achieve their own aspirations.

The whole family will:

- build connection and purpose as a family together, enjoying enhanced opportunities to participate in education, employment and society
- become part of a network of sustainable support, where the retreat venue is a hub for families in the local community;

Disadvantaged young people (16-25) will access:

- education, training, apprenticeship, employment, in crafts, hospitality, land-based and animal care etc;
- leadership as trustees of the charity;
- supported independent rural living, to transition into adult life.

PROJECT ONE (March 2020 – September 2021)

Our first project was to purchase the C12th manor house, Plas Llanmihangel, which is one of the oldest homes in The aim of the project was the rescue of one of Wales' oldest homes and, rather than let it fall into the hands of private residents, restore it to a comfortable family home to be shared with its wider community; including a diverse range of people who would not normally experience a stay in historic accommodation.

Previously, in September 2019, we applied to the Architectural Heritage Fund for an Impact Fund and were turned down but advised to apply for the Viability Fund. In June 2020, we contacted Eurig Williams from Alwyn Jones Architects, who kindly spent a great deal of (unpaid) time supporting us in producing a plan for the renovation and restoration of Plas Llanmihangel and advising us on the reports we needed for our project and for grant applications. This supported trustees to produce a detailed business plan.

On May 2021, we invited Peter Thomas, a senior planner from the Vale of Glamorgan, and Eurig Williams to visit Plas Llanmihangel to seek further guidance following our struggle with acquiring funding. Following this, with the help of Sarah Woodcock who volunteered her time as a Heritage Consultant, we applied for AHF funding, but it was again rejected. Our grant for the National Lottery Heritage Fund submitted in May 2021 was also turned down in July and they advised we applied again for the AHF's Viability Fund again to validate our application.

Alongside these applications, during lockdown, we launched a crowdfunding campaign to raise awareness of the charity and to raise funds for the purchase of Plas Llanmihangel. We reviewed and improved our website and are grateful for the voluntary work of Florence Saralis, a professional social media producer, for building our new website and setting up a social media platform for the charity, including Facebook and Instagram.

In March, the trustees contacted Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, whom they knew had visited Plas Llanmihangel when he presented the TV programme Hidden Houses of Wales, in 1998, and were very pleased when he agreed to support our charity. On Saturday 24th April, 2021, with Laurence attending, we launched the campaign as an online Zoom event and we raised £693. Following this, Laurence took part in several publicity events, including a visit to Plas Llanmihangel on 12th May. With the help of Claire Saralis, Communications Consultant, we had articles published in Wales Online, The Vale, South Wales Argos, Penarth Times, Cowbridge News and Travel Life Magazine.

In addition, the trustees and their wider contacts of friends and business contacts showed tremendous support and we are grateful for their attempts to raise social investment. Unfortunately, before we could raise the funds to purchase Plas Llanmihangel it was bought by cash buyers in September 2021.

However, we continue to be inspired by Laurence's enthusiasm and ideas he contributed to our vision:

PROJECT TWO (October 2021- July 2022)

We evaluated our campaign and discussed lessons learned. The main issue was that Plas Llanmihangel required a great deal of renovation and restoration, the cost of which was relatively unpredictable. Also, lockdown had an impact on fund raising as many grants focused on recovery from the pandemic. However, we continue to search for a retreat venue and raise awareness of the charity.

To put us in a better position for attracting social investment, our next project is to carry out a small-scale project, a retreat in a local historical property, to provide an evidence-based programme to validate our approach.

There was a need to consider our identity going forward, now that we had not managed to purchase Plas Llanmihangel, including a change of name.

On 10th July 2022, we received an email of confirmation from the Charity Commission, of the charity's change of name to 'Connect to Purpose'. This was required since we had not purchased Plas Llanmihangel. We also removed reference to Plas Llanmihangel from Objective 1 of the Governance document and replaced this by the more generic term, 'a historic property'; this change was confirmed also on 10th July, by email.

PROJECT THREE (September 2022 – January 2023)

In June 2022, our application for the Heritage Trust Network's Digital Heroes project was successful. This was funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund to support the Heritage Trust Network's members with their digital development and with the aim to encourage a wider range of people to be involved with heritage (this refers to the Digital Heroes themselves), and provide opportunities for learned skills for the Digital Heroes, who will be taking part in training as part of the project, as well as the charity staff.

This access to digital expertise was timely as we now had to change our website, to remove Plas Llanmihangel, and it was an opportunity to create a 'new look'. Georgina Saralis worked with Gopika Jayasree on transforming the charity's website, including adding the ability for users to donate and volunteer.

The new website is here: [Ngo For Young People And Families | Connect To Purpose | Wales](#)

We are very grateful for the work Gopika did and she writes about her experience here, where she explains how it transformed her career and confidence:

[How becoming a Digital Hero transformed my career and my confidence | The National Lottery Heritage Fund](#)

PROJECT THREE (Since November 2023)

This has been a time for developing the knowledge and skills of the charity's founders and innovating the approach to supporting our beneficiaries further. In June 2023, founder Georgina Saralis qualified as a Courage and Renewal Retreat Facilitator and in July, attained a post graduate certificate in 'Child, Adolescent and Family Mental Health and Wellbeing Multidisciplinary practice at the Tavistock and Portman NHS Education Centre, with a view to training as a child psychotherapist. She is also now a volunteer with Home-start.

In November, three volunteers joined and in January, along with Georgina Saralis, trained to deliver the Connect Program. We are now arranging its delivery in Newport.

The charity is in the process of setting up a trading arm and registering Reach Connectedness CIC. We are also exploring the possibility of engaging accounting and fundraising services.

Financial Review

The crowdfunding campaign raised £754, from which £39.61 was deducted as follows:


Project successful

You raised	£745.00
Crowdfunder fees	- £22.35
Transaction fees	- £20.78
VAT	- £8.63
Total payable	£693.24

As of 21st March 2023, the balance of our bank is £693.24.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Signed: 
Georgina Jane Saralis
Date: 1st February 2024

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Connect to Purpose CIO		No (if any)	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts			
	For the period from	22/03/2022	To	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Crowdfunding UK	-	-	-	700	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total (Gross income for AFI)</i>	-	-	-	700	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	700	-
<i>Total receipts</i>	-	-	-	700	-
A3 Payments					
Crowdfunding UK Fees	-	-	-	22	-
Crowdfunding Transaction fees	-	-	-	21	-
Crowdfunding UK VAT	-	-	-	9	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	51	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	-	-	-	51	-
<i>Total payments</i>	-	-	-	51	-
<i>Net of receipts/(payments)</i>	-	-	-	Cross Add Error	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last gear end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	-	-	-	650	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds <small>to nearest £</small>	Restricted funds <small>to nearest £</small>	Endowment funds <small>to nearest £</small>
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	650	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement/ Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds <small>to nearest £</small>	Restricted funds <small>to nearest £</small>	Endowment funds <small>to nearest £</small>
	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset	Cost (optimal)	Current value
B3 Investment assets	Details		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		-	-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset	Cost (optimal)	Current value
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which	Amount due (optimal)	When due (optimal)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
	 	Georgina Saralir Alison Grafton		01/02/2024 01/02/2024

Connect 2 Purpose

England & Wales - Charity number 1190770

Accounts



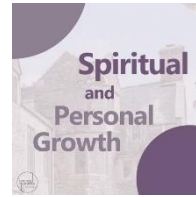
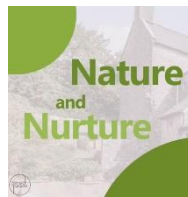
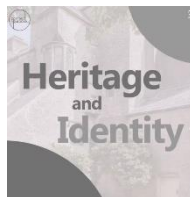
About Us

Welcome to our annual report for 2021/22. We are a charitable incorporated company founded on 9th August 2020, by our founders: Georgina Saralis, Ali Grafton and Neil Clark. We were then delighted to be joined by Stuart Bain and Joe Johnson.

Our Objectives:

1. To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation and protection of the historic buildings from which the charity operates, in particular, by implementing a programme of renovation and subsequent maintenance to sustain the building for the public. Despite being in lockdown, we managed to launch our first campaign
2. To advance in life and relief the needs of young people in the UK through a) the provision of recreation and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; b). advancing education; c). providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society

Our values are identity and heritage, nature and nurture, spiritual and personal growth, love and care.



Structure and Governance

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Company governed by its constitution.

Connect to Purpose was founded by three trustees who worked together previously, pioneering an outstanding alternative provision for disengaged young people (aged 8-18), the success of which included going beyond the school gates in supporting families.

The trustees are passionate about working with young people: pushing the boundaries of educational practice to unleash the potential of those who experience barriers to their learning, challenging and defying expectation. They are tenacious in promoting the rights, needs and aspirations of socially disadvantaged and vulnerable students, and committed to making a difference to their life chances, underpinned by a belief that every child and family matter. Other trustees may be appointed by two or more trustees being present at a trustees meeting.



It is our intention to ensure we have a balanced representation of young people aged 16-25 serving on our board of trustees and to them being integral to the leadership of the organisation.



We are committed to equality, inclusion and diversity in the leadership our charity and to aim for a cross-section of society. We strive to have representation from individuals who fall into marginalised groups such as women, BAME, LGBTQIA+, disabled, those who have been in care and those who have lived experience of socio-economic disadvantage, since they reflect the nature of our beneficiaries.

We encourage and have attracted volunteers.

All trustees will have an opportunity to undertake training for the role of trustees. All trustees working with our beneficiaries will have safeguarding training and will be registered on the DBS Update system.

Activities

The trustees believe they have displayed due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance, which is known to the trustees and adhered to when making decisions in relation to the activities of the charity, and as described in this report.

As a new charity the first phase of our activities involved start-up and raising awareness. The first section outlines our intentions for the charity.



Connect to Purpose supports young people aged 11-25 who feel their life is not going in the direction they want for themselves, so they can thrive and live with joy and purpose, rather than simply survive.

COVID-19 has exacerbated the need for our work. Although children are minimally susceptible to COVID-19, they are hit hardest by its psychosocial impact. The charity Young Minds reports that following the second lockdown, some young people say they are 'deeply anxious, have started self-harming again, are having panic attacks, or are losing motivation and hope for the future.'

It is our intention to provide retreats for rest and renewal for young people based in the UK, who seek support in challenging times. We operate from heritage properties of cultural importance to the local community, sustained by social enterprise run by young adults, connecting heritage with young people and their families, to engender a sense of belonging, inclusion and social wellbeing.

Harnessing the power of personal development and transformation for all the family is an innovative strategy as an alternative contribution to the way our society is dealing with:

- the disengagement of disadvantaged young people;
- eradicating the attainment gap in education;
- reducing the numbers of students excluded from school
- and ending children living in poverty in the UK.

We tackle the problem at one of its root causes, young people in dysfunctional family situations out of their control.

By locating our retreats in heritage properties cultural heritage becomes integral to encouraging our young people and their families to make that connection with their local community; as a starting point for exploring their own family history. In doing so, we hope they will develop a sense of belonging to their local community, and feel empowered to shape its future, as well as their own.



We will develop the historic homes as centres of social enterprise, to promote their cultural importance and conservation for the benefit its local community, and to ensure the charity is sustained as a self-financing organisation.

For our young people aged 16-25 (especially leaving care), the operation of the retreats will provide education, training, apprenticeship and employment opportunities, along with supported independent rural living. It will provide opportunities for community engagement, for both local employment and a high level of volunteering, giving the heritage home an economic value and encouraging social interaction and wellbeing.

PROJECT ONE (March 2020 – September 2021)

Our first project was to purchase the C12th manor house, Plas Llanmihangel, which is one of the oldest homes in Wales, located in the Vale of Glamorgan. This was chosen because in South Wales there is: a 7% increase in children going into care, 23-31% (1 in 3) children live in poverty, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and where exclusion from school has risen by 51% since 2015.



The aim of the project was the rescue of one of Wales' oldest homes and, rather than let it fall into the hands of private residents, restore it to a comfortable family home to be shared with its wider community; including a diverse range of people who would not normally experience a stay in historic accommodation.

An integral part of this is our 'Supported Independent Rural Living (S.I.R.L) project that will provide transition housing, education and employment support for 16-25year olds who:

- have left residential care and/or
- have an Educational Health Care Plan and/or
- are disadvantaged by circumstance.

Our projected outcomes:

Our young people will:

- re-engage with their education and be better able to attain their academic potential and personal aspirations;
- connect to purpose and live with joy.

The parents/carers of our young people will:

- feel supported to find ways to overcome their difficulties;
- increase their confidence and capacity to support their children both at home and at school;
- feel personally empowered to achieve their own aspirations.

The whole family will:

- build connection and purpose as a family together, enjoying enhanced opportunities to participate in education, employment and society
- become part of a network of sustainable support, where Plas Llanmihangel is a hub for families in the local community;

Disadvantaged young people (16-25) will access:

- education, training, apprenticeship, employment, in crafts, hospitality, land-based and animal care etc;
- leadership as trustees of the charity;
- supported independent rural living, to transition into adult life.



Previously, in September 2019, we applied to the Architectural Heritage Fund for an Impact Fund and were turned down but advised to apply for the Viability Fund.

In June 2020, we contacted Eurig Williams from Alwyn Jones Architects, who kindly spent a great deal of (unpaid) time supporting us in producing a plan for the renovation and restoration of Plas Llanmihangel and advising us on the reports we needed for our project and for grant applications.

This supported trustees to produce a detailed business plan.

On May 2021, we invited Peter Thomas, a senior planner from the Vale of Glamorgan, and Eurig Williams to visit Plas Llanmihangel to seek further guidance following our struggle with acquiring funding. Following this, with the help of Sarah Woodcock who volunteered her time as a Heritage Consultant, we applied for AHF funding, but it was again rejected. Our grant for the National Lottery Heritage Fund submitted in May 2021 was also turned down in July and they advised we applied again for the AHF's Viability Fund again to validate our application.

Alongside these applications, during lockdown, we launched a crowdfunding campaign to raise awareness of the charity and to raise funds for the purchase of Plas Llanmihangel.

We reviewed and improved our website and are grateful for the voluntary work of Florence Saralis, a professional social media producer, for building our new website and setting up a social media platform for the charity, including Facebook and Instagram.

In March, the trustees contacted Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, whom they knew had visited Plas Llanmihangel when he presented the TV programme Hidden Houses of Wales, in 1998, and were very pleased when he agreed to support our charity. On Saturday 24th April, 2021, with Laurence attending, we launched the campaign as an online Zoom event and we raised £693.



Following this, Laurence took part in several publicity events, including a visit to Plas Llanmihangel on 12th May.

With the help of Claire Saralis, Communications Consultant, we had articles published in Wales Online, The Vale, South Wales Argos, Penarth Times, Cowbridge News and Travel Life Magazine.

In addition, the trustees and their wider contacts of friends and business contacts showed tremendous support and we are grateful for their attempts to raise social investment

Unfortunately, before we could raise the funds to purchase Plas Llanmihangel it was bought by cash buyers in September 2021. However, we continue to be inspired by Laurence's enthusiasm and ideas he contributed to our vision:

"You know, this is a very simple solution as far as I can see. It's a very straightforward thing to do. It's about giving people who have had so little advantage, the creativity to create their own advantages, and you can do that by giving it a look, giving it a style, giving it something that people get really, really excited about. This is going to be an incredibly important historical moment. This is the moment where we all decided together to create something very, very special in Plas Llanmihangel's name." LLB



PROJECT TWO (September 2021- March 2022)

We evaluated our campaign and discussed lessons learned. The main issue was that Plas Llanmihangel required a great deal of renovation and restoration, the cost of which was relatively unpredictable. Also, lockdown had an impact on fund raising as many grants focused on recovery from the pandemic.

However, we continue to search for a retreat venue and raise awareness of the charity.

To put us in a better position for attracting social investment, our next project is to carry out a small-scale project, a retreat in a local historical property, to provide an evidence based programme to validate our approach.

Financial Review

The crowdfunding campaign raised £754, from which £39.61 was deducted as follows:

Project successful	
You raised	£745.00
Crowdfunder fees	- £22.35
Transaction fees	- £20.78
VAT	- £8.63
Total payable	£693.24

As of 21st March 2022, the balance of our bank is £693.24.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signed:

Georgina Jane Saralis

Date: 20th January 2023



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Connect 2 Purpose / Plas Llanmiahngel CIO No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 22/03/2021	To	Period end date 21/03/2022
---------------------	---------------------------------	----	-------------------------------

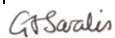
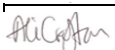
Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Crowdfunding UK	-	-	-	700	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	-	-	-	700	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	700	-
Total receipts	-	-	-	700	-
A3 Payments					
Crowdfunding UK Fees	-	-	-	22	-
Crowdfunding UK Transaction Fees	-	-	-	21	-
Crowdfunding UK VAT	-	-	-	9	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	51	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	51	-
Total payments	-	-	-	51	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	-	-	-	Cross Add Error	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	-	-	-	650	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	650	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	650	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Georgina Jane Saralis	20/01/2023
	Alison Grafton	20/01/2023

Connect 2 Purpose

England & Wales - Charity number 1190770

Accounts



About Us

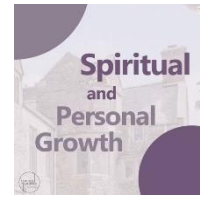
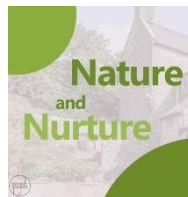
Welcome to our annual report for 2020/21. We are a charitable incorporated company founded on 9th August 2020, by our founders: Georgina Saralis, Ali Grafton and Neil Clark. We were then delighted to be joined by Stuart Bain and Joe Johnson.

The charity is known as Plas Llanmihangel, which is the name of the 12th Century manor house we aim to purchase as our headquarters and first place of operation.

Our Objectives:

1. To promote for the benefit of the public the preservation and protection of the historic Tudor manor known as Plas Llanmihangel in the Vale of Glamorgan in particular by implementing a programme of renovation and subsequent maintenance to sustain the building for the public.
2. To advance in life and relief the needs of young people in the UK through a) the provision of recreation and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; b). advancing education; c). providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society

Our values are identity and heritage, nature and nurture, spiritual and personal growth, love and care.



Structure and Governance

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Company governed by its constitution.

Plas Llanmihangel was founded by three trustees who worked together previously, pioneering an outstanding alternative provision for disengaged young people (aged 8-18), the success of which included going beyond the school gates in supporting families.

Other trustees may be appointed by two or more trustees being present at a trustees meeting.

It is our intention to ensure we have a balanced representation of young people aged 16-25 serving on our board of trustees and to them being integral to the leadership of the organisation.

We are committed to equality, inclusion and diversity in the leadership our charity and to aim for a cross-section of society. We strive to have representation from individuals who fall into marginalised groups such as women, BAME, LGBTQIA+, disabled, those who have been in care and those who have lived experience of socio-economic disadvantage, since they reflect the nature of our beneficiaries.

We encourage and have attracted volunteers.



All trustees will have an opportunity to undertake training for the role of trustees. All trustees working with our beneficiaries will have safeguarding training and will be registered on the DBS Update system.

Activities

The trustees believe they have displayed due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance, which is known to the trustees and adhered to when making decisions in relation to the activities of the charity, and as described in this report.

As a new charity the first phase of our activities involved start-up and raising awareness. The first section outlines our intentions for the charity.



Connect to Purpose supports young people aged 11-25 who feel their life is not going in the direction they want for themselves, so they can thrive and live with joy and purpose, rather than simply survive.

COVID-19 has exacerbated the need for our work. Although children are minimally susceptible to COVID-19, they are hit hardest by its psychosocial impact. The charity Young Minds reports that following the second lockdown, some young people say they are 'deeply anxious, have started self-harming again, are having panic attacks, or are losing motivation and hope for the future.'

It is our intention to provide retreats for rest and renewal for young people based in the UK, who seek support in challenging times. We operate from heritage properties of cultural importance to the local community, sustained by social enterprise run by young adults, connecting heritage with young people and their families, to engender a sense of belonging, inclusion and social wellbeing.

Harnessing the power of personal development and transformation for all the family is an innovative strategy as an alternative contribution to the way our society is dealing with:

- the disengagement of disadvantaged young people;
- eradicating the attainment gap in education;
- reducing the numbers of students excluded from school
- and ending children living in poverty in the UK.

We tackle the problem at one of its root causes, young people in dysfunctional family situations out of their control.

By locating our retreats in heritage properties cultural heritage becomes integral to encouraging our young people and their families to make that connection with their local community; as a starting point for exploring their own family history. In doing so, we hope they will develop a sense of belonging to their local community, and feel empowered to shape its future, as well as their own.

We will develop the historic homes as centres of social enterprise, to promote their cultural importance and conservation for the benefit its local community, and to ensure the charity is sustained as a self-financing organisation.

For our young people aged 16-25 (especially leaving care), the operation of the retreats will provide education, training, apprenticeship and employment opportunities, along with supported independent rural living. It will provide opportunities for community engagement, for both local employment and a high level of volunteering, giving the heritage home an economic value and encouraging social interaction and wellbeing.



PROJECT ONE (August 2020 – March 2021)

Our first project is to purchase the C12th manor house, Plas Llanmihangel, which is one of the oldest homes in Wales, located in the Vale of Glamorgan. This was chosen because in South Wales there is: a 7% increase in children going into care, 23-31% (1 in 3) children live in poverty, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and where exclusion from school has risen by 51% since 2015.



The aim of the project is the rescue of one of Wales' oldest homes and, rather than let it fall into the hands of private residents, restore it to a comfortable family home to be shared with its wider community; including a diverse range of people who would not normally experience a stay in historic accommodation.

An integral part of this is our 'Supported Independent Rural Living (S.I.R.L) project that will provide transition housing, education and employment support for 16-25year olds who:

- have left residential care and/or
- have an Educational Health Care Plan and/or
- are disadvantaged by circumstance.

Previously, in September 2019, we applied to the Architectural Heritage Fund for an Impact Fund and were turned down but advised to apply for the Viability Fund.

In June 2020, we contacted Eurig Williams from Alwyn Jones Architects, who kindly spent a great deal of (unpaid) time supporting us in producing a plan for the renovation and restoration of Plas Llanmihangel and advising us on the reports we needed for our project and for grant applications. This supported trustees to produce a detailed business plan.

Alongside these applications, during lockdown, we began to plan a crowdfunding campaign to raise awareness of the charity and to raise funds for the purchase of Plas Llanmihangel.

We reviewed and improved our website and are grateful for the voluntary work of Florence Saralis, a professional social media producer, for building our new website and setting up a social media platform for the charity, including Facebook and Instagram.

In March, the trustees contacted Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, whom they knew had visited Plas Llanmihangel when he presented the TV programme Hidden Houses of Wales, in 1998, and were very pleased when he agreed to support our charity. We are now organising a crowdfunding campaign launch event in April to be attended by Laurence.

Financial Review

The charity applied to the Co-operative Bank for a charity account on 2nd March and awaiting a response.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signed: 

Georgina Jane Saralis

Date: 20th January 2023



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name Connect 2 Purpose (Plas Llanmihangel CIO	No (if any)
---	-------------

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 8/7/2020	To	Period end date 3/21/2021
---------------------	-------------------------------	----	------------------------------

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	-	-	-	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	-	-	-	-
A3 Payments				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total payments	-	-	-	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	-	-	-	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	-	-	-	-

NO FUNDS

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
	Total cash funds	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <i>G. Saralis</i> _____ <i>Alison Grafton</i> _____ </div>	Print Name <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> Georgina Jane Saralis Alison Grafton </div>
---	---

CC16a

Last year
to the nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

-
-
-

-

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

-
-
-

-

-
-
-
-



**Endowment funds
to nearest £**

-
-
-
-

OK

**Endowment funds
to nearest £**

-
-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

**When due
(optional)**

Date of approval

1/20/2023
1/20/2023