



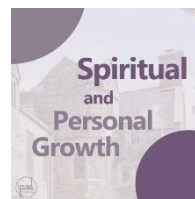
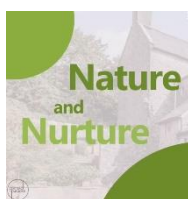
About Us

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 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.

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)				NO FUNDS AS YET	
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
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
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	