

Derwentside Detached Youth Project

Supporting young people in the Community since 1981

Annual Report

March 2020 – April 2021



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Registered Charity No. 513336

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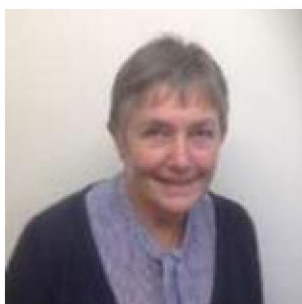
Meet the Trustee's



Mr Jeff Davison – Chair



Cllr Owen Temple – Treasurer



Anne Leech – Secretary



Rev Anne Jeffrey



Cllr Jane Brown



Christina Coombe

Meet the Team



Jackie Forbes – Project Manager



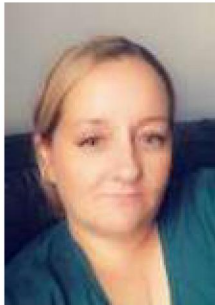
Diane Wordsworth – Detached Youth Worker



Lynn Walton – Detached Youth Worker



Megan Sinden – support Youth Worker



Joanne Nattrass – Detached Youth Worker



Kathryn Rooney – Support Youth Worker



Lucy Halkyard - Support Worker

CHAIRS REPORT

I would like to thank everyone for attending Derwentside Detached Youth Project's Annual General Meeting.

Although it has been a very difficult year due to COVID 19 I would also like to thank our youth work teams Diane and Megan; Lynn and Lucy, Joanne and Kathryn who have managed to maintain contact with young people, assist and advise wherever possible.

I would also like to thank our Project Manager, Jackie who throughout this difficult time has still managed to obtain funding for our project.

Hopefully from now one things will change and we will be able to get back what we do best, positive youth work supporting young people in the Derwentside area.

Jeff Davison - Chairperson.

PROJECT MANAGER REPORT

What can I say? The very year we are supposed to be celebrating our 40th Anniversary, out of all my years with the Project this has been the most unusual and very difficult, not just for our team but also for the young people and their families that we support. Everyone faced massive challenges, some dealt with them whilst others struggled.

Firstly I must say a massive “thank you” to all our funders who have enabled us to work with and offer extra vital support to the community. Special thanks to the National Lottery & Government Covid Support Fund which enabled us to reach out to families who were particularly hard hit during the pandemic. Many of them live in very high areas of deprivation, experiencing day to day struggles in more normal times, however it was not just the lack of money it was the loss of interaction with others.

Through the powers of I.T., social media, ZOOM etc., we were able to maintain a level of contact with young people already engaged with our project, over the months getting to know their siblings and other family members.

Unfortunately, all our regular detached youth work and drop ins had to be cancelled although when necessary we were able to offer one to one support for young people who were experiencing severe emotional issues. We found many of them did not cope particularly well with isolation, some suffering from depression, self-harming, erratic behaviour or simply cutting themselves off.

It was not all doom and gloom, because of extra funding we were able to offer them the opportunity to have “special” family nights in, as they could not go out, workers would arrange to have pizzas delivered to them, allowing them time to sit and eat together and enjoy each other’s company. We took them board games to encourage them to interact as a family, sit together and have fun. The feedback we received from these events was very positive as it was something they could not have done, it was good to be able to give them a treat.

Intergeneration activities of also had to be cancelled, however we have made so many plans for the future and are starting to look ahead rather than back. I have been part of the Project now for many years and feel extremely proud to be working with a team of dedicated youth workers who have done their utmost throughout the pandemic to ease the lives of young people and their families in the community.

Funding is always a high priority and as we are now in the final year of our core funding from the National Lottery Community Fund its time to start once again looking for sustainability for

the project, as we are not in our 41st year I have confidence our work will go on for many more years to come, working with new generations and facing new challenges.

Onwards and upwards!

Jackie Forbes – Project Manager

Youth Worker Reports

This past year has brought many challenges. The Covid Pandemic has had a huge impact on young people whom already felt socially isolated. For the first few months when the country was in Lockdown we were committed to staying in touch with the young people we work with and held zoom calls and I was also available via my work mobile for any young person struggling and needing someone to talk to. After new Covid Guidance from The National Youth Agency we were able to re-open our LGBTQ+ support drop ins. This proved to be a vital life line and offered young people a safe environment to socialise and discuss any problems or issues with staff face to face.



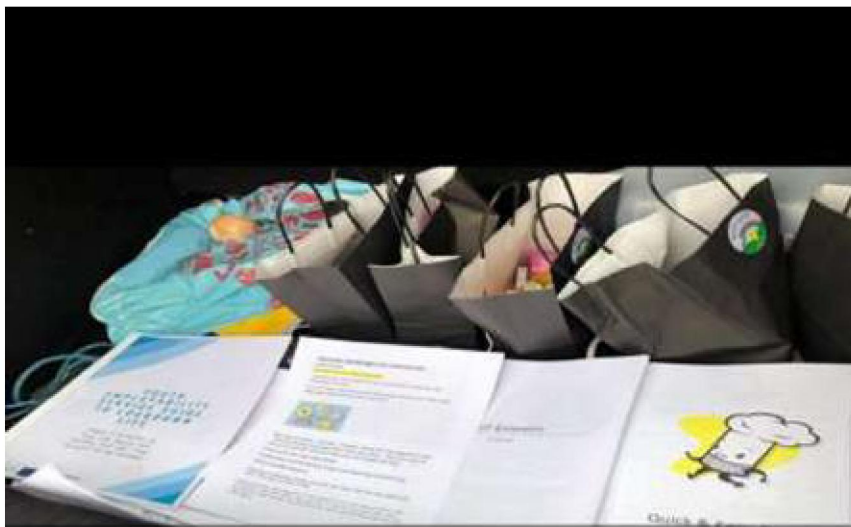
Young people from our LGBTQ support group

With Funding from The National Lottery and The Government we were able to help a lot of struggling families by providing them with Essential household packs and also Christmas Dinner packs containing everything they needed to enjoy a family meal together. Young people attending the LGBTQ Group also helped make up Christmas hampers and Essential hampers to give to young people living in supported housing. We also gave young people the opportunity to spend quality time with their families by organising takeaway nights, where we would order a takeaway of their choice to be delivered to their home for all the family to enjoy.



Young people helping pack items of essentials to be taken to YP living in supported accommodation.

The Burnhope Drop in was eventually allowed to re-open with social distancing measures in place and young people returned after a few months. The drop in is now well attended again and we have new members registering every few weeks.



Activity Packs delivered to young people in Burnhope

Detached work is very challenging as we can't order young people to socially distance but we do try to encourage them. What this pandemic has made me realise is that young people are often more cautious and considerate of the Covid Guidelines than people give them credit for and try to adhere to the guidance as best they can.

Whatever may come in the upcoming weeks and months we will continue to strive to support, guide and encourage young people in the areas we work to reach their full potential.

"Young people, when informed and empowered, when they realise that what they do truly makes a difference, can indeed change the world" - Jane Goodall (Anthropologist)

Diane Wordsworth - Youth Worker

Despite having to Isolate due to COVID guidelines and restrictions our project has been successful in maintaining links with our most vulnerable young people and families throughout the time-scale of lockdown.

Christmas 2020 we were able to supply families most in need with food parcels, Christmas dinner packages and Christmas Presents. We also gave out activity packs throughout both the first and second lockdown. These were much appreciated by the young people and their parents/carers, but best of all helped us to remain in contact with our young people.

NYA asked if we would be involved in setting up a Forum for young people in Consett and Stanley areas. This was funded by Carbon Homes as a Pilot Project.

Main aims were to find out the issues affecting young people in these Communities.

Due to lockdown these meetings had to be facilitated through weekly Zoom meetings young people were requested to do a survey to find out the main issues and needs pertaining to young people. They made a presentation of their findings to Carbon Homes.

Transport and travel costs was the main issues; bus passes restricted them to travel beyond 6.p.m. Mental health services for young people have long waiting lists leaving young people more vulnerable. Young people also mentioned policing issues and poor communication between both police and young people.

Art Therapy group has been back on for several weeks now, we have just moved back to the Lodge in Blackhill Park. Once again young people appreciate this group as it is not only a safe place to go but gives them an opportunity to be creative. We have some amazing art work which we would like to display.

St John's Community Hall has welcomed us back and were more than happy to accommodate our group. At the moment we cannot have more than 15 young people but hope when restrictions are lifted this will change. Once again those who attend showed their appreciation

when we were not able to use the Hall. The young people did a litter pick in the woodland area near the centre.

We plan to do activities during the holidays and groups have been consulted as to what they would like to do. Ideas were trips away, walk around the Genesis Way and a picnic, we may also do a family creative day.

Roots and Wings are back in Blackhill Baptist Church Hall supported by two of our young people who have become volunteers all credit to Charlotte and Martha.

Lucy our new support worker has been welcomed by all groups and is getting to know everyone thank you Lucy we hope you enjoy your time with us.

We are all hopeful that things will get back to normal we can develop and maintain positive relationships with young people.

Lynn Walton – Youth Worker

Before writing this report I doubted that I had actually accomplished anything much to write about but upon reflection and in what has proven to be an extremely weird and challenging year I think as a project we have strived to continually deliver services to our Young People at a very high level. Often going above and beyond, while risking our health and the safety of our families (frequently against their wishes) to ensure we stayed in contact in person, as much as possible with our Young People to provide them with the support in which they had become accustomed.

Thanks to all Youth Worker being provided with their own personal mobile phones this allowed us to stay in contact with our Young People even when the lockdown was at its most severe point. I can personally state that having access to a mobile phone has been vital in supporting the Young People that I work alongside and at times when the Young People have been struggling and feeling suicidal being able to contact myself has been life changing to the Young People. I myself have been told I was the only reason one Young Person was still alive which I feel extremely proud of.

When the lockdown was first announce and before the Youth groups were forced to close my group at Low Westwood made 'Bags of Happiness' that they delivered to elderly residents who live closely to our community centre. These bags contained usable gifts that the older

generation may find useful during lockdown to help pass the time in lockdown such as puzzle books, dominoes, playing cards etc. The packs also contained practical items such as hand sanitiser and a torch, along with a few sweet treats. These bags were greatly received amongst the community and the feedback from the bags was fantastic. Most rewardingly the Young People thoroughly enjoyed delivering them to the people.



Bags of Happiness

As restrictions tightened and our groups were forced to close indoor meetings, we took to delivering activity packs to the young people at their homes and outside of the community centres, these packs included fun activities cookie packs and competitions, these were greatly accepted by the Young People who really enjoyed having something to break their boredom.



Activity packs being delivered

In what would normally have been the Summer break from school we were able to follow Covid guidelines and be able to provide an activities afternoon alongside Lynn's Art Therapy group. The Young People were able to enjoy socially distanced Zorbing activities which they all loved. The Young People also enjoyed a socially distanced litter pick around the community centre at Low Westwood, they were grateful to get out of the house while giving something back to the community.

In August myself and Kathryn teamed up with Church Action on Poverty who had gained funding to provide school uniform for those that were struggling due to the Covid Crisis this was a fabulous success which enabled us to provide brand new clothing to a vast majority of our young people, easing the burden of the expensive going back to school costs.

Leading up to Christmas we prepared gift bags containing essential personal care items for the Young People who are housed in Stonham, these packs were humbly accepted by Young People who were facing Christmas Day alone many of whom would not see and family members or friends over the holiday period. Feedback from the staff at the sheltered accommodation was extremely positive. During this period, we also offered our Young People food hampers which contained fresh food items to make Christmas dinner, elevating the pressure and cost of Christmas dinner for many in our area was a privilege to be part of.

Into the New Year we continued to support our families by providing essential item packs including washing powder and cleaning items, once again taking away the stress of buying expensive essential items after the Christmas period.

Once Covid restrictions started to ease we were able to start meeting our Young People outside this provided a great opportunity for us to have a catch up with them in person rather than on the phone, many of the Young People spoke about the stress of returning to school and not knowing how they would be accepted back into friendship groups, being able to reassure them that their friends were feeling exactly the same came as a relief to them as



Zorbing



Litter Picking

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knowing how they would be accepted back into friendship groups, being able to reassure them that their friends were feeling exactly the same came as a relief to them as they thought they were the only ones feeling anxious about the return to school after such a long time isolating.

Thankfully now many of our groups have reopened on a regular basis with most if not all of our Young People returning, however, we still face the battle of year groups having to isolate as Covid keeps rearing its ugly head within our schools. I am hopeful that once the summer break is over that things return to normal within the school setting as many of the Young People struggle with the disruption to routine and anxieties return as to what has happened in friendship groups while the Young People have been apart. For now, it is a waiting game and if group sizes are reduced this is just something in which we have to adapt too and continue to move forward in a positive manner.

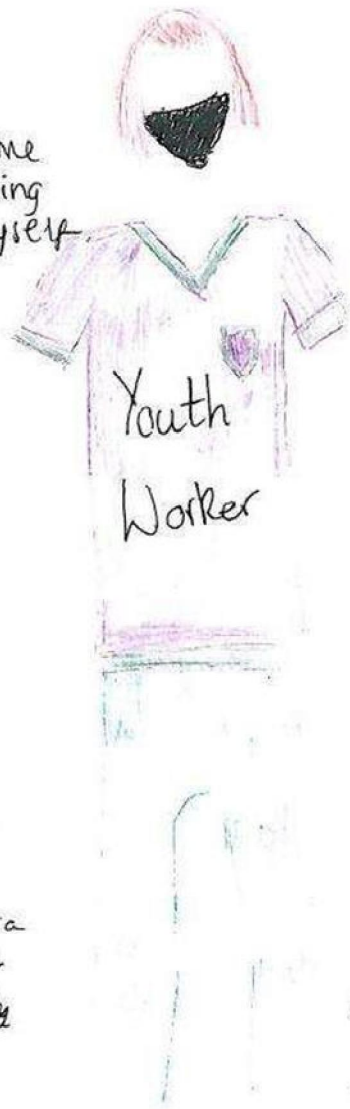
After what feels like the longest period of confusion ever it is nice to be able to finally be getting back to a routine and some normality. Although the past year has been really difficult for all involved with the project I feel as a team we have continued to support our Young People in a positive and professional manner with no change to the way in which we have delivered our support.

Joanne Nattrass – Youth Worker

SOME COMMENTS FROM THE YOUNG PEOPLE

How Have Youth Workers Impacted My

Life ...



Im happier

They have given me
a nice and relaxing
space to enjoy myself

I've been supported
through very
difficult times in
my life.

They are very
supportive and
make me group a
safe space.

Im happier Mentally
I have better Social
Skills.

They are in the zone

They make group feel like a
safe space, you can talk
to them about anything

youth workers impacted
my life by being
there and supporting
me through a rough
time in my
life

Been helpful and supportive
through tough times and
situations

youth workers have helped me in
many situations

I can be myself here

Derwentside Detached Youth Project Accounts 2021

	2021			2020
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Receipts				
Grants	£ 4,455.16	£ 96,054.00	£ 100,509.16	£ 99,698.42
Donations: Churches & Individuals	£ 660.00		£ 660.00	£ 7,105.73
Fund Raising			£ -	£ 342.30
Gift Aid Reclaim			£ -	£ 291.98
Interest	£ 18.42		£ 18.42	£ 35.10
Other income	£ 2,310.69		£ 2,310.69	£ 369.00
Bus Hires			£ -	£ 2,998.66
Total receipts	£ 7,444.27	£ 96,054.00	£ 103,498.27	£ 110,841.19
Payments				
Salaries NI & Pension		£ 69,229.80	£ 69,229.80	£ 58,547.75
Staff Expenses		£ 364.84	£ 364.84	£ 253.18
Staff Training		£ 111.49	£ 111.49	£ 551.00
Activities		£ 5,273.37	£ 5,273.37	£ 8,238.78
Activities Equipment & other costs		£ 4,151.69	£ 4,151.69	£ 3,348.33
Postage Print & Stationery		£ 327.97	£ 327.97	£ 965.27
Telephone		£ 1,090.67	£ 1,090.67	£ 965.89
Insurance			£ -	£ 499.80
Office Equipment & other costs		£ 164.98	£ 164.98	£ 1,785.30
Rent & rates		£ 2,250.00	£ 2,250.00	£ 3,010.00
Volunteer & Committee Expenses			£ -	£ -
Trustee & Staff development			£ -	£ 834.98
Bus Costs	£ 2,200.36		£ 2,200.36	£ 1,883.48
Bank Charges		£ 138.00	£ 138.00	£ 120.00
IT & Social Media inc consultancy		£ 3,568.35	£ 3,568.35	£ -
Miscellaneous			£ -	£ -
Total Payments	£ 2,200.36	£ 86,671.16	£ 88,871.52	£ 81,003.76
NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS	£ 5,243.91	£ 9,382.84	£ 14,626.75	£ 29,837.43
Total Funds brought forward	£ 31,725.07	£ 30,614.86	£ 62,339.93	£ 32,502.50
Sub total	£ 36,968.98	£ 39,997.70	£ 76,966.68	£ 62,339.93
Transfers and adjustments	£ 65.14	-£ 65.14	£ -	
CCDYP FUNDS AT YEAR END	£ 37,034.12	£ 39,932.56	£ 76,966.68	£ 62,339.93

Derwentside Detached Youth Project**Statement of Assets and Liabilities - Year Ended 31 March 2021**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Previous year
	£	£	£	£
Funds Reconciliation				
Cash at Bank and in hand 31.3.20	33,737.61	28,602.32	62,339.93	32,502.50
Surplus/(deficit) this year end	5,243.91	9,382.84	14,626.75	29,837.43
Transfers	65.14	-65.14		
Cash at bank and in hand 31.3.21	38,981.52	37,985.16	76,966.68	62,339.93
Bank and Cash Balances				
CAF Current Account			34,950.57	20,844.86
CAF Gold Account			40,691.00	40,672.58
CAF Cashcard Account			1,026.61	515.85
Cheques awaiting paying in				
Petty Cash			298.50	306.64
			76,966.68	62,339.93
Other Assets (Unrestricted Fund)				
Computers (estimated value)			1,000.00	800.00
Photocopier (estimated)			300.00	400.00
Office Furniture (estimated)			300.00	400.00
			1,600.00	1,600.00
Other Assets (Restricted fund)				
Minibus (Written down 20% current year)*			16,694.78	20,868.48
Liabilities			NIL	NIL

* The SLA relating to the Minibus, purchased with the benefit of a Community Transport grant from Durham County Council, requires that in the event of its sale or disposal prior to August 31st 2021 it must either be sold at a sum equal to best value and a proportionate amount returned to the Council, or the bus itself be returned to the council in good condition.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF DERWENTSIDE DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

This report is on the account of Derwentside Detached Youth Project (Charity Number 513336) for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report:

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

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

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: K Williamson
Kenneth Williamson
28 Wharnley Way, Castleside
Consett, DH8 9QN

Dated 2/7/21

Qualifications: ACCA

Approved at the a General Meeting of Derwentside Detached Youth Project on 6/7/21

Signed: J. Davidson

Dated 6/7/21

Signed: Anne Jeffrey

Dated 6.7.21

Acknowledgements

From all of us at the Project we would like to say a big “thank you” to Trust Fund, grant making bodies and individuals for their continue support, some over many years. Without their support we would not have been able to maintain our level of service in the community.

This list is not comprehensive and some wish to remain anonymous.

- The National Lottery Community Trust
- The Rothley Trust
- The Ballinger Trust
- County Durham Foundation
- # I will
- Catherine Cookson Charitable Foundation
- Awards for All
- Aviva
- The Co-operative Community Fund
- The National Lottery Covid Support Fund & the Government

A big thank you goes to our volunteers who have given their time and commitment to our Project. Their support is immeasurable and appreciated especially by our youth workers and the young people who have benefited from their knowledge and input. We could not work without you all.

Thank you to Sharon and all at Derwentside Trust who helped us to provide supplies to young people and their families during the pandemic.

The Rothley Trust

**H A D R I A N
T R U S T**



Derwentside Detached Youth Project (CCDYP) Annual Report 2020 - 2021

Published by Jackie Forbes, Project Manager on behalf of the Trustees

Design & Layout by DDYP Design Team