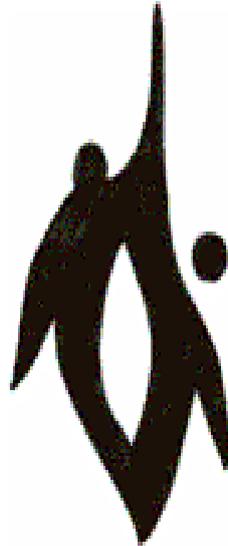


Annual Report 2018/19

Hemsworth Christian Fellowship Touching Heaven-Changing Earth

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Constitution and Organisation.

The organisation is governed by a constitution document amended November, 2005 and is a registered Charity (No. 702838).

The Trustees meet to oversee the work of the charity. A leadership team oversee the spiritual life of the church

Trustees:

Joan Cameron; John Seddon (joined 03/06/2010); Jennifer Hall; and Malcolm Warren.

Leadership Team:

Joan Cameron; Heather Warren; Kevin Bray; Jennifer Hall; and Oliver Hall.

Values Model of 'The Springs'



Faith - in God, in ourselves, and in people.

Value People - people before programmes, people are precious.

Serving - each other and the community.

Well-being—freedom to enjoy and develop all aspects of life in a safe, accepting environment.

Holistic—meeting the needs of the whole person.

Minister's Statement

As I reflect on the year that this report covers, it brings up some memories that, if I'm honest, I would prefer weren't there. For me personally at church the year is remembered as 'The Year of the Roof' and all it's turbulence. 7 months of upheaval, problem after problem, uncertainty, stress, frustration, anger, resentment, feeling powerless, feeling alone, feeling trapped - and that was just my marriage! (only kidding Jen!). For Jen the 'negative' experience was our son dropping out of University and the ensuing uncertainty, powerlessness to help, frustration, worry etc.

All joking aside, the events of the year took a lot out of me mentally and emotionally and as the end of the year (April 1st) was the 10 year anniversary of agreeing to take over from the previous Pastor it was an important point to stop and ask myself whether my heart was still 'up for it' or not.

It's funny how we tend to remember the 'negative' experiences in greater focus and technicolour sometimes than the 'positive' ones. Nobody remembers the hours of pleasurable sailing that the Titanic had before it sank. Very few people know any of JFK's policies but everyone remembers where they were when he was shot. Perhaps it's part of our survival instinct as humans to store 'threatening' or traumatic moments in our psyche in order to prevent future occurrences. I don't know.

I do know that we need to be real and honest about the stuff we go through, and not put a super-spiritual 'Praise the Lord Hallelujah isn't pain wonderful' face on! I also know that if we simply focus on and remember negative memories, thoughts and beliefs without consciously calling to mind the good memories and thoughts, then, like me thinking about last year, our perspective on life will be needlessly negative.

So yes, there were things last year that I did not enjoy much, and would rather not have happened, but ultimately Father did what he specialises in and turned 'the roof disaster' to good.

I had a lovely family holiday to Malta and went snorkelling with tropical fish. I had trips away with my friend Jeff and had great fun and saw lives being changed as they encountered Father's love and grace. We watched both kids together in a fantastic play at Doncaster. My son started dating a wonderful young lady, did well in his A levels and passed his driving test, got a job, and more importantly started paying us board and lodgings lol. We had many great trips to the cinema. We had a fantastic 3 days in London with our daughter taking in a West End musical etc etc etc.

At church in this period we were blessed financially to be able to renew the lighting and the roof and to keep doing what we do to bless people and make this small corner of the world a good and healing place to be!

We have been really blessed with the arrival of 3 new couples, a family, and an old (previously acquainted not ancient!) friend who have brought such encouragement to me personally, and really enhanced our community life together.

Trevor arrived as well.....every silver lining.....(sorry, couldn't resist!!!)

It's been a great year of getting to know each other, ourselves, and Father God better. It's been a year of increasing freedom and understanding of Father's unending love and limitless grace.

I often feel that we at HCF are like Robin Hood's merry men (and women) in the greenwood. We are outlaws (living outside conventional Christianity with it's dogmas, rules and regs) who are enjoying discovering a freeing new way of life together, supporting and encouraging each other, providing a new model of being the children of God that can bring hope to the religiously oppressed, the outcast, the ones who don't 'fit in' with the system.

This is the spiritual place, in the greenwood, where I personally can 'breathe'. I can be myself, I can explore, question, live, love and be loved, laugh, cry, inspire and be inspired.

So the question I have been asking myself 'Is my heart still up for it?' is, for the moment, easily answered. My mind might shout 'Noooooo' from time to time but my inner being is still excited, nurtured and inspired by the life and the wonderful people here on the journey with me. Thank you all.

Ollie's awesome final thought

As I write this the country is facing yet more political turbulence and upheaval with a general election looming. The majority of people, I am guessing, have totally lost faith in politicians, Parliament and the democratic process. As we approach Christmas I am greatly encouraged by the prophetic words of Isaiah when he wrote:

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;
And the government will rest on His shoulders;
And His name will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.
There will be no end to the increase of *His* government or of peace

I can rest knowing that whatever turbulence there is in the world there is One who is ultimately in charge of everything. One who is completely and utterly trustworthy, timeless and consistent, powerful and caring, and in my inmost being the One who is my Father, my Peace, my Love, my Joy.

Chair's Report 2018/19

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the report of the charity Hemsworth Christian Fellowship.

Objectives and Activities

Its objectives are to advance the Christian Faith and to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Hemsworth and the surrounding area.

The main activities are undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects. The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Ongoing aims are always to respond to needs that arise in the community for either group development or financial aid where appropriate for the public benefit.

The following activities have been held at 'The Springs'

'Little Springs' parent and toddlers
Springs Café (Lite Bites)
Southmoor Luncheon Club
Digital imaging
Card-making and Creative Space Art Group
Chillzone Youth group (7-11s)
Monthly Teens Group (11+)
Film Nights
HDP Lunch Club
Community Allotment

Spiritual activities at the church other than the Sunday morning gathering include

Bible Study group
Life Group
Prayer meetings
House groups
Soaking nights

Other meetings/classes

Pulmonary Rehabilitation
Turning Point
Various meetings supporting local community initiatives

The charity has again largely achieved what it set out to do at the beginning of the financial year. The charity has continued to employ the 2 key posts and covered essential running costs.

Achievements and Performance

It has been a solid year of maintaining our existing provision and developing new projects and community provision. Our relationships with Partners Wakefield PCT, Hemsworth District Partnership and Turning Point remain healthy and help in achieving our aims

Successful grants were awarded through Wakefield MDC for the upgrading of all lighting on site to energy saving LED lighting. The work was completed this year.

The major work this year was the replacement of the flat roof section of the church (and the subsequent unexpected refurbishment of the entire upper area and decoration of lower hall), through grants from WMDC and insurance work

The Allotment project has developed in new directions in partnership with another allotment holder who now keeps chickens on it and is in process of developing the site.

Staff and Volunteers

Again, our volunteers are a source of pride and joy here at HCF. From washing pots on a Sunday to preparing finances to being shouted at by exuberant 11 year olds, our volunteers cannot be praised too highly.

They are held in the highest regard by staff and users and without whom nothing would happen at the centre. They hold the values dearly and are exemplary in service and dedication. People continue to love coming to our activities, and it is down to the volunteers who create a safe, accepting

Future Plans

To further develop our provision to the community especially in the key areas of social isolation and loneliness

To increase our support for local fledgling businesses and community groups

Develop new volunteering opportunities e.g. art class

Treasurer's report

This has again been a good year financially, and for the second time in many years we ended the year with more coming in than going out. The apparent deficit on the balance sheet is down to depreciation.

The finances of the Hemsworth Christian Fellowship are kept under close review through the year.

The Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2018 form part of this report and are attached as an appendix.

Signed J. Hall Acting Chairman

Date: 6th November 2019