



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date	
From	28 Jan 2015	To	31 Mar 2016

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Doncaster Conversation Club		
Other names charity is known by			
Registered charity number (if any)	1159775		
Charity's principal address	Friends Meeting House		
	Shotton Walk		
	Doncaster		
	Postcode	DN1 3RH	

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Abraham Mdlongwa	Chairman		
2	Janice Foster	Treasurer		
3	Nic Burne	Secretary		
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	People with appropriate interest, involvement and enthusiasm may be asked to join as a trustee by the other trustees. In reality all join in the decision making but the trustees take the responsibility.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the CIO are:

(a) to advance education and relieve financial hardship amongst those seeking asylum and those granted refugee status, particularly by the provision of advice and information, so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community;

(b) To preserve and protect the physical and mental health of those granted refugee status, those seeking asylum and their dependents.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It is sad to say that the role of the DCC in Doncaster is increasing and showing no sign of decreasing. However the DCC is rising to the challenge and, with the help of more and more volunteers, is able to meet the increasing needs of the clients.

This is our first AGM as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and covers an extended year from 28th Jan 2015 to March 2016.

Numbers attending on a Thursday are increasing and now average about 150. It is noticeable that clients come in waves from different countries. We had a lot of Syrians early in the year while Sudanese were the noticeable nationality latterly.

The demise of the Northern Refugee Centre (NRC) featured large last year along with a large part of a generous £22,000 grant from the Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (DCCG). Rad, who came to the DCC under the NRC banner, is no longer able to attend so we would like to thank her for her support and help. The Health Action for Refugees Project (HARP), originally run by the NRC is now run by the Refugee Council and Beatrice has re-joined us to run that initiative.

Migrant Help has been very supportive sending a representative each Thursday. Their input is much needed and very appreciated by both the volunteers and the clients.

The Red Cross continue their fortnightly visit providing support for those whose asylum claim has faltered and who need help.

One aspect of our work that has increased is trying to settle those given Leave to Remain. A great help with this is the attendance of M25 to help with the many housing issues this transition incurs.

The number of volunteers has increased, some stopping for a while and others able to offer a more long term commitment. Without the willing and flexible help from the volunteers we would not be able to offer anything like the service we do.

The ESOL lessons are as busy as ever and so popular that one group has decamped to the Children's Centre. We are very grateful to the Children's Centre for their support in many different ways as well as to the many volunteers who help in the classes.

Maureen has taken over the kitchen and, with the help of many others, offers home cooked food, hot and cold, cakes and tea and coffee.

Two new volunteers Nell and Sharon have adopted the niche jobs of travel documents and benefit problems respectively. This is proving very useful.

Each week Jan continues to produce 20 to 30 food mystery parcels made up from whatever food she is given. Basil does an excellent job in distributing them.

Paul continues his brilliant Newsletter which is a great advertisement for the DCC and is enabling us to be known far and wide. Jan achieved even wider publicity by responding to a request from Toby Foster on his Radio Sheffield Breakfast Show. This ended with a spot on the program and a page in the Free Press about the DCC.

Julia perseveres with her monthly activities. These are supported, especially for transport, by many people who are not normally associated with the DCC. We have visited York, Minster, York Railway Museum, the Peak District, Doncaster Minster, Conisborough Castle, the Dome for swimming and bowling as well as doing local walks. She has been fortunate in procuring £5,000 from the Wharfedale Trust as funds restricted for spending on these activities. These activities have also been supported by DIAL who have also put on cooking

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

sessions.

With the support of HARP Julia has been able to arrange sessions on coping with stress.

In the office we have initiated a folder for keeping a record of help offered. This is to help when trying to prove identity over the phone and to try to minimise duplication of work. It is proving to be very useful.

Common issues that arise requiring help from the office are...

- Lack of ID due to delays in the Home Office producing ARC cards.
- PEC problems due to then lack of coordination between the HO and NHS.
- Over optimistic expectations of some of the clients.
- Long delays on the phone to government departments or QUANGOs.

St Georges Church visited with the intention of setting up a complimentary service and now run a very busy ESOL course at the Minster on a Wednesday early afternoon.

Outlook

We will continue to do more of the same because DCC's operating model works. Building on this success, we will continue to support partnership working with like-minded organisations and groups for the purpose of advancing the interests of our client community. Last year's instalment of Refugee Week Celebrations featured a presentation from two members of the legendary Glasgow Girls and a mini five-a-side football tournament which included a team from Red Cross Rotherham. The latter has resulted in the emergence of a social football project which although popular is under-funded. This aspect will be taken into account in our funding priorities for the period ahead. It is hoped there will be definitive movement towards developing stories of sanctuary depicting asylum journeys of selected service users. The induction of new volunteers and training of existing core of volunteers will be included in our priorities matrix.

Our Hosts

As ever the DCC could not function without the generous support from the Quakers who let us use the building for whatever rent we can muster from grants. We are very grateful to the Society of Friends for this.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Covered in Chairman's report above.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Reserved funds will be kept for their designated purpose.

Should there be an excess in the DCC general fund we will increase our contribution to our hosts, the Doncaster Quakers, who let us have the building for a whole day free of charge on the understanding we will pay what we can when we can.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Abraham Mdlongwa

Janice Foster

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Treasurer

Date

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Charity Name Doncaster Conversation Club	No (if any) 1159775
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Receipts and payments accounts


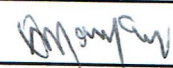
For the period from	Period start 28/01/2015	To	Period end 31/03/2016
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Section A Receipts and payments

	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					
Interest, Donations	3,888	-	-	3,888	-
Wharfdale, Allen Lane, Foyle Grants	-	7,730	-	7,730	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Pass through funds	-	1,107	-	1,107	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Cheques not yet paid in	156	-	-	156	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	4,044	8,837	-	12,881	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,044	8,837	-	12,881	-
A3 Payments					
Misc, Petty Cash, Food bank	868	-	-	868	-
Wharfdale, ESOL, Lifeskills	-	6,265	-	6,265	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Pass through funds	-	1,107	-	1,107	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Cheque from 2014-15	130	-	-	130	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	998	7,372	-	8,370	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	998	7,372	-	8,370	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,046	1,465	-	4,511	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	3,562	5,431	-	8,993	-
Cash funds this year end	6,608	6,896	-	13,504	-

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	DCC general fund	6,608	-	-
	Restricted funds	-	6,896	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	6,608	6,896	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets				
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
	Laptops donated by charity	General DCC funds	1,100	-
	Printer donated by charity	General DCC funds	70	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities				
	Insurance	285	-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		JANICE L. FOSTER	25/8/16
		ABRAHAM NDLOVU	31.08.16