

GATEWAY INTO THE COMMUNITY
(A registered Charity)

CHARITY NUMBER 1093566

TRUSTEES REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 April 2018

Seahouses Accountancy Service
Seahouses Hub, Stone Close
Seahouses
NE68 7YL

GATEWAY INTO THE COMMUNITY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

NAME OF CHARITY: Gateway into the Community

REGISTERED No.: 1093566

TRUSTEES:

- Mrs Rosemary Theobalds (Chair)
- Mrs Susan Sherwen
- Mr Timothy Raine
- Mr David McNally
- Ms Caroline Harris
- Mr Peter Ninnim (co-opted 25/07/2018)
- Ms Jennifer Allaker (resigned 3/10/2018)
- Mrs Eleanor Gallagher
- Mrs Joyce Winder (elected 27/09/2017)
- Ms Tessa Bolt (resigned 30/05/2018)

PRINCIPAL OFFICE:

3 St Marys Wynd
Hexham
Northumberland
NE46 1LW

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

Seahouses Accountancy Service
Seahouses Hub, Stone Close
Seahouses
NE68 7YL

BANKERS:

Unity Trust
Nine Brindleyplace
Birmingham
B1 2HB

GATEWAY INTO THE COMMUNITY

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TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2018

Introduction

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2018.

The trustees have prepared the annual report and financial statements in accordance with the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in January 2015.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governance

Gateway into the Community is a registered charity. Its Constitution was adopted on 10 April 2002 and amended by special resolution on 30 July 2014. The principal activity of the charity is to support, promote and encourage the provision of facilities for recreation, learning and other leisure time opportunities, for people living in West Northumberland who have a learning disability, with the object of improving their quality of life.

Trustees

The Management Committee comprises a minimum of four and a maximum of twelve Trustees, who are charity trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Membership of the charity is open to all people with a learning disability who are resident or receiving education or care or otherwise relevantly active in West Northumberland and at least 50% of the Trustees are members of the charity. Trustees are elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting and, if willing to stand, offer themselves for re-election each year. The officers of the charity for the ensuing year are nominated and elected (by ballot if necessary) at every AGM.

Trustee Induction and Training

A Trustee Information Pack is available to potential and new Trustees. Potential Trustees are invited to attend a Trustee meeting to find out more about the workings of the Management Committee and the governance of the charity, after which they may feel better informed to make the decision to become a Trustee.

New Trustees are introduced to the charity, their legal obligations under charity law, the content of the governing document, the Trustees and the decision-making process, the business plan and financial performance of the charity during an induction period soon after appointment. Trustees are also encouraged to attend appropriate training events that will support effective conduct in their role.

Risk Management

Where appropriate, policies and procedures or systems have been put in place to mitigate the risks the charity might face. Significant external risks to funding, and the nature of funding across the Community and Voluntary Sector, have led to the development of a long term strategic plan including the identification of priority activities in relation to income generation.

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Policies and procedures exist to ensure compliance with health and safety of all staff, volunteers and beneficiaries of the charity. This includes the provision of adequate insurance cover and risk assessment of all charitable activities. These policies and procedures are reviewed annually or more frequently, on change of circumstances, to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the charity is to support, promote and encourage the provision of facilities for recreation, learning and other leisure time opportunities, for people living in West Northumberland who have a learning disability, with the object of improving their quality of life.

Gateway into the Community supports people who have learning disabilities, and live in West Northumberland, to take part in a broad programme of leisure and learning opportunities.

When planning our activities for the year, we have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. We work to ensure that the inclusion of people who have learning disabilities is enjoyable and beneficial to everyone. We support integrated activities whenever possible.

Achievement and performance

This has been another busy and exciting year for Gateway into the Community:

We moved into new premises in August 2017. All of our operations, apart from the two Prudhoe groups, are now run from 3 St Mary's Wynd, Hexham NE46 1LW. The members have decided to continue to call the new setting the Den and although it is much larger than the old Den we have managed to transfer the atmosphere, which was so valued, across with us.

Day Service – With more room available we were able to start a Day Service in September 2017. Parents have been requesting us to provide this for some time. It will be kept fairly small and is aimed at the current group of young adults who use our services. Our Day Service is flexible and can offer more choice than some of the larger traditional services which are provided by other organisations. This means it is very popular. We have had to start a waiting list and are already turning down prospective service users. At present we are consolidating but we may expand the Day Service in the future.

Groups – 14 different groups, 2 youth, 3 adult social, 2 older persons, 3 sporting, computer club, creative arts, healthy living and a performance group continue to thrive, with an average attendance of about 15 members. We now have more than 200 members and work with 110 people on a weekly basis, some of whom attend multiple groups. Sadly, Mandy Oliver who had run the choir for about 16 years was not able to carry on after July 2017. The choir was always a very popular group and we were sorry to see it close. We found a performance teacher, however, and this new group has now become very popular too and has put on several well attended shows.

GATEWAY INTO THE COMMUNITY

Activities – We were very busy moving into the new building over summer 2017. We decorated and furnished most of the building in a week, in preparation for the new services. This was only possible because of tremendous support from staff and their families and friends as well as members and their families. This meant we did not offer as many trips and outings this year, although we continued with the discos. Five young people won awards from the Tynedale Youth Forum for their help in setting up and making the Day Service such a happy and welcoming place.

Partnerships – We have worked with, among others, Newcastle United Foundation, Northumberland Cricket Board, Hexham Squash and Tennis Clubs, Elvaston Bowling Club, Hexham in Bloom and Edible Hexham. We really value these links, which make our members part of the local community.

Organisation development – Gateway into the Community was thrilled to achieve a Weston Charity Award in 2015. This provided an opportunity to work with Pilotlight, an organisation which matches charities with teams of business and financial leaders to support planning for sustainability and growth. As a result of this work, we developed a new business plan, to include fundraising and marketing strategies and a timeline of activities.

We were approached to enlarge our individual support service and identified the need to increase the size of our premises or to relocate before this could happen, which was why we moved to the new premises. Two new managers were appointed, one for the Day Service and one to develop the individual support service. They, with the present Life Chances manager, will take over the running of the organisation when the Coordinator retires in 2019. All three have undergone management training during this financial year. We also appointed a part-time administration assistant to help with the increase in administrative workload.

We were successful in obtaining funding from the Fresh Ideas Fund, a legacy of the Northern Rock Foundation, for a development worker to research new services we might develop into funding streams as well as meeting the needs of our members. The areas that are being researched are: developing the adult education we provide; developing a social prescribing service for people with learning disabilities and an early years play group for children who may have a learning disability or be on the autism spectrum or need support with sensory issues. The findings will be reported to the management committee in early 2019.

Plans for Future Periods

We have obtained funding from various sources to upgrade the building by creating a new training kitchen and converting the toilets on the first and second floors to wet rooms with changing facilities.

We wish to develop what we do and grow the organisation, in order to fulfil the unmet needs of people with learning disabilities in West Northumberland.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The charity remains grateful for the help and support given by government agencies, charitable trusts and other sources of fundraising and donations.

GATEWAY INTO THE COMMUNITY

The charity generates a significant proportion of its income from individual support fees. Total income, including these fees, grants, fundraising and donations, in the year ended 30 April 2018 was £360,145 (2017: £230,809). The increase in income was generated largely as a result of an increase in individual support fees and the creation of the Day Service.

Total costs were £313,017 (2017: £231,534), and as a result the charity generated a surplus for the year of £47,128 (2017: £725 deficit). Payroll costs, which represent the significant part of the charity's costs, increased over the year to £210,063 (2017: £165,676).

Total funds at 30 April 2018 were £134,155, of which £91,254 was held in cash. Of the total funds at 30 April 2018, £84,686 related to unrestricted funds (2017: £46,733).

The charity also recognises the valuable contribution made by individuals and supporters under our regular giving schemes.

Grant Making Policy

The Charity does not make grants.

Investment Policy

The charity holds no investments, other than reserve funds held in interest bearing bank deposit accounts, and as such has no formal investment policy.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to have a reserve of sufficient unrestricted funds to cover three months' operating costs, plus exit charges. This figure has been identified following consideration of the main financial risks to the charity. At 30 April 2018 unrestricted funds held amounted to approximately 3.25 months' operating costs, and therefore this policy has been met.

The strategy is to continue to build reserves through economies of scale wherever possible, suitable cost control, and seeking additional funding to meet essential expenses which underpin the provision of service to members. The Trustees regularly review the level of unrestricted reserves at Management Committee meetings.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year; in preparing those financial statements, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to assume that the charity will continue on that basis.

GATEWAY INTO THE COMMUNITY

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out under Legal and Administrative Information. In accordance with charity law, as the charity's Trustees, we certify that:

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant information of which the charity's examiner is unaware; and
- as Trustees we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant accounts information and to establish that the charity's examiner is aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in January 2015).

Approved by the Trustees on 30th January 2019 and signed on their behalf by:



30/01/19

Rosemary Theobalds, Chair

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TO THE TRUSTEES OF GATEWAY INTO THE COMMUNITY.**

I report on the accounts of Gateway into the Community for the year ended 30 April 2018, which are set out on pages 7 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees of Gateway into the Community are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011, the 2011 Act, and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination being a Chartered Accountant.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- (iii) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

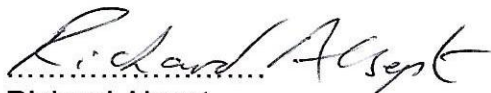
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Act, and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;

have not been met; or to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Richard Alsept
Chartered Accountant
Seahouses Accountancy Service
Seahouses Hub, Stone Close
Seahouses
NE68 7YL

30th January 2019

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 April 2018

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total y/e 30 April 2018	Total y/e 30 April 2017
	Note	£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Donations and Gifts	3	42,097	-	42,097	18,777
Grants received	3	7,625	101,691	109,316	94,320
Charitable activities	3	205,415	3,278	208,693	117,672
<i>Investment income:</i>					
Interest received		39	-	39	40
Total Income		255,176	104,969	360,145	230,809
EXPENDITURE					
Charitable activities	4	217,223	95,794	313,017	231,534
Total Expenditure		217,223	95,794	313,017	231,534
Net Income/(expenditure)		37,953	9,175	47,128	(725)
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		37,953	9,175	47,128	(725)
Funds Reconciliation: Fund balances brought forward		46,733	40,294	87,027	87,752
Fund balances carried forward		84,686	49,469	134,155	87,027

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year / period.
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

GATEWAY INTO THE COMMUNITY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 April 2018

	Notes	April 2018 £	£	April 2017 £	£
FIXED ASSETS	2		1,972		-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	5	44,740		17,934	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>91,254</u>		<u>75,430</u>	
		135,994		93,364	
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(3,811)		(6,337)	
Net Current Assets			132,183		87,027
NET ASSETS			<u>134,155</u>		<u>87,027</u>
Restricted Funds	10	49,469		40,294	
Unrestricted Funds		84,686		46,733	
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS			<u>134,155</u>		<u>87,027</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 30th January 2019 and signed on its behalf by:



Rosemary Theobalds, Chair

30/01/19



Timothy Raine, Trustee

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

a. Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the provisions of Financial Reporting Standard 102, Section 1a Small Entities, and the Charity Statement of Recommended Practice, (Charities SORP (FRS 102) 2015), as well as the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

b. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are incoming resources received or generated for charitable purposes. They are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds can only be applied for a particular purpose as defined within their objects.

c. Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Income which is received by way of grants, donations and gifts to the charity is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities upon receipt. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Bank interest and other investment income is included when receivable.
- Income from charitable activities is derived from contracts and service agreements, and is accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor.

Volunteers – the value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts, but is described and acknowledged in the Trustee's report.

d. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes unrecoverable VAT.

- Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.
- Operation and development of the charity includes all costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include accountancy fees.

e. Fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. All items with a useful life of more than one year, and a cost of at least £500 are capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Plant and Equipment	-	33% straight line
Vehicles	-	33% straight line

f. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

g. Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from funders for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

h. Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the company does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
As at 1 May 2017	12,728	12,728
Additions	2,958	2,958
As at 30 April 2018	<u>15,686</u>	<u>15,686</u>
Depreciation		
As at 1 May 2017	12,728	12,728
Charge for year	986	986
As at 30 April 2018	<u>13,714</u>	<u>13,714</u>
Net book value		
At 30 April 2018	<u>1,972</u>	<u>1,972</u>
At 30 April 2017	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

GATEWAY INTO THE COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 April 2018

3. Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total y/e 30 April 2018	Total y/e 30 April 2017
Activities,	£	£	£	£
<i>Gifts and Donations</i>				
Activities	1,365	-	1,365	1,154
Fundraising	-	-	-	898
Gifts and Donations	34,331	-	34,331	10,304
Group fees	6,401	-	6,401	6,421
	42,097	-	42,097	18,777
<i>Charitable activities</i>				
<i>Grants received:</i>				
EC Graham Charitable Trust	-	-	-	5,000
European Social Fund	-	4,504	4,504	6,756
Dan Maskell Tennis Trust	-	-	-	1,500
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	-	-	-	2,760
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-	30,000
Henry Smith Charitable Trust	-	-	-	7,500
Joicey Trust	-	3,000	3,000	3,000
Kellett Fund	-	20,204	20,204	20,204
Leathersellers' Company	7,500	-	7,500	7,500
Masonic Charitable Trust	-	-	-	3,000
Weston Charity Award	-	-	-	3,600
Blackett Family Fund	-	1,680	1,680	-
Charities Aid Foundation	-	6,994	6,994	-
Greggs Foundation	-	15,000	15,000	-
Hadrian Trust	-	2,000	2,000	-
NCC Community Chest	-	2,000	2,000	-
Northstar Fresh Ideas Fund	-	20,000	20,000	-
Roland Cookson Fund	-	10,000	10,000	-
Rothley Trust	-	1,250	1,250	-
Sylvia Waddilove Foundation	-	3,000	3,000	-
Wellesley Trust Fund	-	5,309	5,309	-
William Webster Trust	-	2,000	2,000	-
Winter Family Fund	-	2,000	2,000	-
Other small grants received	125	2,750	2,875	3,500
<i>Fees and other income:</i>				
Individual support	180,912	-	180,912	108,995
Day Service	23,190	-	23,190	-
Other income	1,313	3,278	4,591	8,677
	213,040	104,969	318,009	211,992
<i>Interest receivable</i>				
Bank interest receivable	39	-	39	40
Total	255,176	104,969	360,145	230,809

4. Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total y/e 30 April 2018	Total y/e 30 April 2017
	£	£	£	£
<i>Charitable Activities:</i>				
<i>Projects:</i>				
Activities and Events	147	3,761	3,908	8,571
Other project costs	8,632	2,405	11,037	3,936
<i>Staff Costs:</i>				
Salaries	86,219	55,874	142,093	102,095
Sessional and support costs	43,386	11,071	54,457	55,579
Employers NIC	4,798	3,897	8,695	3,977
Employers Pension costs	2,288	2,530	4,818	4,024
<i>Other Staff Costs:</i>				
Health and Safety	1,896	379	2,275	2,275
Staff Clearance	375	-	375	124
Recruitment costs	343	-	343	-
Training	830	638	1,468	1,118
Travel and expenses	21,020	1,630	22,650	20,710
<i>Property Costs:</i>				
Insurance	2,857	-	2,857	510
Rent	21,428	4,329	25,757	11,908
Room Hire	1,601	3,688	5,289	11,351
Maintenance and repairs	6,526	447	6,973	-
Fixtures and fittings	2,097	-	2,097	-
Utilities	1,032	2,229	3,261	-
<i>Volunteer Costs</i>	78	270	348	409
<i>Office Costs</i>	6,444	1,555	7,999	3,351
<i>Bank Charges</i>	250	-	250	203
<i>Licences and subscriptions</i>	902	834	1,736	1,143
<i>Bad Debt expense</i>	580	-	580	-
<i>Depreciation</i>	986	-	986	-
<i>Miscellaneous costs</i>	-	30	30	-
	214,488	95,794	310,282	231,284
<i>Governance</i>				
Professional fees	2,335	-	2,335	250
Examination fees	400	-	400	-
	2,735	-	2,735	250
Total	217,223	95,794	313,017	231,534

GATEWAY INTO THE COMMUNITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 April 2018

5. Debtors

	30 April 2018 £	30 April 2017 £
Trade Debtors	39,525	16,088
Prepayments	5,215	1,846
Total	<u>44,740</u>	<u>17,934</u>

6. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	30 April 2018 £	30 April 2017 £
PAYE and NIC	2,118	1,953
Creditors & accruals	1,693	4,384
Deferred grants	-	-
Total	<u>3,811</u>	<u>6,337</u>

7. Staff costs and numbers

During the financial period the company had a maximum of 25 employees and their remuneration was made up as follows:

	2018 £
Salary and wages	196,550
National insurance costs	8,695
Employer pension costs	4,818
Total	<u>210,063</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

8. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,972	-	1,972
Current Assets	85,930	50,064	135,994
Creditors	(3,216)	(595)	(3,811)
Total	84,686	49,469	134,155

9. Remuneration of management committee

Trustees received no remuneration, other than the reimbursement of expenses properly incurred in relation to attendance at meetings and charity activities.

10. Fund balances

	Balance 1 May 2017 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended and transfers £	Balance 30 April 2018 £
Unrestricted Funds	46,733	255,176	217,223	84,686
Restricted Funds	40,294	104,969	95,794	49,469
	87,027	360,145	313,017	134,155

11. Transactions with trustees and other related parties

No payments were made to trustees or other related parties for services as a Trustee.

A donation of £20,000 to the charity from a Trustee was received in the year. No conditions were attached to this donation.

Annual Report 2018



20 years of supporting people to Reach Their Potential!



Registered Charity 1093566

Gateway into the Community
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NE46 1LW
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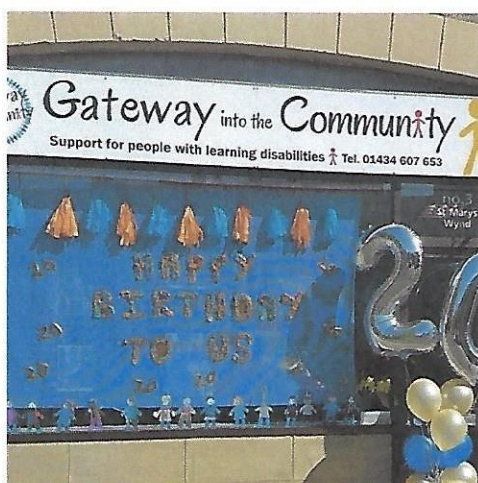
E-mail gatewayintothecommunity@btconnect.com
Website www.gatewayintothecommunity.co.uk

Chair's Report, January 2019

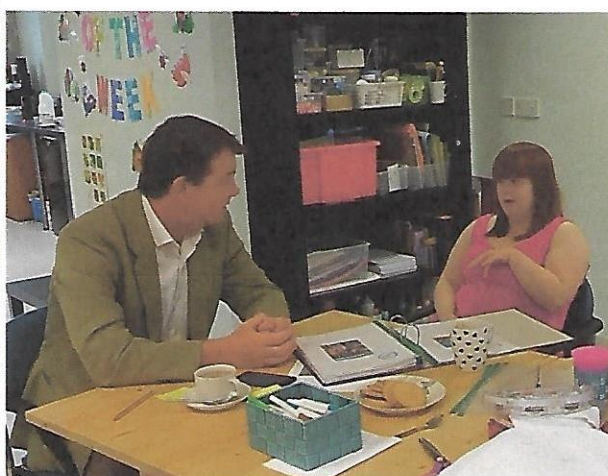
As one of the reports to trustees from the Day Service Manager reads, 'Time goes fast when you are having fun,' and the past year has indeed been an amazing, fun and productive one for Gateway into the Community. The new Den has provided space for us to expand our many activities as well as giving us quiet and secure dedicated spaces for three of our individual support members who can join in or take time out during any one day, supported by Gateway staff.

The wonderful warm and dry summer gave lots of opportunities to be out of doors, and picnics, games on the Sele, and visits to the outdoor pool in Haltwhistle were greatly enjoyed.

The focus and highlight of the year were our 20th Anniversary celebrations which took place in May. Trustees and benefactors of Gateway into the Community were invited. Indoor displays were created, a special window onto the square and a pop-up café serving refreshments made by members and staff. There was also a celebratory disco in the evening.



Birthday Window



Our MP Visited

In July, we hosted an Open Day to show everyone our new premises. We were pleased Tom Gillanders, the mayor, and his wife attended. The Day Service again provided a wonderful afternoon tea. Then in August we enjoyed a visit from our MP Guy Opperman.

It was good to look back and appreciate what amazing developments this member-led organisation has seen during these twenty years. We now work in various ways with almost 200 people of all ages in the Tynedale area: groups (social and dedicated to specific activities); sports and fitness teams; and life skills training which includes meal preparation and serving and support to access public transport. Work has continued throughout the year in the building on updating monitoring and safety equipment, and the creation of improved toilet and shower facilities. Bare walls and spaces have been filled with members' creative offerings to make a colourful and welcoming environment. The Anniversary wall hanging in the entrance area is still a work in progress – my own contribution not yet crafted!

I always encourage everyone to look at the photos in this Annual Report because they tell the story better than I can in a few words.

I also want to end with particular thanks and praise for Fiona who announced her retirement during the year and officially handed Gateway into the Community into the capable hands of Julia, our current Life Chances Manager. From January 1st 2019, Julia is now our Chief Executive and this position is the culmination of five years of management and leadership training for Julia and increasing levels of responsibility. Fiona will be with us until the end of May on much reduced hours, to give support during the transition period. She is held in great affection by members and staff, and will, of course, be greatly missed.

As always, I am proud to have served as Chair for most of those 20 years, and have had a wonderful team of trustees, staff and sessional workers during that time. THANK YOU TO YOU ALL.

Rosemary Theobalds



Gary Newton receiving the Brenda Ninnim Award for kindness and consideration towards others at the AGM January 2018

Co-ordinator's Report

This is my last report as Co-ordinator of Gateway into the Community as I handed over responsibility to Julia Ferguson the new Chief Executive on the 1st of January 2019.

Julia has been at Gateway into the Community since 2005 in various roles, so is well known to all the members, staff and trustees. David Saint from Action Planning reviewed the services we provided in 2013 and supported the Management Committee to look at sustainability and succession. It was agreed that Julia was the right person to succeed me as head of the organisation and since then she has been preparing by becoming full time and taking on more responsibility as well as attending training and conferences. She is currently a member of the Clore Leadership Programme, generously funded through the Garfield Weston Foundation. I am sure we all wish her happiness and success in her new role.



The past 20 years have flown by. I am proud that so many of the original members and volunteers, including the steering group members who became trustees, are still involved and committed to the organisation. I also remember with love and sadness the members, staff, volunteers and friends who have moved away or have died during the 20 years. They all came vividly back in my memory when we were making the wall hanging to celebrate our twentieth birthday.

This was my square on the hanging. We always use sunflowers to remember those members, staff and friends who have died.

This has been a year of celebration, with not only our birthday party but also the grand opening of our new Den. People have been very generous towards us by

donating and raising money to help us develop the Den. Others donated their time to help and support us in our new venture.

I will still be working here for the next few months finishing off various ongoing tasks and supporting Julia in her new role. I hope to have a chance to talk to most of you during this time, including funders, some of whom have generously supported us for many years.

We will be having a party before I go because, as I have learnt over the years, parties are one of the things that Gateway into the Community does so well.

I have really enjoyed my time here and I am grateful for all the support I have received over the years from members, their families and carers, the staff and volunteers, funders and other organisations. I hope to be able to keep in touch and see Gateway into the Community grow and thrive.

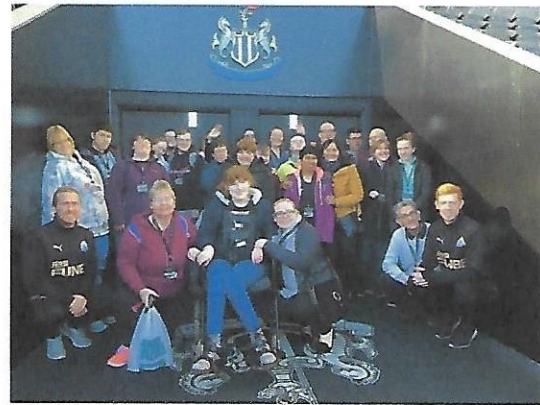
Fiona Macdonald



Jon, Rowan and Katie road testing the new floor cushions that Tom Gillanders, the Mayor, bought for the Den

Gateway into Health Happiness and Well-being

Our groups have continued to thrive. We provide weekly sessions based around sports, healthy living, art, performance and social and leisure activities and we run youth groups and groups for older persons. With our valued partners Northumberland Cricket Board we were able to hold another Disability Cricket Festival at Tynedale Cricket Club. Over the year we have also provided an opportunity for Sports Leaders from Queen Elizabeth High School to come to our sports groups and help deliver activities.



Our partnerships with Northumberland Cricket Board and Newcastle United Foundation continue to be extremely successful and support our ever growing sports programmes.



Our sports groups contribute to the health and well-being of our members, but so too do our art group, healthy living, social and youth groups.

Gateway into the Community firmly believes that being happy helps make you healthy. Our vision at Gateway is to help people to be happy. This may be through building friendships, having choices or being able to lead the life you want to lead.

Julia Ferguson, Life Chances Manager, now Chief Executive

Memorable Moments 2018



Disability Sports Awards 2018



Ryan presenting a cheque



A thank you to Ian Whittaker



The Tynedale Lions presenting a cheque

Individual Service Report

At Gateway into the Community our individual support service has continued to grow and we have increased this significantly over the year, especially for those who are starting transition from school to adult services. For instance, one of our younger members who still attends the Priory School receives a few hours of individual support with a view to attending Day Service once he leaves Priory. It is essential for some of our vulnerable members that we can offer a staggered introduction to our Day Service so that they have as smooth a transition as possible. We are fully committed to our members feeling safe and secure in an environment where staff are aware of and fully understand everyone's needs.

In November, Gateway nominated some of our members who have recently joined our Day Service, for the Youth Forum Awards and they were nominated for a variety of reasons. For instance, one member received their nomination because of how kind and considerate they are towards others. Another received their nomination in recognition of their enthusiasm and happy demeanour. It was a wonderful evening and our members accepted their certificates with pride and were brilliant ambassadors for Gateway.



Since the last Annual meeting we managed to secure funding through the Community Foundation to improve our kitchen facilities within the flat. We were able to buy new kitchen units and a full-size cooker which would allow members who either attend groups or receive individual support to cook a range of healthy meals and learn new skills. I would like to say a big thank you to the friendly firemen who fitted the kitchen free of charge. Their generosity was gratefully appreciated and they worked hard in their spare time to ensure the job was completed smoothly and quickly. Also, a special thanks to John Woodley who tiled the kitchen and finished the job off nicely.



Joanne Robinson, Development Manager

Day Service Report

Day Service is expanding and thriving. So much has happened in the last year, it's difficult to know where to begin.

We have welcomed five new members this year and are delighted to be working with them. Due to demand for places, we have increased our working week, and are now open five days. We have taken over the left hand side of the top floor, and created a new sitting room and a lovely games / cosy room that can be used for group activities or for people who may need a little quiet time.

We have had numerous enquiries from parents and social workers for places. However, to keep our service bespoke we need to restrict numbers. With the places already booked for 2019 we are now at capacity.

Our famous window continues to be enjoyed by the population of Hexham. We have had some amazing displays including Valentine's Day, The Royal Wedding, Summer Time, Remembrance Day and of course our award winning Spooky Halloween window display, with which we won first prize in the Hexham Community Partnership competition. As part of our work around "looking after people" we decided to hold a Macmillan coffee afternoon. We had a lovely day, with lots of visitors, and we managed to raise £173.25.

In December, we were asked to deliver a Christmas message as part of the Hexham Community Carol Service. We were most honoured to have been asked, and members did Gateway proud when they delivered their messages of love, kindness and friendship to the people of Hexham. We had some wonderful feedback from the congregation and members of the public who heard about it.



The Day Service enjoying their trips out in the community.

Work has now begun on our new kitchen and improvements to the bathrooms. By Easter 2019 we will have new shower facilities on both upper floors and the kitchen fitters are due to begin work within the next few weeks. Huge thanks to the LEADER (European Fund for Rural Development) and the Tynedale Lions for their generosity, support and funding.

We have had several donations from the Williams family who have been busy fundraising on our behalf and we have purchased some much needed IT equipment with these funds. We also had a donation from Ian Whittaker, who heard about our good work and completed The Great North Run on our behalf.

Our next project will be the development of a much needed sensory room, so all fundraising ideas are most welcome.

We had a wonderful year in 2018 and are all looking forward to a bright happy summer.

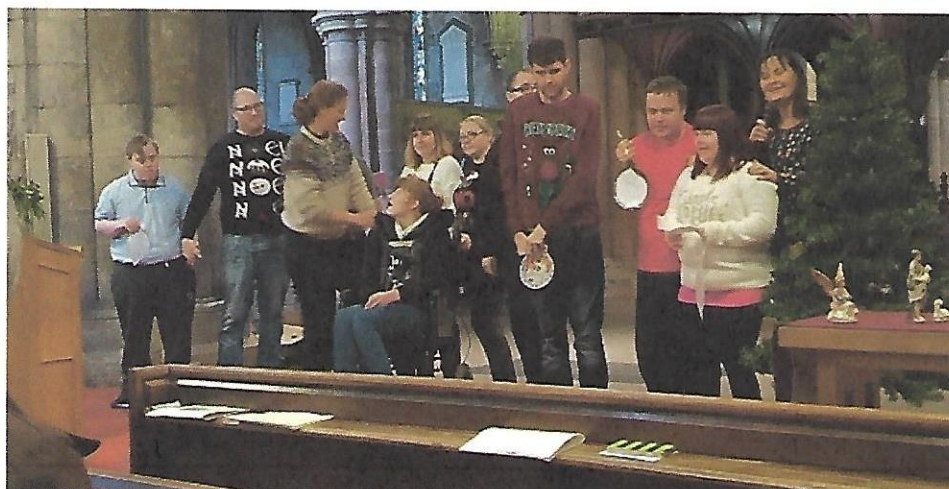
Sharyn Castelow, Day Service Manager



Receiving a prize for the window



The Macmillan Coffee Morning



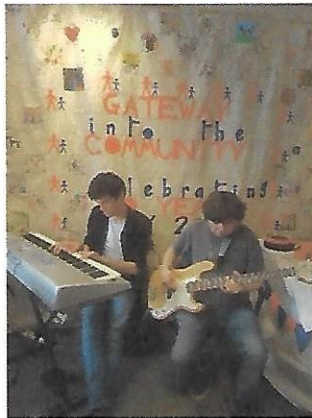
The Community Carol Service in Hexham Abbey

Our 20th Birthday Celebrations

Gateway into the Community started on 1st May 1998 and we celebrated in May 2018 by having an afternoon tea and performance by the All Stars performance group. The trustees and some of our older members were invited to share the occasion. Rosemary, the chair of the trustees, and Fiona, the Co-ordinator, made speeches before everyone raised a toast to the organisation. The two Sam Robinsons entertained us with their music. In the evening, there was a disco for the other members which we all enjoyed.



The All Stars



The two Sams



Christine at the Disco

One of the special projects linked to our birthday celebration was the creation of a wall hanging by Helen Bailey, one of Gateway's sessional workers, with the support of Joan Miller, the mother of one of the members. Everyone involved with the organisation, members, trustees, staff and volunteers was asked to make a square for the hanging. There were some lovely contributions.



The Originals

Tim, Fiona and Rosemary have been together since the beginning. Tim and Rosemary were part of the original steering group which helped to set up Gateway into the Community and they interviewed and appointed Fiona to be the Co-ordinator twenty years ago. All have lots of stories to tell, when people can be persuaded to listen to them. Perhaps they should write a book so everyone knows about the last twenty plus years.

Thank you to everyone who has helped us to reach this milestone.

Our Funders

Baily Thomas Charitable Fund
Barbour Foundation
Duke of Northumberland's Charity
E C Graham Belford Charitable Trust
Fitton Trust



Garfield Weston Foundation

Greggs Foundation



Hadrian Trust

Hexham Courant

Hexham Trinity Methodist Church

Joan Strutt Charitable Trust

LEADER (Northumberland Uplands Local Action Group) – Part funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development

Leathersellers' Company Charitable Fund



Lions Club of Tynedale

Lynn Foundation

Masonic Charitable Foundation

The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development:
Europe investing in rural areas

Northumberland County Council Community Chest

Northumberland Cricket Board

Northumbria Police Commissioner's Community Fund



Rothley Trust

Sir James Knott Trust

Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust

Steven Bloch Image of Disability Charitable Trust



Sylvia Waddilove Foundation

Tesco Bags of Help

Truemark Trust

William Webster Charitable Trust

Woodroffe Benton Foundation

and through the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland:



Blackett Family Community First Fund

Chrysalis Fund

Fresh Ideas Fund (Northstar Foundation)

Kellett Fund

Linden Family Fund and P&G Fund



Roland Cookson Fund

Wellesley Trust Fund

Prudhoe Town Council and Prudhoe Co-operative charity contributions supported Prudhoe Leisure Group