A review of the Scurrah Wainwright Charity’s grants 2012

Henry Scurrah Wainwright

Scurrah Wainwright Charity takes its name from Henry Scurrah Wainwright OBE (1877-1968) who was a Leeds chartered accountant and social reformer. He was also instrumental in founding and building up the Leeds medical company, Chas F Thackray Ltd, whose sale in 1990 led to the founding of the charity. Scurrah (a name taken from a family from Well, near Ripon, which married into the Leeds Wainwrights) was also a keen Methodist and a nationally known grower of prize delphinium plants. He served as president of the Leeds Society of Chartered Accountants and was honorary secretary of the Leeds Tradesmen’s Benevolent Association for 33 years. During the Depression of the 1930s, he was appointed the first chairman of the National Assistance Board’s advisory committee for the Leeds area. In this capacity, he organised personal interviews for every unemployed man in the city under 30 to help them find work.

The charity’s origins

The charity was set up and registered, number 1002755, with the Charity Commission in Spring 1991 when the inaugural meeting was held at Cragg Mount, Woodlands Drive, Rawdon, Leeds LS19 6JZ. It originally took the holding title of the Wainwright Family General Charitable Trust but trustees felt that a more direct tribute to Scurrah Wainwright was appropriate. Following a long and memorable meeting at Rudding House, near Harrogate, the parallel Andrew Wainwright Reform Trust Ltd was also established to promote radical aims outside the limits allowed by the charity laws. Both trusts were endowed through funds from the sale of Chas F Thackray Ltd.

The Scurrah Wainwright Charity also has strong roots in the H S Wainwright General Charitable Trust, set up by Scurrah Wainwright, but for some years after Andrew Wainwright’s death in 1974 known among trustees as ‘Andy’s Trust’. During the late Seventies and the Eighties, this established a strong tradition of causes associated with Zimbabwe - especially helping Zimbabwean students - in memory of Andrew’s affection for the country and its people. A small book of his diaries and letters from Hlekweni rural training centre was published by the Trust, which has some copies still available. There are also copies in the Trust library. The Zimbabwean connection has been nurtured and maintained by the charity and widened to include Southern Africa.

Administration

In 2012, the charity was run by six trustees, all members of the Wainwright family. The chairman was Martin Wainwright, former Northern Editor of The Guardian. Other trustees were Hilary Wainwright, co-editor of Red Pepper; Tessa Wainwright, teacher of English as a foreign language; Roy Bhaskar, author and philosopher; Penny Wainwright, author; and Hugh Scott, solicitor and former trustee of Manningham Housing Association.

Kerry McQuade is administrator for the Charity and the Andrew Wainwright Reform Trust. She may be contacted at 16 Blenheim Street, Hebden Bridge HX7 8BU, e-mail: admin@wainwrighttrusts.org.uk.

The registered office is at 8 Dunstarn Lane, Leeds LS16 8EL.

Peter Dyson, of Bairstow & Atkinson, Halifax, is the charity’s financial adviser and accountant.

Investment is managed by Close Brothers Asset Management.
A review of the Scurrah Wainwright Charity’s grants 2012

Action Foundation

£1,500 November 2012

Action Foundation exists to help those at the margins of society, primarily in Tyneside, overcome their exclusion, isolation and poverty. We accomplish this by running three projects and two social enterprises to empower those who would otherwise fall through the net of existing support services.

Action Foundation used the SWC grant for its Action Housing project, housing 12 refused asylum seekers, supporting them through the increasingly difficult asylum process.

One resident from Iraq said: ‘(Action Foundation staff) are the best. They are concerned for us. Not just housing but for our wellbeing’.

Active Community Team, Scunthorpe

£1,500 July 2012

There was no response to the SWC administrator’s requests for information in 2013. Active Community Team ceased to exist as a charitable body in February 2013.

Actors’ Workshop, Halifax

£1,000 March 2012

The Actors Workshop was founded in 1985 and welcomes young people between 11 and 19 from all over Yorkshire, including young people in care. It hopes to help break down social barriers between young people and emphasises self-discipline, respect and self-determination. And having a jolly good time. Its philosophy is borrowed from a Native American Tribe which believes that the sentry at the gates of heaven has only one question for those seeking entry: ‘How many people are happier because you were born’.

The Workshop’s July 2012 production was a rollicking production of ‘Daisy Pulls It Off’, set in a girls’ school in the 1920s and played by a cast of Yorkshire lads.

400 people saw the production, many praising it as the best production for years.

13 year-old Harry Myers said:
‘I was asked to play the part of Trixie. At first I had second thoughts about cross-dressing but actually going through with the idea has increased my confidence and I believe that now my acting skills have improved and I am more
confident to the point where I believe I can do any role given to me.’

**Back on Track, Manchester**

£2,000 July 2012

Back on Track works with offenders and other disadvantaged adults (those who have suffered homelessness, addictions or long term mental ill-health) going through a period of resettlement.

The SWC grant helped towards a weekly Work Club, offering extra support to service users to progress to volunteering or employment.

208 clients were supported during the grant year, more than two thirds of them moving on to ‘a positive external outcome’ including work – paid or unpaid – and further learning.

10 volunteer mentors enjoyed some valuable training to help expert staff deliver the Work Club.

One Work Club participant said:

‘The Work Club is a supportive environment and has made me realise all the different things I could achieve. I was really nervous about moving on from Back on Track but with the encouragement of the staff and volunteers I felt confident enough to take the next step. I’m now volunteering at Anxiety UK and at Victoria Baths.’

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**Bentham Youth Café**

£2,000 February 2013

Bentham Youth Café was founded by a group of local residents who had a desire to see the young people of Bentham develop in ways that were underpinned by good values and give them a safe haven they could flourish in.

Sue Yardy, the Café’s administrator wrote:

‘During the grant year, the number of young people attending has increased from about 20 a week to between 30 and 40 on a regular basis. We are open three evenings a week with some of the young people attending all three sessions. At these sessions the young people are involved with a variety of activities (art, drama, challenges, quizzes, baking etc). As well as it being a safe haven to be with friends they are learning social skills and how to mix with others. It is a place the young people can call their own without causing anti-social behaviour on the streets. Something the town of Bentham is very grateful for.

Through the year we have been able to do several community linked projects, our main one being during the school summer holiday when the young people go out in the community to work by picking up litter, helping at a coffee morning, tidying up gardens amongst other things. The young people have also helped with several fundraising events to support the running costs of the building and ensure special events can happen (parties etc).

Funding our Youth Worker has continued to be a problem as securing grants to pay wages is proving more difficult as time goes on in the economic climate we find ourselves in. Without the grant from the Scurrah Wainwright Charity we may not have been able to continue the project for the full year.’
Bradford YMCA

£3,000 November 2012

Although Bradford YMCA was largely unsuccessful in its fundraising, the SWC grant helped 6 young women and 80 young men receive Victim Awareness Training before release from Young Offenders Institutions at Wetherby (young men) and New Hall (young women). This was part of the YMCA’s Restorative Justice Project. The Restorative Justice Process is a successful process that allows both the victim and offender a voice. Offenders are encouraged to think like a victim and see how their actions have caused harm to others. As a result the offender usually is able to make reparation in line with the victims’ wishes and becomes more Victim Aware.

Canterbury Imagination Library, Bradford

£1,000 July 2012

Canterbury Imagine was set up in 2012 in response to the TV documentary PoorKids, about children living in poverty in the UK which featured a girl from the Canterbury Estate. Inspired by Dolly Parton's Imagination Library initiative in the USA, it works with the Canterbury Estate’s children’s centre to send every registered child an age-appropriate book in the post, every month, until their fifth birthday. The SWC grant provided for 40 of the 143 children who received books in 2013. Research on the impact of such a scheme is limited. However, there is some evidence of a positive impact on attainment as Imagination Library children start school. Anecdotally, many children are thrilled with their monthly delivery in the post and are enjoying bedtime reading sessions with their parents.

Centre for Health and Public Interest

£4,500 April 2012

Start-up grant refused Nov 12

The CHPI was established to undertake objective analyses of health policy, reassert the principle on which the NHS was founded, and restore respect for evidence in health policy-making. The grant helped the Centre establish a website to place it at the heart of the online debate on the health of the NHS. The website soon attracted authoritative analysis and opinion pieces, regular blogs and thousands of social media interactions, helping to build links with decision-makers and key influencers. Matched funding was then available to move to stage two of the Centre’s work, establishing a securely funded, fully professional think tank to counter what a CHPI Board Member described as ‘think tanks lavishly funded by the private healthcare industry’.
**Christ Church, Armley**

£2,500 July 2012

Previous grants: £7,500 Nov 00 – Nov 02

As Meeting Point celebrated its 10th anniversary, the need for its services, providing support and advocacy for refugees and asylum seekers in a poor, predominantly white, working class area of Leeds continued to rise.

The grant helped secure the crucial paid role of Project Manager, overseeing the work of paid and volunteer staff, a weekly drop-in, advocacy work, fun trips out and city-wide campaigning to counter destitution.

One beneficiary wrote: ‘It fills my soul and my spiritual and physical body. Here, they clothe me and give me food and I have found people who care and talk to me. Some have the same problems like mine and we share. At this place, I learned a lot and I have found a shoulder to cry on.’

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**Clean Slate**

£2,000 November 2012

*No response from the organisation, despite several emails and promises over 12 months.*

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**Cynthia Cockburn**

£1,000 March 2012

Previous grants: Amount unknown 96; £3,000 99; £3,000 Jul 01

Nearly 20 years ago, SWC supported Cynthia’s research project, called ‘The Space Between Us’.

‘I spent time with, supporting, studying and writing about three remarkable women’s organisations working across lines of conflict in war zones – Northern Ireland, Israel/Palestine and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The project was more successful and seminal than even I, at my most optimistic, could have imagined. It led to many other productive activities and outputs in the service of women’s work for partnership and peace.’

The SWC grant enabled Cynthia to ‘re-visit’ the project under the title ‘Violence, Democracy and Time: Women Living and Reliving Conflict’.

‘Aims of the ‘revisiting’ project included uncovering continuity and change in ethno-national wars; better understanding the long-term challenges inherent in cross-communal alliances; supporting and making visible women’s contribution to the long-term struggle for democracy and peace; and bringing the women of the three
organizations in touch with each other again after a decade and a half. The project has been completed as proposed, and has, I believe, achieved its aims in full.’ Cynthia put up her extensive research material on a private website for the exclusive use of women involved in the project as well as using it as the basis for many academic articles.

Cornerstone, Co Durham

£1,000 July 2012

Cornerstone offers housing, counselling and training to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. As part of the training aspect, the organisation set up a workshop to make large hand-built commercial planters. The workshop group wrote:

“We were able to vary the products made by Wainwright funding between planters and benches. The bench production came about after helping a lady who had her garden bench destroyed by vandals, the media coverage we received made people aware of the variety of products we could produce.

“We have received many orders totalling thousands of pounds due to the awareness raising the grant enabled us to achieve. This is also a clear indicator that our service users are not only being accepted, but also viewed as a resource.

“Our customer base is also much wider including schools, hospitals and churches who had initially been reluctant to engage perhaps due to pre conceived ideas about our service users.

“The foot fall to both our workshop and office by the general public has increased significantly, securing further orders and opportunities for service users to feel less isolated within the community.

“Weardale councillor Anita Savoury has been so impressed with our work and our ethos that she has now become a full member of our board of trustees.”
Creative Projects, Hull

£2,700 November 2012

Creative Projects operates throughout East Yorkshire providing specialist support and opportunities around technology.

The SWC grant enabled Creative Projects to produce a CD containing 20 of the most up-to-date Open Source programs. Open Source software is developed by communities, professionals and companies for whom the sale of the software is unnecessary. This could be because it has social benefits, it benefits professionals to have free access to the software or because the company earn money by providing support to high-level users. The best of the software is at least equal to commercial equivalents.

The Creative Projects team distributed their software CDs at 10 workshops with a wide variety of groups and individuals, along with basic training and follow up support when necessary.

The project was most successful when workshop participants shared what they had learned with friends and family, and at schools where computer clubs could be set up to involve children, parents and the local residents.

Darren Squires, who directed the project, wrote:

“Open Source software can play a vital role in bridging the digital divide. We believe that there is no point in teaching computer skills unless those we teach have access to the software so they can maintain and develop those skills.

“It is not always easy to convince organisations (or even educationalists) of the value of this approach. But it is worth it for the successes that we do have.”

CRESST – Conflict Resolution Education in Sheffield Schools Training

£2,500 March 2012

Previous grants: £3,000 Mar 11

CRESST is dedicated to helping children and young people gain the skills necessary to help reduce instances of, and resolve, violent conflict in schools and communities. It offers training for staff and pupils and on-going support for schools to help maintain their scheme, including innovative peer mediation work. A peer mediator offers to help other pupils to sort out minor fall-outs and playtime problems. Mediators do not tell people what to do or take sides. They use a simple mediation process that offers all concerned a chance to have their say, be listened to and then problem solve.

During 2012 and the beginning of 2013 CRESST delivered training in a total of six new schools in the Sheffield area and had interest from several more. It supported the schools who had already implemented peer mediation schemes over past years, trained over 100 adults who attended conflict resolution education courses at CRESST premises and held a successful day conference for current peer mediators from schools in and around Sheffield.

One young peer mediator said: “The thing I like most about mediation is the joy of helping other children.”
Cultures United in Kirklees

£2,000 July 2012

Cultures United in Kirklees managed a two-year joint project called Pathways to Integration with Kirklees Citizens Advice Bureau and Northern Refugee Centre. The project employed three half-time advisors providing immigration advice and support, and a part time outreach and community engagement worker. By the end of its first year the team had helped 485 clients with a variety of immigration and asylum issues, exceeding the target of 200. The project used to share Kirklees CAB offices but moved to its own office in the same building. The team could then work more effectively, and there was the potential to recruit more volunteers as well as a casual admin worker.

Brian Cross, Chair of Cultures United wrote:
“The SWC grant was used to pay interpreters. Many of the clients most in need of Pathway to Integration services would not have been able to access them without this provision.
“We are very pleased with the way the project has progressed so far and appreciate the Charity’s support so much. It has given us the additional financial support to respond so effectively to the emerging needs. It also underlines the value of the work that Citizens Advice are doing now during the life of the project and will be able to sustain into the future.”

Gipton Methodist Chapel

£10,656 July 2012

Previous grants: £1,452.34 Jul 07

This ongoing grant continues the Wainwright family’s commitment to Joyce and Richard’s local community. It covered the wages of Grenville Jensen, the Chapel’s busy layworker. Over the year, Grenville worked within the congregation, leading acts of worship and helping people develop their faith and fellowship, and in the broader community, offering practical help and support. Among other activities, he facilitated Parent and Toddler groups, elderly people’s get-togethers, led school assemblies and sat on the board of school governors, collected clothes and toys for GIPSIL – Gipton’s project for single parents. Fellow workers said he was “a visible presence for the church, bringing people together, being a listening ear for those in need and putting a smile on the faces of those who might not talk to anyone all day.”

HALE – Health Action Local Engagement, Shipley

£4,000 March 2012

HALE works with people of all ages and backgrounds to improve health where there is greatest need. The SWC helped HALE’s Stepping Stone project employ a part-time Asylum Seeker Networker. The Networker supported 40 asylum seekers and refugees to overcome major difficulties after their arrival in Bradford – dealing with mental and physical
trauma, illness, an inability to buy and cook healthy food, daunting bureaucracy and potential destitution.

Natasha Thomas, HALE’s Manager, wrote:

“The Networker has found that some of the most frustrating aspects of his role is the fact that the solicitors disappear, or just do not follow through on the cases, leaving the individual helpless in a sea of bureaucracy.

“HALE’s role now is to ensure that this service is recognised by the local authority, and that we are able to get continued funding to ensure that people who are so very vulnerable are supported through a time in their life that is absolutely uncertain, and isolated. However with the continued cuts the local authority are experiencing we can only be hopeful.

“Your funding however has ensured that this vital work has been able to continue, and attracted Awards for All funding to help people we’ve worked with become volunteers. Thank you so much.”

Helena Kennedy Foundation – Article 26

£500 March 2012

Article 26 of the Declaration of Human Rights states that everyone has the right to education and specifies that higher education should be equally accessible on the basis of merit.

The Helena Kennedy Foundation was established in 1998 to support people who have to overcome significant social and economic barriers to access and succeed in higher education. Research shows that “it is not ability that is unevenly distributed in our society, it is opportunity.”

The Foundation’s Article 26 project focuses specifically on enabling people seeking sanctuary in the UK accessing higher education. Workers use the term ‘sanctuary’ rather than ‘asylum’ to avoid what they consider have become the negative connotations of phrases like ‘asylum-seekers’.

The SWC grant paid for a 12-week research project and a well-argued report ‘Article 26: Evaluating the Next Steps’. The report concluded that the action promising the most success would be to negotiate the inclusion of Article 26s current target group as a category of underrepresented students in Access to Higher Education Agreements with the Office of Fair Access, the government body charged with ensuring access to higher education for the most disadvantaged groups.

Rebecca Murray, Director of Article 26 and co-author of the report, wrote:

“The resources provided by you have enabled Article 26 to think clearly and strategically, as to what our next steps will be. This report enables the production of well-informed funding bids. It allows us to share the rationale behind our current and future work with all our stakeholders and locate it with current policy debates and legislation.”

HELP – Holiday Endeavour for Lone Parents

£500 March 2012

HELP provides discounted caravan holidays at Primrose Valley, Filey, on Yorkshire’s beautiful east coast. These are open to one parent families, parents who don’t live with their children but want to spend holiday time with them, prisoners’ partners, the partners of soldiers on active duty in Afghanistan and women living in refuges.
It is run by seven volunteers, all who are, or have been, lone parents.
The grant paid for new carpets and a fridge in two of the holiday caravans.
All HELP’s caravans were booked right through the holiday season: let’s hope the weather stayed nice for all the families!

**Hope Debt Advice, Masham**

£3,000 November 2012

Hope Debt Advice is a Christian organisation offering ethical debt and money management, free of charge, in rural North Yorkshire.

During the grant year, Hope helped over 60 people, facing a total of £330,863 of debt. This included volunteers travelling many miles to visit people at home.

Charlie Hart, Debt Advisor and Service Manager, wrote:

“With your help we have been able to grow the work we started in 2011. In the last year we have needed to move to a larger office to accommodate more volunteers and a second employed member of staff. We have been able to take on more clients at the same time as continuing to support many of those we took on in our first year.

“It looks as though this year will be even busier again. It is a sad sign of the times that so many are struggling with debt and with all the changes to the benefit system this situation is getting worse.”

**HYIP – Harehills Youth in Partnership**

£2,500 March 2012

Previous grants: £4,000 Mar 07; £3,000 Jul 09

The SWC grant helped pay Jamil Khan, HYIP’s Coordinator. Lots of things happened at the project over the year, including after school homework clubs, a football league and a very encouraging visit from Mr Guhlam Rasool Awami of the Kashmiri Government.

Abdul Hakeem, HYIP’s Chairman, wrote:

“Your grant has enabled Harehills Youth In Partnership to continue its good work and has given the whole team confidence to deliver our quality service.

“Letters were exchanged with children in Kashmir schools. Confidence, self esteem and spellings were encouraged during letter writing to each member.

“HYIP activities have made a tremendous difference to community cohesion in Harehills particularly for the young people, building their confidence, self-esteem and most of all boosted their aims and aspirations.

“Cutbacks and austerity measures have virtually killed off the Council’s youth services operating in these most deprived of areas. It is difficult to fathom such decisions when the outcome is already known – bored inactive youth are a worry to parents and the authorities. Stimulation is needed. The volunteer sector cannot step up a gear without the funds and resources to do so. HYIP is an example of what can be done with just a little funding.”
**Inspire Rotherham**

£2,700 November 2012

Inspire Rotherham’s aim is ‘to reach, educate, inspire, grow and nurture today’s generation to be tomorrow’s confident communicators’.

Inspire asked SWC to help start their Reading Roots project, a collaboration with the children of High Greave Junior School to explore the root causes of non-engagement with literacies in the home and think of ways to address this problem.

The children were trained as Research Agents with the mission to go home and ask questions... They made their own survey forms and used innovative techniques to gather information including art, flip charts, cameras and digital imagery.

Their findings were reported back to their peers, teachers, parents and community leaders. They produced a film promoting reading and created friendly reading spaces around school.

Inspire’s Deborah Bullivant said:

“It was a very enjoyable project as the children were amazing and open to learning new skills. The project has led to Inspire working with the University of Sheffield on a large scale research project on co-produced research with children so it is very exciting and the funding has proved beneficial on so many levels.”

**Leeds Asylum Seekers Support Network**

£2,500 July 2012

Previous grants: £750 Nov 09

The grant was for workers’ salaries so for the first year it could employ its own staff.

Some achievements of the grant year were:

- LASSN gathered a larger and more diverse board of trustees and provided substantial support to 28 refugee community organisations.
- 270 volunteers providing one to one support to 661 asylum seekers and refugees and their children.
- LASSN provided over twice as many nights of accommodation to homeless asylum seekers (1,685) compared to the year before in order to prevent long-term homelessness.
- 231 referrals were made for clients to get support from other services.
- 1,076 hours of lessons were delivered to English at Home students.
- 21 talks/presentations were given to over 500 people.
- One of LASSN’s volunteers was recruited as a guest blogger on the Guardian North website.

**Manchester MULE**

£4,000 March 2012

Manchester MULE claims to be ‘the city’s only independent source of quality, investigative journalism about local affairs and grassroots activities” and aims to be approachable and democratic in the way it operates.
The MULE’s editorial collective requested the SWC grant to establish a Friends of Mule donations drive. The board hoped this would get the organisation on a more even financial footing and spread the word about it to more of the community. The board planned two promotional events to tie in with the new academic year. Print adverts and 5,000 flyers were prepared. Unfortunately all this work only produced £120 in one-off donations and coincided with the departure of several editorial collective members including two of whom had professional journalistic experience. The Friends of Mule campaign became the Save the Mule campaign, and remaining members requested a change of use for the rest of the SWC grant (£1,184). A report back on this part of the grant will appear in the SWC Annual Review of Grants 2014.

Neighbourhood Ventures, Bradford

£1,000 November 2012

Neighbourhood Ventures exists to promote local neighbourhood regeneration through encouraging and supporting resident self-help and social enterprise. The grant was used to provide a training and support programme in Longlands, Bradford’s first major housing development, scoring high on the National Index of Deprivation and, according to tenant research from social landlord Incommunities, currently the least desirable estate in the district. A total of 112 people attended the ten short, interactive and informal workshops provided. Workshops included growing food locally, setting up recycling schemes, exploring community rights under the Localism Act and setting up a neighbourhood council. Initiatives emerging from the workshops include the formation of a Longland local history project, a community food mapping project, a hyperlocal website as part of a City Centre-wide site, and a community governance project which, again, links ‘urban villages’ across the City Centre.

Jonathan Crewdson, Neighbourhood Ventures’ Chair and lead tutor said:

“The project has definitely contributed towards increasing local community cohesion and identity for Longlands with the local history project helping to provide a sense of identity for the area. Residents have met with other residents in Longlands and neighbours from other parts of the City Centre, introducing them to people they might not have otherwise encountered and developing new social ties. Indeed, some have been working together on the new projects.

“Having designed a curriculum of training topics, a set of lesson plans and learning resources, purchased the equipment to deliver this training and gained the experience
of seeing it through, we have effectively created a template that could be taken to a new location and replicated. At present, we are considering Keighley.”

Next Step Project, Hull

£2,500 November 2012

All the women who access the Next Step Project are unemployed and vulnerable for various reasons – for example, involved in street prostitution, abusive and violent relationships or addictions.

Next Step offers a dual approach to training: it offers skills for volunteering and employment, but also helps women overcome the low self-confidence and high anxiety that their backgrounds and current lifestyles engender. So success at Next Step is measured as much by a woman’s ability to feel she can direct her own life as it is in the certificates she gains.

Of the 33 women covered by the SWC grant, only a handful have not been able to benefit from New Step’s input. The rest are still enjoying learning new skills or have found volunteer or paid work.

No Way Trust

£3,000 November 2012

The No Way Trust was founded in 1993 by three Hull prison officers who were alarmed at the number of young people being given custodial sentences. Its mission is to raise awareness amongst young people, aged 8 to 18, about the causes, consequences, penalties and impact of crime and to help them stay safe and aspire.

The SWC grant helped the Trust run seven of their trademark Crime and Safety Awareness Days, reaching 1,600 young people.

On the Crime and Safety Awareness Days, pupils, usually between 12 and 15 years old, are removed from their normal daily school cycle and become isolated from other members of their peer group and treated like prisoners. The Trust often takes along a life size mock up of a prison cell.

Interactive workshops are delivered in partnership with local Police, Fire Service, Ambulance Service, Magistrates and Prison Staff, and help to redress the often-incorrect images of the criminal justice system and prison life portrayed through the media. They dispel any myths or misconceptions young people may have.

The days are not confrontational but designed to make a lasting impression.

Individual sessions by ex-offenders proved particularly effective.

In 2012, 80% of participants said that the day would make them less likely to be involved in any crime in future.

PIRC – Public Interest Research Centre

£2,500 March 2012

The Public Interest Research Centre was founded in 1971. It ‘synthesises research for campaigners and policymakers, advocates radical solutions, pushes for policy change and communicates emerging sustainability issues.’
PIRC recognises the need for deeper cultural change to address sustainability. We are convinced that tackling the larger environmental issues that threaten society and the ecosystems we depend on requires huge shifts in our economies, our political systems, our values and our culture.  

PIRC wanted to expose the government’s reluctance to accept, and the public’s lack of awareness of, the fact that the UK’s carbon emissions appeared to be decreasing only because their full extent was being hidden in the emissions of countries like China that provide us with so many consumer goods.  

To this end, they created a 3-minute animation called Carbon Omissions (go to carbonomission.org.uk) to condense their research and evidence into an engaging and accessible tool to be disseminated to hundreds and thousands of people, via their extensive networks and collaborations.  

Around 300 people attended the animation’s launch event (see picture), including a large contingent from UK environment and development NGOs, as well as faith groups and trade union representatives. In the following 10 days, the animation was viewed about 6,000 times and was hosted on the Guardian’s website. The project has been covered by the Guardian, BBC, New Internationalist and Carbon Brief and was part of PIRC’s submission to the government’s Committee on Climate Change.

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**Rock Currock Youth Project, Carlisle**

£1,500 November 2012

Weekly gardening sessions have been providing welcome occupation for young people from hard-pressed families on the Currock Estate in Carlisle. The SWC grant has helped 15 youngsters between 7 and 13 maintain and develop the Youth Project garden. They gained nationally recognised credits for all their hard work as well as having a lot of fun. The young gardeners grew a bumper harvest of fruit and vegetables, which they also learned how to cook, they established a wild flower area to attract bees and butterflies and turned an upcycled wooden cable reel into a mosaiced table so everyone can sit around it to enjoy the garden.

As Project Manager Rachel Crowcroft said: ‘For many young people this is their first experience of gardening, how they can contribute to the environment and learn where and how food is produced, from seed to serving up a tasty dish’.

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Rooots Ltd, Leeds

£4,000 July 2012

Rooots Ltd is a not-for-profit social enterprise run by five African Caribbean people with learning difficulties. The members use their first hand experience to deliver training and consultancy on the challenges faced by black people with learning disabilities. In 2012, many of their sessions were on disability hate crime and healthy lifestyles. Rooots Ltd was mentoring Peter Pang, a trainer with learning disabilities of Chinese heritage, and the SWC grant helped him establish the Asian equivalent of Rooots Ltd. Peter and the Rooots team interviewed and employed a new training team, a support worker and a volunteer. The new team worked hard on a group name (Asian Rooots finally won) and a business plan, before starting to develop training sessions.

Asian Rooots’ mission statement is:

“We are a team of diverse people with learning disabilities and an Asian heritage
“We want to empower people with learning disabilities and make sure all voices are heard
“We train others to respect the values and beliefs for all communities
“We want to improve the quality of services for everyone
“We are a Social Firm which aims to generate more paid work.”

SNYP – Southwick Neighbourhood Youth Project, Sunderland

£3,000 July 2012

SNYP coordinate The Southwick Hacks – full-colour newspaper developed, written, collated and delivered by young people for young people in an area of Sunderland that came top in a grim league table of struggling families. Dozens of young people produce four editions of the Hacks a year and 1,000 copies are distributed (printing paid for by SWC in 2012/13).

Youth Worker Meg Robertson, wrote on behalf of the young people:

“Local authority departments now include the Hacks in any developments being looked at and discussed in the area as they know they have direct links with the other young people and will work hard to find what their opinions are and reflect these.
“For those involved the learning is immense. The work they are doing is breaking down barriers between generations and diluting the harsh and fearful image that many have of young people, especially in an area of such multiple deprivation as ours. The young
people are learning that is okay to have an opinion and to voice this. Their learning is reflected in the ability to mature and engage with wider society.”

Spacious Places, Leeds

£3,000 November 2012

Spacious Places is a day treatment centre for men and women trying to overcome their addictions. It teaching is based on the 12-step programme with a strong emphasis on relapse prevention plans. The SWC grant was used to fund a part-time administrative assistant/fundraiser post for six months to press for local authority and NHS support, reducing the time senior therapeutic workers had to spend doing it.

Graham Fell, Therapeutic Manager, wrote: “Employing our admin/fundraising worker has allowed us to greatly improve our communications with potential clients, supporters, and potential supporters. All our publications have undergone rebranding, our website has been redesigned (with the help of a friend of Spacious Places) and is now regularly updated, we send out regular newsletters to supporters, and we are building a committed group of individual supporters. We continue to apply to grant-making trusts for fundraising, as well as exploring new sources of funding, for example online donations and Ebay for Charity. We hope that we can raise funds to continue employing this worker, to enable us to continue our improved communication and fundraising development.

“Addiction is an extremely complex issue that impacts deeply on all areas of an addict’s life. Our unique programme gives intensive holistic support to clients in approximately the first 12 months of their recovery. We are delighted to report that out of the 85 clients who have been on the programme since January 2009, 32% have achieved considerable improvement in their recovery, and 19% have achieved quality, sustainable recovery.

“We hope that our programme’s success demonstrates to other service providers, funders and commissioning bodies that this resource-intensive approach delivers a high return on investment, both in terms of lives changed and reduced financial burden on state services.”

St Augustine’s Centre, Halifax

£2,500 July 2012

St Augustine’s has been in existence for 30 years. A committed group of volunteers and a few paid staff work with asylum seekers, refugees, people who are destitute, dependent on drugs or alcohol, Roma from Slovakia and people with mental health problems – ie people who are on the margins.

The grant was used towards employing the centre’s first caretaker.

Catherine Putz, volunteer trustee, wrote: “Our caretaker, David Potter, has now been with us for a year. He has made an amazing difference. It has helped staff, volunteers and centre users. There is an improved feel to the centre: it is safer and more secure. The impact is significant and the staff don’t know how we managed without a caretaker. We have been fortunate with the appointment and aware that David does more than the ten paid hours most weeks!”

David wrote in the centre’s newsletter:
“My ongoing list of jobs never seems to end. I can be fixing a door one day to opening up for an evening class the next – it’s always varied. “Highpoints so far have been the atmosphere – the feel about the Centre is good and it’s a good place to work. “My previous jobs have seen me working on ships and I can associate my role here to that. In order for a ship to be in good working order whilst out at sea it needs to function, things have to work, if there’s a problem it has to be fixed. The Centre helps so many people so my role is to make sure people can do their jobs.”

Stop Hate UK

£3,000 July 2012

Stop Hate UK was formed in Leeds in 1996. It offers a free, independent and confidential helpline service in several parts of the country to support people who want to report Hate incidents and crimes.

Stop Hate was starting a help line in Calderdale specifically for the LGBT community but the SWC grant meant the organisation could employ extra help line operators and extend the service to deal with all forms of Hate Crime (race, faith, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity).

23 people used the service, some more than once, to report a range of hate motivated incidents, as well as a lack of access to services. Where consent was given, incidents were referred on to appropriate agencies including West Yorkshire Police, Victim Support, MIND and Age UK.

The group also distributed publicity material about Hate Crime and held free “Understanding Hate Crime” sessions.

Ugandan Arts Trust – 32° East

£4,500 March 2012

32° East is a new centre for the production and exploration of contemporary Ugandan art, based in Kampala. The management team “hold a strong belief that art and creativity act as catalysts for social improvement, reform and the strengthening of community bonds”.

The SWC supported the centre’s fledgling education and exchange programme which included:

- Constructing and equipping a library and resource centre from scratch
- Promoting regular discussions eg “How to survive as an artist”, “How do Ugandans view visual art?”
- Community projects around the city eg for International Women’s Day
- Establishing exchanges with regional and international artists
Rocca Gutteridge, 32° East’s Co-Director, wrote:

“Without your support, none of the above would have been achieved. “We did not facilitate as many workshops and debates as we had hoped, because we needed to work on the skills and development of our own management team in this first busy year. Developing the capacity of artists, curators, art critics, arts managers and local arts audiences has been crucial to ensure the long-term health of the organisation.”

Waters Edge Arts, Manchester

£2,000 March 2012

Waters Edge Arts is based in a former Sunday school in Chorlton, South Manchester. It was set up by experienced community arts workers and provides opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds, particularly those deemed ‘disadvantaged’, to become involved in the arts as both participant and spectator.

Waters Edge had been piloting JUMP!, a weekly arts club for unemployed people, building up skills and wellbeing through professionally-led, inclusive, exciting arts projects, culminating in a performance or exhibition.

The SWC grant helped JUMP! Provide 15 creative writing sessions to 15 unemployed people, led by professional writer Louise Wallwein, culminating in a script-in-hand performance by four professional actors (including former stars of Coronation Street and Hollyoaks) in front of an invited audience of friends and family.

As a direct result of this phase of the project, participants continued to meet weekly, on top of the regular JUMP! sessions, to enjoy peer led creative writing sessions and continue their personal and professional development.

The grant helped secure further funding and raise the possibility of running JUMP! sessions five days a week.

Janine Waters, Edge Artistic Director, wrote:

“The grant from Scurrah Wainwright Charity helped us enormously to develop what became a key element of JUMP! in terms of engaging individuals with a diverse range of needs over a sustained period of time, in positive, creative activities. Thank you!”

Zimbabwe Association

£5,000 July 2012

The Zimbabwe Association was formed in 2001 for Zimbabwean asylum-seekers as a response to the urgent needs of Zimbabweans arriving in the UK. They faced a daunting and complex asylum process and many were traumatised and fearful. Since then ZA has developed into a vibrant membership based organisation, promoting the fundamental human rights and welfare of all Zimbabweans.

The SWC grant helped three ZA members make a fact-finding visit to Zimbabwe. This was the ZA’s first visit to Zimbabwe as an organisation, and all the members, two
Zimbabwean and one British, were returning to the country for the first time after 10 or 11 years.
The purpose of the visit was to prepare for the safe and sustainable return of ZA members to Zimbabwe.
The members met and held in-depth discussions and conversations with over 120 individuals representing a wide range of organisations and were introduced to more than 230 others. They made valuable connections, leading to potential partnerships, and raised the profile of ZA.
Coordinator Sarah Harland wrote:

“Here are our conclusions and recommendations:

- The situation in Zimbabwe is complex. There are no simple yes or no answers to what the experience of returnees is likely to be, it depends upon who you are, where you go to, who you are with and the resources you bring with you.
- Zimbabwe is a very difficult country to live in, but there are also opportunities for resourceful, resilient people who are prepared for disappointments and able to be flexible.
- Our visit confirmed the value of ZA’s work in nurturing the human resources of the refugee community. We are an entry point to the diaspora and an information channel to and from the UK.
- There are few resources available to support the return of the diaspora. ZA is in the forefront in exploring the possibilities.
- Looking ahead, the issue is how to make the most effective use of very limited resources and without raising false expectations.

“As someone commented to us in Harare: ‘Things are tough but people are still doing stuff’.
“We had an extremely interesting and worthwhile time in Zimbabwe, and have returned reinvigorated and ready for the challenges ahead.”
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