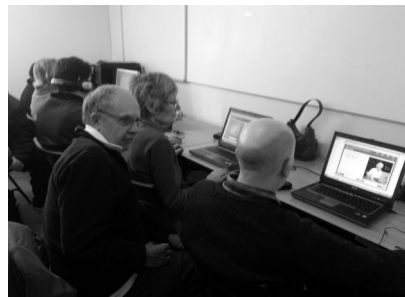


Thank You

To everyone who has supported us over the year including:

Volunteers: Robert Anderson, Adam Bailey, Darren Barsby, Ruth Berridge, Jaydene Biddulph, Matthew Carter, John Chapman, Francoise Davis, Michael Dennis, Susan Dodd, Jill Field, Amanda Froggatt, Lynnette Heritage, Joyce Holt, Peter Horton, Gillian Jones, Alan Joynson, Jeffrey Pagett, Vi Sheldon, Lewis Smith, Amanda Spencer, Ann Studd, Nicola Wait, Christine Woodcock, Sheila Jones, Sheila Johnston, Jill Perkins, Rebecca Hubbard, Marjorie Bowles. Clare Millard, Janet Gill, Anni Shearer, Roger Minett, Neena Aggarwal, Silifa Williams, Tracy Berry, Chris Tench, David Standen, Lawrence Harman, Geoff Cunliffe, Nigel Dyson, Val Burgess.

Management Committee: Neale Williams, Karen Hanlan, Lorna Dirveiks, Lesley Stinton, Adrian Edgington, David Harris, John Killian, John Rowling, Martin Short, Gwyn Short, Silifa Williams, Roger Minett, Steven Peters.



VOLUNTEER CENTRE NORTH WARWICKSHIRE
WHITE HART HOUSE, LONG STREET, ATHERSTONE CV9 1AX



Annual Report

1st April 2014—31st March 2015

Limited Company No: 5697854

Registered Charity No: 1113322





**North Warwickshire Borough
Council**

The Mayor's Parlour

The Council House
South Street
Atherstone
North Warwickshire

Over the recent years, I have seen the good work the volunteers do in our community; having seen it as a member of Atherstone Town Council, as well as North Warwickshire Borough Council. I am constantly pleased to see how you can achieve so much with so little.

These have been and are difficult financial years for everyone, but you quite rightly and successfully seek support from all quarters and will no doubt continue to do so.

The support your army of Volunteers give the community, is invaluable and much appreciated by the aged and vulnerable in our society. As the profile of the needy changes with particularly more people finding work and by working with Parish and Town Councils the future activities and opportunities will evolve, as in the past, and continue to make the difference.

Technology is a real driver of people being isolated, with everything being on line. This is a major reason for many peoples' frustration, both old and vulnerable. So, with the hubs developing, I hope we can match the equipment with all the people who need it, as well as getting them started.

Please keep up the good work in North Warwickshire, knowing every act you take is improving the community in which we live.

Councillor Martin Davis

Mayor of North Warwickshire

2015 – 2016

We have been pairing up more volunteers with befriendedees as part of the project teams . We have just 12 months left on the project and are concentrating on the smaller villages across the Borough.

Volunteering to employment - Funded by European Social Fund

This project was to teach unemployed people new skills, we had 26 unemployed people on the project learning new skills and attending Job Club and the employability course. We had 6 people gain employment through the project.

Work clubs funded by WCC - We are running a Work Club in Atherstone at the Centre which has been very popular, with over 50 people coming along to do CV's Job searching and interview skills. The funding ran out in March, the club continues, run by 2 excellent volunteers.

Allotment - The team of volunteers at the allotment, continue to produce some excellent crops which have been given to the food bank, so fresh vegetables for those using the food bank. This was funded by **Comic Relief** through **Heart of England Foundation**.

North Warwickshire Bob Hubs - Funded by NWBC. The Hubs across North Warwickshire continue to benefit the community and continue to be developed with new Hubs coming on stream soon. Michelle is covering the Hub Development role whilst Lori is off on maternity leave, starting March 2015.

Coleshill Parish Fund - We have been promoting volunteering across Coleshill, with a Volunteer Recognition event held in June and a Volunteering Fair held in February, which was very successful. We have been working with Coleshill Hub to promote volunteering in Coleshill.

WCC funded - Get Out and About is our craft project, helping people to have a group session to come together to reduce isolation. The group also goes to the Phoenix group, helping those with Dementia to do craft as recreation.

Heart of England Winter survival fund – Funded our Lunch Club to give people in the community a cooked meal at a reasonable price, particularly in the winter months

Lloyds Bank community fund – We came second in a fund bid competition, that secured us £2000 to do cooking with the partially sighted, which we carried forward to do in the next financial year.

Tinder Foundation – This funding was for the last 6 months to deliver digital inclusion across North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth. This included using the Bob bus for the training and promotion, enabling us to employ two part time staff to deliver the Learn My Way courses.

Chair's Report 2015

Having just taken a look back at my report for the last AGM, it is interesting to reflect that the key messages then were about challenges and partnerships.

Not surprisingly those words are still very relevant to my report for this year's AGM.

In relation to challenges, I would firstly like to thank Martin and the small team of staff and volunteers, for rising to the challenge of maintaining the core values and objectives of VCNW. They have worked extremely hard, not only to carry on the work that VCNW does, but to expand this work through new projects. Martin has detailed some of the projects in his report, but this does not show the lengths which they go to, to ensure that all the targets/commitments are met. This includes giving up evenings, some weekend days and taking on additional responsibilities. I am very grateful and proud of them all.

The next and biggest challenge we face, along with many organisations in the voluntary sector, is to secure funding, so that we can continue and develop our work for the communities of North Warwickshire.

Partnerships will be very important in this and we have been active in ensuring new and existing partnerships are being developed. We have existing partnership projects with VCN&B, which are very successful and we are looking to further strengthen our links/projects to benefit our respective communities. As Martin has mentioned, we have an excellent relationship with North Warwickshire Borough Council and they are very supportive of our work, for which we are extremely grateful.

We have been actively involved in meetings in relation to the European Structural Investment Funding, due to commence in 2016, the consultation process for Warwickshire County Councils funding of Volunteer Infrastructure, plus the development of Third and Public Sector Partnership Group.

At the time of writing this report, we are unsure of the funding implications of the above and the potential impact on VCNW. However, as a Trustee Board we will do all that is possible to support and maintain the invaluable work done by the staff and volunteers of VCNW.

Neale Williams

Projects

Help at Hand - Funded by the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund The Help at Hand Project has completed its fourth year, with 171 people volunteering on the project during the 4 years. We have been working in Arley and Ansley to recruit people in that area.

Manager's Report

The Volunteer Centre has had another interesting and challenging financial year. We have had lots of smaller projects to manage this year, which due to the amount of them, has made the project management interesting.

This year has seen us looking at working in closer partnerships with others, which we feel is an important way forward and something we have always looked at doing. We have an excellent relationship with Bob Trahern's team at the Borough Council. We have use of the BOB bus for our Learn My Way project, which is of mutual benefit in that Borough Council services are promoted on the bus and digital inclusion is important for the local community and the Borough Council. We are covering the Hub work from March, whilst a member of Bob's team is on Maternity leave, Michelle is doing this role.

We are working a lot closer with our sister Volunteer Centre in Nuneaton and Bedworth. We have two projects that we are engaged in and looking for other avenues to work together.

The Learn My Way project reached its figures for the last 6 months of this financial year, we have the go ahead to continue the project for the next 12months, as long as we reach the challenging numbers of learners. This is a joint project with Nuneaton and Bedworth Volunteer Centre.

A new DWP project started in March too. This is a 14 month project, so goes into the next financial year, to teach new skills through volunteering to unemployed people on JSA and ESA. This is the other joint project with Nuneaton and Bedworth.

We have found volunteering placements for 169 people, as well as signposting another 245 people to volunteering opportunities.

White Hart Tea Rooms have had a lot more buffets during the financial year and they continue to come in. It is good to have this small income stream coming into the Centre and provides good volunteering opportunities.

We have been involved this year in the Warwickshire County Council Consultation Process, for volunteer infrastructure funding across Warwickshire. This has been done by questionnaires and county meetings. The outcomes from this have ended in a tender for the infrastructure contract, which is coming out this September for contracts starting April 2016. This will be an interesting phase for the voluntary sector and could well affect our core funding from WCC.

We have a full Trustee team now, with three new trustees joining the board this year; Silifa Williams, Roger Minett and Steven Peters, all with different skills to offer and one Trustee resigning, Lesley Stinton, who was our Vice Chair for a number of years and a valuable member of the board.

Martin Horner

Centre Manager

Income and Expenditure 1st April 2014 - 31st March 2015

Incoming Resources	Note	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
		2015	2015	2015	2014
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	1	39,855	90,435	130,290	104,038
Investment income	2	272	-	272	280
Other incoming resources	3	6,329	-	6,329	2,735
Total incoming resources		46,456	90,435	136,891	107,053
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating voluntary income	4	2,503	-	2,503	3,114
Charitable activities	4	31,392	87,992	119,384	98,145
Governance costs	4	1,551	-	1,551	1,857
Total resources expended		35,446	87,992	123,438	103,116
Net income and net movement in funds for year		11,010	2,443	13,453	3,937
Transfers between funds		520	(520)	-	-
Balance brought forward at beginning of year		55,037	7,331	62,368	58,431
Balance carried forward at end of year	10	66,567	9,254	75,821	62,368

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2015

	Notes	Unrestricted 2015	Restricted 2015	Total 2015	Total 2014
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	7	3,797	-	3,797	2,760
Current Assets					
Debtors	8	2,207	-	2,207	1,974
Cash in bank and in hand		60,863	9,254	70,117	57,977
		63,070	9,254	72,324	59,951
Current Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(300)	-	(300)	(343)
Net Current assets		62,770	9,254	72,024	59,608
Net assets		66,567	9,254	75,821	62,368
Net Assets represented by:					
Restricted Funds	10	-	9,254	9,254	7,331
Unrestricted Funds - general	10	47,299	-	47,299	38,016
Unrestricted Funds - designated	10	19,268	-	19,268	17,021
		66,567	9,254	75,821	62,368

VCNW Treasurer's Report to 31 March 2015

The accounts presented are an extract from the full accounts of the Charitable Company for the year ended 31 March 2015. Income of £136,891 (2014: £107,053) was received in the year. Expenditure was £123,438 (2014: £103,116) the increase relating to two Heritage Lottery Projects, leaving funds to take forward into 2014/15 of £75,821 of which £9,254 relates to earmarked projects.