Young Crown



annual report 2016/17

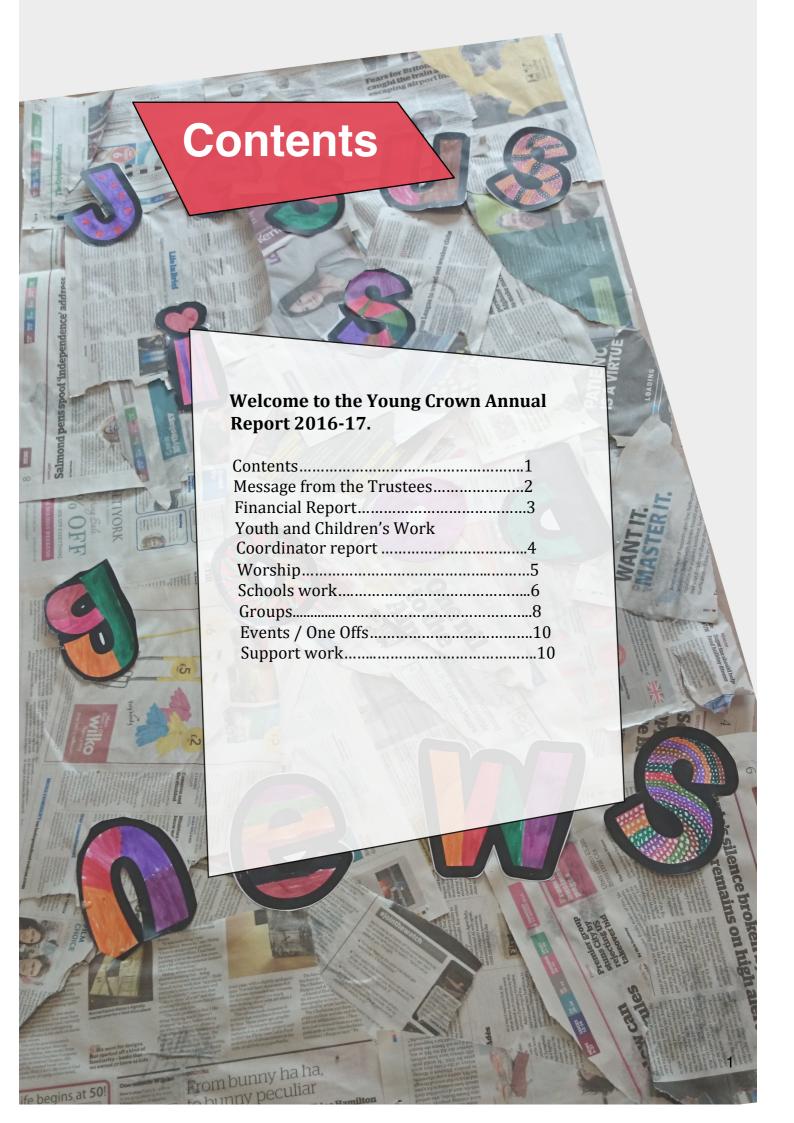


www.young-crown.co.uk

Young Crown (SCIO), SC045802

Find us:

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From the Trustees Peter Donald, Chair 12 September 2016

Young Crown SCIO



Statement of Accounts - to 31st July 2017

Income:-

Donations £7,718.40
Standing Orders £10,513.00
Fete £1,148.64
Gift Aid / EasyFundraising £10,211.69

£29,591.73 £29,591.73

Expenditure:-

 Wages
 £19,903.56

 Tax, NI
 £7,302.52

 Expenses
 £810.71

£28,016.79 £28,016.79

Surplus for the Year £1,574.94

BALANCE SHEET

Opening cash at bank and in hand £7,811.22

Surplus for the Year £1,574.94

Closing Cash at Bank and in hand £9,386.16

Bank & Cash Balances:

Gary nuthing

Bank Account £9,386.16

Gary McAra Treasurer

10th August 2017

Youth And Children's Work Coordinator's report

Another big year for Young Crown! The highlights package contained herewith is backed by a great many answers to prayer, along with a great deal of work not just from myself but also a skilled and dedicated bunch of volunteers who give so generously of themselves, time and money. The excitement in this report speaks almost as much to their dedication as it does to God's faithfulness.

The things we're building for the future are really beginning to take shape, and the prospects are truly exciting. With a fresh approach in worship, loads of support work and linking with families and a true acceptance in schools; things are really taking shape!

Our depth of relationship with schools is fantastic. We've literally been given the keys (on one occasion)! This doesn't happen lightly with religious organisations in this day and age. It has come about by our heavy investment in there and an approach with high quality, innovation and professionalism. And so the opportunities to serve there keep on growing...

We hear reports from around the community of the positive impact that Young Crown is having on families in the area, which is good news. Literally. It is the Gospel in action. If connecting with people is phase 1, then surely connecting them with good news is phase 2. For all that we've been able to do that and capitalise on the contact work of the last two years, we've been very thankful.

Whilst it has been full of excitement, it hasn't all gone according to plan. A couple of projects which involved a fair amount of work fell by the wayside; but these things will happen when you're trying to innovate new ways to love and serve in the community! We've also been aware that change has its difficulties and been working hard, particularly on new projects, to bed them in well, listen to people's reflections and adapt to suit. As Jesus said to blind Bartimaeus (even though you could easily guess the response): "what would you like me to do for you?"

So with thrilling excitement in all that God is doing here, read on and look forward!

Thanks for all of your support and prayers, keep praying – the Lord is faithful, and He is moving!

Struan

Worship

9:30 Service



One of the major avenues of work has been the establishment of the 9:30 service as part of our weekly diet of worship. This had, for years, been part of the cycle of worship every summer, but October 2016 saw the beginning of a trial period of having the service weekly. We've worked hard during this period of transition and adjustment and have been also concentrating on making our output of worship services good for children, families and everyone in church. Now that the 9:30 service has been adopted as part of our weekly worship, it remains a high priority area of our work; alongside good provision for children at the 11:00 service (Treasure Seekers, crèche) and working with families to try and provide a great place for Christian nurture.

During lent, we tried out a brand new idea: the Bible Explorers' BOX...

The contents of the box were designed to help families take the journey of faith home with them – and help the whole family to engage with prayer and Bible reading together through the week. The project was borne out of much thought, deliberation and conversation with parents about making sure that the spiritual activities of church are accessible and commonplace for all 7 days of the week. They were offered in hope that the boxes will be a big blessing to families who take them home, and offer a really easy and sustainable start to a vibrant shared spiritual journey based at home.

In each box there was:

1 Diary of a Disciple. (An accessible version of Luke's gospel, which we were going through during both 9:30 and 11:00 services. There was also a guide as to which chapters to read at which times to follow the readings at church.

2 Prayer pals. These were to accompany little ones at bed time or wherever else they need a friend. They also carried a reminder of something / someone to pray for, and a simple prayer to use daily.

1 Lord's prayer cube. This cube was to help to explore the meaning behind each part of the Lord's prayer to grow confidence in knowing how to pray too.

1 Challenge card. This card gave a set of weekly challenges for individuals / families to do together in order to grow in faith together. There were some fun ones and some slightly tougher ones too.

Schools Work

One of the biggest features of the last year for Young Crown's ministry has been the increase in our stature and involvement in local schools. We maintain at least weekly presence in schools and are embedded in loads of different areas of school life. This work is hugely significant in ministry to children and young people as school is where they spend a vast amount of their time and form many of their values.

Crown Primary School

Our regular pattern of assemblies had increased to fortnightly church-led assemblies in the school. This allowed us to deliver very regular Religious Observance assemblies and be a very visible part of school life. There were opportunities to teach RE lessons and guide discussions too. On top of that, we also worked with year groups to produce end of year services on Christmas, Easter and one of the best leavers' services ever!

We had the opportunity to develop some extra events too! During the year, we organised a group of people from church to come in to school and share a bit about what school was like *a few* years ago. We also hosted a weeklong Prayer Spaces project where every class got to come and explore different parts of the Bible and reflect in a multi-sensory environment. All very well received by pupils and staff alike.

We continued running Scripture Union Club on Wednesday lunchtimes and saw an increase both in number and regularity of attendance. We also spent some significant time in support of nursery staff which has alleviated a lot of pressure at the early-years end of school – very under-the-radar, but very blessed.



Likewise with Crown Primary, we've also been significantly building the work we do in Millburn Academy. Having taught RE lessons for lower school and been given a series of lessons to teach S6, we have built on the quality and trust in school. Our chaplaincy assembly programme has been maintained and so well appreciated, the school has been asked by others in the region for advice about how to do similarly.

At time of reporting last year, we were just setting up the Drop In. This has been a weekly fixture at the school and pupils know that the youth workers will be in and ready to serve up a fresh blend of hot chocolate, games, the odd debate and – crucially – a listening ear. The drop in has been wholeheartedly endorsed by the senior management in school and has amassed a big following amongst the student body. Most weeks we can expect to see 60+ pupils!

The other big blessing was, of course, the YFC touring teams we brought up to Millburn in November. The Sense and Stance provided assemblies, music lessons, lunchtime performances, some out-of-hours worship leadings and so much more. The school can't wait to have them back again (and they won't have to wait long either!)

Christmas:

During the run in to Christmas, we had

several opportunities to spread seasonal cheer amongst

children and others. We visited both Kingsmills and Abbeyfield Nursing Homes with groups from Crown Primary and the Beavers to do Christmas carols for (and even with) the residents.

We participated too with Millburn Academy's end of term services – a full day of services done year-group at a time. Helping all sorts of groups to celebrate Christian festivals has again been a huge privilege this year.

Groups

Young Crown has been involved with, or fully in charge of, planning, shaping, delivering and running loads of groups for children and young people throughout the year. Here's a bit of what we've been up to:

Energize

This Thursday evening club has become in some ways the backbone to our outreach. Over the last year we have seen it grow numerically, but also we have gained young helpers (S1-2s who have responsibility over some games, tuck shop, etc). We have been so blessed and encouraged that our weekly provision has been taken up by many and that this is opening doors with families; encouraged some to give church a try; but, mostly, given us a weekly opportunity to explore the gospel with these precious children. We even had a guest speaker (Joel Githinji) one week which was a particular highlight.

Aloingside our regular programme of Bible-based activity, we also enjoyed several 'social' events including: giant inflatables; photo treasure hunt and pizza night; film nights and one night where we took 40 people to Jimmy Chung's!

ENERGIZE

Organisations:

There have been many organisations we've partnered with over the last year. Once again, lots of work with the 3rd Inverness BB company, providing informal chaplaincy and extending welcome from the church. We have also spent time maintaining links in various ways with Cubs, Beavers, Scouts and Air Training Corps.

Summer

Over the summer we maintained a weekly programme of activities for everyone from nursery to S2. We ran three clubs – including 'Summergize' on Thursdays; 'LP Club' and 'Kick' on Fridays. This meant we could provide a space of fun, games, enjoyment and Christian nurture and offer it both to regulars who were missing BB / GB and others too. These clubs were reasonably well attended and also very appreciated by families as well as the children themselves. We explored all sorts of different Bible teaching – from looking at Jesus' miracles with the youngest, through exploring in depth the "Prodigal Son" with upper Primary and looking at themes with the older children.



KICK

FILM

Youth Alpha

After last year's Youth Alpha (through which we gained two Church members); it seemed a good idea to run again. This summer saw a group of young men go through the YA video series and explore in real depth some of the amazing truths of God in the Bible. We really did get quite philosophical in our discussions at points! And, in case you're worried, yes there was pizza.

Events / One Offs

Life has its special occasions. Birthdays, celebrations, milestones. At Young Crown, we want to share that life IS a special occasion - and so that means there's plenty of opportunity to celebrate!



Treasure Island Weekend

In September 2016 we took 12 young folk from P5-7 away on a multiactivity weekend at Alltnacriche near Aviemore. The event was run by SU Scotland and was attended by people from all over the Highlands - although over a quarter of the campers were from Young Crown!

A great opportunity to take time away and have loads of fun, superb activities and also a successful quest to find the Mighty God Sword.

Light Party

We also tried a new event on October 31st where, as an alternative to Halloween, we threw a light party. With fun, games, and some digging around the Bible we thought a bit about God's light and what a positive difference that makes to us and our world! It was well received and gives us a platform to do something much bigger with in the future too.

Pancake Day

We held a successful Pancake Day event where 20 children filled up the Olive Grove and munched their way through the start of lent. Whilst there we took the time to look at lent, why we do it, and how Jesus used God's promises to overcome temptation, even though He was hungry!

Young Crown Fete

What sunshine we had on the day! One of the many prayers answered in many ways around the Young Crown Fete of 6th May...

With representation and lots of help from the Boys' Brigade, Girls' Brigade, Brownies, Kingsmills Toddler Group, Olive Grove, L'Arche, and many friends we managed to put on a great event. Special mention to Stewart Robertson who flew in from far afield specially to be our in-house photographer and Colin Baillie for keeping the tunes rolling and the banter flowing from the microphone for the afternoon.

An encouraging number of families, children and young people came through to enjoy the bouncy castles, ice cream, BBQ, refreshments, parachute games, bake sale, wonky bicycle, best-priced-coffee-in-Inverness, and so much more! There was a wonderful atmosphere (not just the weather) of community and gathering and people really gave us the impression of having appreciated the event – not least the great value on offer. In spite of the low prices, we also managed to raise somewhere around £720 after expenses. We also managed to use the event to conduct a community survey which will go a long way to helping shape

the ministry of Young Crown and how we serve locally in the coming months and years.

Grow

A bunch of us local youth workers informally known as ISCY (Inverness Salaried Children's and Youth workers) decided it was about time that some quality training was made available that addresses the local issues right here; and that it would be great if our volunteers could get there easily.

So that's what we did. Grow was a day conference where some leading professionals were coaxed up to Inverness to deliver some high quality teaching for our volunteers and paid workers. An excellent event enjoyed by a few of the Young Crown team!

GROW





Elevate Highland

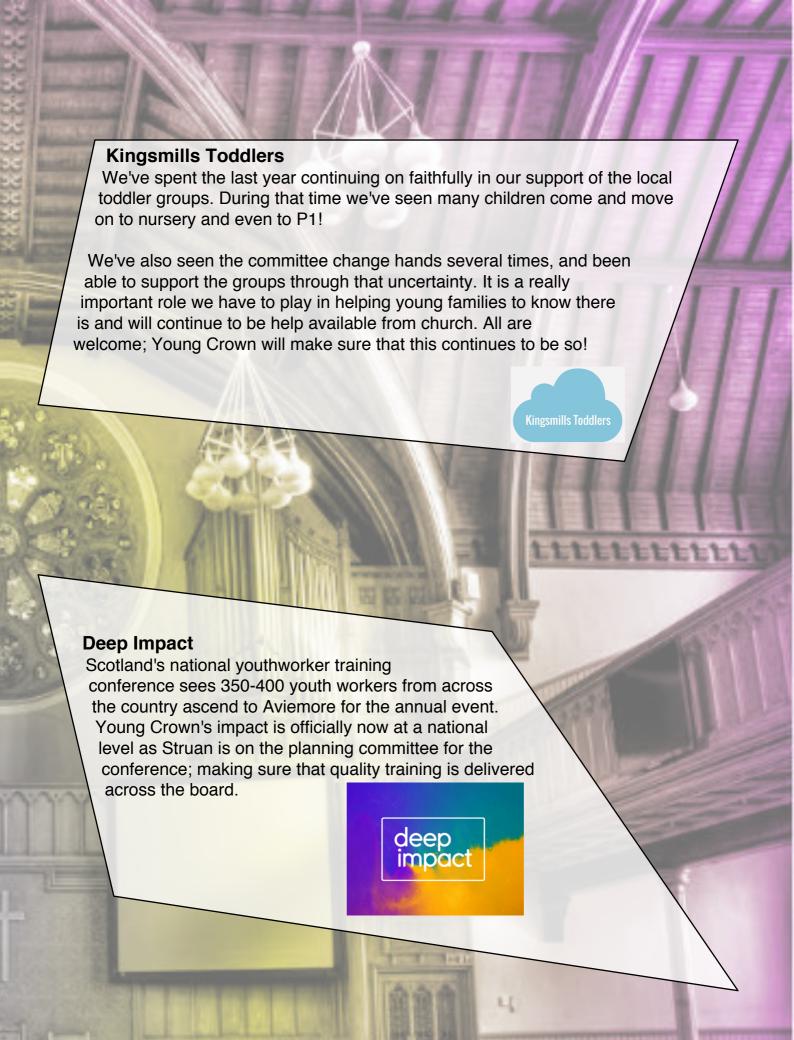
Elevate is a cross-denominational monthly term time gathering of S3-S6 teens from all ove the place. We meet to worship, share faith, encourage one another and generally provide great fellowship. Whilst there's a loyal core of followers and a good bunch of young leaders, Elevate has been in a state of flux with overall leadership.

We've stepped in and offered some support to help it keep running and growand we're seeing gree shoots of growth from it too! Great to be involved in something with potentially a big impact right across the region.

AMP'D

It was a great pleasure to deliver the Bible teaching for the 2017 performing arts mission Holiday Club AMP'D. We spent the week unpacking EPIC FAILS from the Bible, with some big names being looked at and discussed. Alongside that, the young people attending made some amazing artistic projects.







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