



ThinkingFaithNetwork

Registered charity #271987

Formerly West Yorkshire School of Christian Studies (incorporating International Association for Reformed Faith and Action – United Kingdom (founded 1976)), also known as WYSOCS

Governed by declaration of trust executed 19th July 1976,
as amended by supplemental deeds dated 11th January 2006 and 16th January 2016

Trustees' Annual Report for the period:

1st August 2016 to 31st July 2017

Trustees

Cal Bailey	Chair	
Steve Bishop		
Anne Burghgraef-Roques		
David Hanson		
Ruth Hanson		Resigned August 2016
John Satherley	Treasurer	
Catherine Thatcher	Secretary	

Trustees assent to a Christian doctrinal statement and appoint new members to the trustee body, which shall not exceed ten in number. The selection of new trustees is made from the pool of the charity's supporters and attendees at events put on by the charity, with regard to the needs of the charity, age and gender representation, and the expertise required.

Staff and volunteers

Gareth Jones (Director)	Mark Roques (RealityBites Director)
Richard Gunton (FiSch Coordinator)	Ben Clymo (Operations, Finance and Communication)

Bank: CAF Bank, 20 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kent

Solicitor: Wrigley's, 19 Cookridge Street, Leeds



The Charity's Name

The Trustees enacted a supplemental deed on 16th January 2016 to change the name of the charity to Thinking Faith Network. Whilst the name was announced and used from April 2016, it was not formally updated with the Charity Commission during the period covered by this report. The formal name change was completed during the following period.

Objectives

The Charity's Objectives, as summarised in its trust deed, are the advancement of education and opportunity for learning in a wide range of subjects from a Christian perspective, and the furtherance of the gospel in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, particularly with the regard to the promotion of God-centred living through faith in Jesus Christ.

In pursuit of these objectives in 2016-17, Thinking Faith Network has carried out activities in each of its three strands: LifeMatters, RealityBites and Faith-in-Scholarship.

In planning their activities, the trustees had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. The trustees take care that access to events is, as far as possible, not restricted by physical or financial barriers.

Achievements and activities

LiFEMATTERS

In September and October, we delivered a 6-session course on the Bible in Six Acts to around 20 attendees. These sessions discussed big story of the Bible, from a good creation, to the new heavens and a new earth – via rebellion, redemption and the mission of God.

Also in October, Bishop Graham Cray and David Hanson delivered a seminar to 23 attendees thinking about how to Re-imagine Church.

In November we partnered with Bradford Cathedral to deliver a conference on Business and the Kingdom. Richard Higginson (Christian ethics lecturer), Carole Howorth (Professor of Entrepreneurship and Family Business), Andy Jolley (Archdeacon of Bradford) and Mark McAllister (company CEO) discussed creation and business, the purpose of business, Christian leadership and good business with 40 delegates.

From January to March 17 people enjoyed our Transforming Vision course, eight sessions covering what the world is for, listening to creation, the corruption of sin, dualisms, gospel and kingdom, the church, Christian scholarship and our response.



In April and May we organised a national lecture tour with Richard Middleton, Professor of Biblical Studies at Northeastern Seminary, New York. Richard presented material from his latest book, *A New Heaven and a New Earth*, at the Universities of St Andrews, Aberdeen and Gloucester, Mirfield College, Oxford Graduate Christian Forum, Wycliffe Hall in Oxford, the Faraday Institute and the Kirby-Laing Institute for Christian Ethics in Cambridge, Trinity College in Bristol and at two events hosted by Thinking Faith in Leeds.

REALITYBITES

RealityBites spent much of the year developing a 120-unit story curriculum for the TLG JourneyMakers ministry in Bradford, helping young people to explore worldviews and faith.

We also published Thinking Faith's first publication, *The Spy, The Rat and the Bed of Nails* written by Mark Roques, which unfolds a creative, storytelling approach to mission and discipleship. The response and feedback to the book has been fantastic.

We delivered conferences on evil, mafia culture and celebrity culture at six schools and sixth form colleges in West Yorkshire.

We also developed a new course, *Dangerous Faith*, equipping people to share the gospel with confidence and creativity, supported by twelve short films which we wrote and filmed.

Mark Roques' July 2017 article commissioned by The Baptist Times, *How Evangelism can be Fun*, was their most popular reflection of 2017, and they have commissioned two further articles.

Mark also preached in Anglican, Baptist and Pentecostal churches about bespoke evangelism.

FAITH-IN-SCHOLARSHIP

In September we put on a conference for 11 people with Dr Jeremy Ive on Philosophy for Peacemakers, looking at how a Christian philosophy is foundational to the relational peace-building approach. Dr Ive is a Church of England incumbent who also oversees a peace-building process in the Sudan.

Over the Autumn and Winter months, FiSch was involved in setting up the **Church Scientific** programme in Leeds, a series of workshops and cafés exploring the interface of faith and science. Supported by a grant from the "Scientists in Congregations" project, based at St John's College, Durham, and sponsored by the Templeton Foundation, Thinking Faith personnel contributed extensively to the programme and helped to guide and direct it.



A FiSch blog post has been written on an almost weekly basis throughout this period with contributions from postgraduate students, post-doctoral researchers and tenured academics

During this period our FiSch Coordinator, Richard Gunton, moved away from the area and has therefore reduced his involvement with the charity's activities – although he continues to write and commission FiSch blog posts for us.

Finances and reserves policy

In the 2016-17 period, the charity received income of £39,728 (2015-16: £40,484) and made expenditure of £30,297 (2015-16: £41,320), a surplus of £9,431 (2015-16: -£836). The closing balance at the end of the period was £30,854 (2015-16: £21,422).

The trustees aim to hold free reserves of 9-12 months' expenditure. Free reserves at the end of the period were £28,156, within the window of £21,482 and £30,297 (based on this year's expenditure).

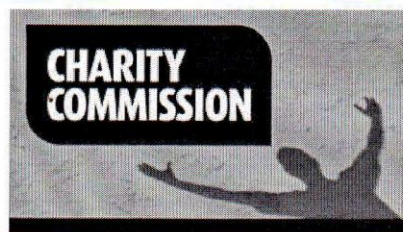
Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Noel Caladine Bailey
Chair

David Hanson
Trustee



Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/members of

Charity Name

WEST YORKSHIRE SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

On accounts for the year ended

3 1 0 7 1 7

Charity no (if any)

2 7 1 9 8 7

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 (other than that disclosed below*):

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed

Date

13/12/17

Name

MARK DAVID PENNINGTON

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any)

ACMA

Address

2 WOODLAND CROFT
HORFORTH
LEEDS
LS18 5NE

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
West Yorkshire School of Christian Studies

No (if any)
271987

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/08/2016		31/07/2017

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations - one-off	1,390	-	-	1,390	9,655
Donations - regular	15,288	-	-	15,288	13,243
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	3,736
LifeMatters income	3,932	-	-	3,932	2,788
RealityBites income	6,218	1,000	-	7,218	6,454
FiSch income	48	10,085	-	10,133	4,465
Other income	216	-	-	216	143
Core events	1,550	-	-	1,550	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	28,643	11,085	-	39,728	40,484
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	28,643	11,085	-	39,728	40,484
A3 Payments					
Salaries, fees and tax	15,609	242	-	15,851	33,028
Travel and expenses	354	835	-	1,189	3,290
Events and publicity	3,855	7,166	-	11,021	3,835
Resources	554	1,000	-	1,554	-
Office, telephone, insurance, fees	681	-	-	681	1,167
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	21,054	9,243	-	30,297	41,320
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	21,054	9,243	-	30,297	41,320
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,589	1,842	-	9,431	- 836
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	20,567	855	-	21,422	-
Cash funds this year end	28,156	2,697	-	30,854	- 836

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CAF account	25,674	2,697	-
	Coop account	1,457	-	-
	Petty cash	423		
	PayPal	602	-	-
	Total cash funds	28,156	2,697	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval