

Aylesbury Vale



Youth for Christ taking the Good News relevantly to every young person in Aylesbury Vale



Annual Report 2010

UK Registered Charity No: 1055282

Web: www.avyfc.org.uk
Registered Charity: 1055282





INTRODUCTION

2010 was a really significant year for AVYFC in terms of growth and diversity of projects. Our goal is to serve the young people across Aylesbury Vale through identifying needs and partnering with others to develop a range of activities and services. Relationships are absolutely key to every project we are involved with. Through every event and regular activity, we hope to build meaningful relationships with the young people so that we can support and encourage them in order that they can reach their full potential. I would personally like to celebrate all the young people who have participated and made such a positive contribution in the community in 2010.

This report includes important information about the activities of the charity along with a list of key personnel and a statement of accounts. We would like to thank all of the churches, organisations, volunteers and individuals who support the work of AVYFC.

Dave Rollins
Director



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KEY PERSONNEL

As at 31 December 2010

Leadership Team

Anne-Marie Foster
Anne Gooding
Dave Rollins (Director)
Ebenezer J Kang'ombe (Treasurer)
Rev Jonathan Hawkins (Chair)
Karen McKenner (Secretary)
Mark Gouldstone
Paul Carpenter



Employees

Dave Rollins – Director
Faith Rollins – P.A. to Director
Gary Mullins – Southcourt Studios Project Manager
Marco Loxley – Youth and Community Worker

Session Workers

| | | |
|----------------|------------|--------------|
| Kristian James | Andy Hagon | Nick Collard |
| Terry Lee | Ben Barnes | Jon Roper |

Council of Reference

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Rev Andrew Blyth | Graham Arnold |
| Rev David Graham | Father John Fleming |
| Rev David Lawton | Rev Martin Khurt |
| David Pollard | Rev Robert Legge |
| Geoff Blease | |

Trustees

Anne-Marie Foster
Rev David Lawton
Rev Jonathan Hawkins
Mark Gouldstone
Paul Carpenter





REPORT FROM OUR CHAIR

Revd Jonathan Hawkins



In 2009 we said it had been an exciting year. That excitement has continued apace through 2010 with a growing number of cafés, on going involvement in schools work and continuing development of our work in and through the Southcourt Studio. As a consequence of this work we have seen teams leading and working with New Wine and Soul Survivor and a good number of young people giving their lives to Christ as well as greater interaction with young people in some of our supporting churches.

We also have seen a number of people who have been on the team leave for pastures new, Tim Jarvis, Becky Finn and Ben Barnes completing a gap year placement with us, Louise Irvine taking up alternative employment and Merlin Evans, leaving, getting married and then getting the post of Director at Epping Forest Youth for Christ! We are most grateful for the contribution each of them has made to the work of AVYFC.

Our Executive Team has also seen a number of changes in the last year. Anne-Marie Foster stood down as Chair of AVYFC as she took on greater responsibility as part of her church's leadership team. Mark Gouldstone stood down from the Executive to concentrate on other areas of youth work. I would like to say a very big thank you to both of them for the great contribution they have made to getting AVYFC to where it is today, and am pleased to say that we can still call on them both as they continue as trustees. Also Caroline Rolls is leaving us to pursue ministry training. We have been blessed by her input and will miss her youthful insight.

Karen McKenner joined us in 2009 as Secretary but found during the year that she was unable to give as much time as she had hoped. We were very grateful to Anne Gooding for standing in and taking our minutes and are delighted that Lesley Casey has now joined us as Secretary.

Next year looks challenging in light of the financial recession, but may well open new doors to the work of AVYFC. We would very much value your continued support and prayers and we would also be very pleased for individuals to join our leadership team to help guide AVYFC into the future.



DIRECTOR ANNUAL REPORT

Dave Rollins

We have decided to change the format slightly in this years AVYFC annual report! This year the whole team are writing articles about the various projects and sharing their own personal highlights.

This time in 2010, we had a larger full time team and since September 2010, the team dynamics have changed with less full time workers and more session workers. The session workers bring dynamic and specialist skills to the team which have enabled us to provide new and exciting projects in the community.

I think the biggest highlight of 2010 is seeing the growth of the Junior Volunteer (JV) team. Over 50 young people regularly help as JVs at the Youth Cafés and they have made an enormous impact. The JVs have also volunteered at other community events including family fun days, clear-up days and festivals. The young people have made such a significant difference and we hope to continue to invest in them in 2011.

Another exciting project in 2010 was the launch of the Café in a Box resource (www.cafeinabox.info). This resource is designed to help other groups to setup their own Youth Café project. The resource includes templates, advice and case studies about existing Youth Cafés.

During the summer of 2010 we were also able to serve alongside other organisations including New Wine and Soul-Survivor at their festivals. We had the privilege of serving thousand of young people at Youth Café events over 3 weeks in Newark and Somerset and had an amazing time!



I would like to add my personal thanks to all of our individual supporters, the councils and churches and the volunteers who have given money, time and have partnered with us to help us reach out to thousands of young people across Aylesbury Vale.



SOUTHCOURT STUDIOS

Gary Mullins

Another exciting year has just passed for the studio including the official Launch and Showcase event in February 2010 with David Lidington MP and Matthew Applegate, Chairperson of VAHT giving speeches. Over the twelve months of 2010 we saw the work of the studio increase impressively in a number of areas. These included working alongside Bucks County Council Extended Services to provide music and photography workshops to students at Aylesbury Vale Academy, and 5 local middle schools, top-class performances by Clive Carroll and Kit Holmes, youth gigs organised by young people at Stoke Mandeville School, as well as our 'staple' recordings and rehearsals which became ever-more regular.

Since we've been expanding the services offered, we've had to ensure we have the staff to handle these ever-diversifying events. This has meant that some of the young adults helping at Youth Café's have been coming through learning skills to help manage the new roles we're giving them.



Kristian James has been taking on more responsibility looking after regular rehearsals and managing PA hire, Tim Jarvis has been managing the sound at live gigs, and Matt Copcutt has been 'sitting-in' with the lads to gain an insight for what's to come!

Terry Lee has been a real asset to the team over the course of the year, since he's been managing our photography workshops with great aplomb, and our professional expertise has again been supplemented with the help of Andy Hagon managing recording sessions and the development of the equipment at the studio. This has meant the studio is in a great position to go forward. 2011 promises much of the same, but more of it!



IMPACT YOUTH EVENT

Amanda Holloway

Impact Youth Worship Event has always been a place where the various church youth groups have been able to congregate and share in collective worship. It's been exciting seeing young people from all of the AVYFC projects attending.

Over the past year a new team of youth have been involved in the planning team which has allowed a fresh perspective on the event and a chance to them to discover their own leadership qualities.



The past academic year has allowed the planning team's visions for the event to develop and have the beginnings of how this can happen. There has also been great excitement for the next year for guest speakers and worship leaders to visit ready to lift Impact into its next 'adventure'.



YOUTH CAFES

Marco Loxley

When the youth café projects were first set up some of which being nearly 5 years ago, the vision was always to be reaching out to young people in the communities around Aylesbury Vale. Providing an affordable, safe and welcoming place in order for the young people to become more loving, truthful, creative and responsible within a value based culture.



Youth Cafés have been one of the projects that have continued to grow within the communities that they have been set up in. Some of the Cafés are now reaching over 50 young people each week and ensuring that those young people are shown that they are loved and cared for.

“One of the great things about Youth Cafés is that they give young people a second chance and allow them to start over” – Anthony Stevenson aged 11.

Each individual Youth Café has the same underlying value based structure, however they are so diverse in what they offer to the young people who attend them. It has been great to see over the last year how each café manager has adapted and changed certain aspects of the cafés in order for the young people to be given a chance to grow in new areas. In many of the cafés we have grown in being able to offer new exciting initiatives for example café outings, which have been fun and memorable for all involved.





However this process of growth hasn't just been seen in the young people who attend or inside the cafés themselves, but also in the number of cafés that are now accessible to young people. Over the last year the team have been assisting communities in setting up youth cafés in their own areas around Aylesbury Vale. It is something to be celebrated that there are now 15 youth cafés across the Vale, all of which are accessible to the young people of those communities and are having a huge impact on their lives.

"The café is a great place to hang out after school and meet new people. There isn't much to do in the village so the youth café has been a great addition to our week. We look forward to coming along every week" – Ellie Nickless aged 14.



The set up of every new youth café has been aided by the café in a box resource, which aims to allow communities access to all the information and guidance needed in setting up a café for the first time. This has been a great project in that it has allowed us to share our experience and vision of seeing young people reached on a wider scale. There has been a huge amount of interest since it was launched in October 2010, and groups as far north as Manchester and as far south as Devon have not only purchased the resource but requested consultations also. It has been a blessing to see how we are able to share our project with other churches, groups and communities across the UK.

The growth of our youth cafés and our café in a box resource couldn't have been done without the efforts from the great team that Aylesbury Vale Youth for Christ has to offer. With over 100 active volunteers and over 60 active junior volunteers, it really is an incredible team doing amazing things for our communities. So a massive thank you to all of you for everything you have contributed and given to invest in our young people.



SOUL SURVIVOR & NEW WINE

Ben Barnes



In August last year AVYFC had a great opportunity to be a part of some amazing festivals, we were invited to work with Soul Survivor and New Wine at their summer festivals, running youth cafés as part of larger venues.

Both festivals were expecting to see around 11,000 young people each week, we were faced with a mammoth and daunting task from the outset and to top it all off altogether around three weeks living in a tent. It all sounds rather crazy and it all started when Dave and I sat in a Starbucks in Watford having a meeting with Mike Pilivachi, pastor and co-founder of Soul Survivor. During the meeting we discussed with Mike the possibility of running a youth café as part of the indoor sports activities that were taking place. This was a great opportunity and hugely exciting, although I think Dave would have preferred me to of been less excited when I hurriedly urged him to accept the offer without thinking of the mammoth task ahead.

After weeks of planning, and plenty of begging and borrowing for equipment we were ready to deliver the youth cafés and try to inspire others to set up their own. I don't think we were quite prepared for what was about to unfold though. The weeks were long and exhausting but most of all hugely rewarding and beneficial for all of us. We were able to work with some amazing young people over the time we were at the festivals and build brilliant relationships. What we managed to achieve is sometimes not even seen in a youth café over the space of a couple of months, we were truly blessed. We met some hugely inspiring young people that I think all of the team will remember for a long time.





FUN DAYS AND FESTIVALS

Revd Dave Lawton

“We just love sitting here, with our cups of tea, and watching everyone else enjoying themselves... it makes us feel that we belong to this community”.

This quote from two ladies, both aged 70+, who live in sheltered accommodation and don't have the opportunity to meet many other local people highlights the importance of holding free, fun-filled, family-orientated fundays, that help to create community and to build God's kingdom! As Christians, we want people to experience love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control and fundays are an excellent way to do this.

The Southcourt Funday in July, held on the green in Church Square, attracted around 1500 people. There were 120 volunteers from the local churches and community groups, including about 50 junior volunteers and young people from the Youth Cafés. All the junior volunteers and AVYFC leaders were highly visible in their blue t-shirts and many people commented how wonderful it was to have so many youngsters helping-out at a community event.



The event was begun five years ago by AVYFC and the vision for it, together with ownership of the event, has now been passed-on to the four local churches on the estate. It has received support from local town councillors, the police community support officers and the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust. The event is an excellent way to give the community a positive experience of local churches and community organisations working together.

The Vale Park Funday supported by the Aylesbury Church Network and Aylesbury Town Council was held in September and also attracted a large crowd and was supported by about 100 volunteers from churches and Christian organisations across the town and 20 of these were young people. It was a great opportunity to have some fun, to meet new people, to meet acquaintances in a slightly different context, to bring different generations and cultures together and to share time with some of the people whom God has placed in our town!



SCHOOLS WORK

Dave Rollins

In 2010 we had the privilege of working in a number of local schools. We partnered with Chilterns Christian Fellowship to deliver weekly mentoring for groups of up to 8 young people. We have since started delivering similar sessions at the Aylesbury Vale Academy and teaching the young people using the 10 core learning values of the school.

Through support from Bucks County Council Extended Services, we also delivered a twelve session peer mentoring course to two groups of 6th formers at the Aylesbury Grammar School. The peer mentors have since supported year 6 students with afterschool homework clubs. We have delivered a number of full school assemblies at Waddesdon and we believe the work we are involved with at the school builds on the relationships we have with the young people at the Waddesdon Youth Café. The Southcourt Studios project has also enabled us to provide music and photography workshops in local schools which has been endorsed by BCC Extended Services.



SPORTS CAGE EVENTS

Mathew Copcutt

The sports cage is a great activity for young people that allows them to play football, hockey and other team games. AVYFC have hired them in the past from British YFC and we have wanted to get our own one for ages.



I was involved with a funding application to help purchase the sports cage and a vehicle to tow it. The money was awarded from Bucks County Council Youth Bank. AVYFC also received funding from Local Priorities Grants and we ordered the cage!

I have been able to attend a sports leadership training which has given me skills to help run activities at cage events. I have also completed first aid training.

We take the sports cage to lots of different areas in Aylesbury Vale to reach out to young people. At the events, we have been doing surveys with the local Parish Councils to help young people say what activities and services they would really like where they live. The sports cage is a really cool activity and I know it is going to get loads of use this year!



LEADERSHIP TEAM SECRETARIAL MATTERS

Dave Rollins on behalf of the Leadership Team

Each month the AVYFC Leadership Team meet to discuss the strategy of the charity and also the vision and direction.

We are extremely grateful to all of the Trustees and Officers who voluntarily give their time to aid with the smooth running of the charity.

In 2011 Lesley Casey has stepped in to the role of Secretary and we would like to say a big thank you to Karen McKenner who served as our Secretary in 2010.

In 2010 there were a number of changes to policies and procedures and with support from British Youth for Christ and other organisations including Action for Youth (formerly known as Youth Focus), we have been able to keep up to date.

We hope to build on the number of Trustees so that we can continue to support our working team and volunteers and help the charity to continue to grow and develop.

TREASURER REPORT

Ebenzer J Kang'ombe



2010 has been a very busy and exciting year. As we have seen amazing growth in the number of activities and size of the organisation.

This has been a very difficult year and as with any growth, there was a greater need for funding. We are grateful for the number of generous grants received from local authorities and organisations which have helped us to cover the costs of our ever growing projects.

I am pleased to say that thanks to the consistent giving from churches and individual supporters, we have been able to fund all of the year's activities.

This giving is greatly appreciated and it has helped the organisation to continue to deliver the projects and reach young people in the area. We received some grants at the end of 2010 to help with the purchase of the Sport Cage and also to cover the cost of running a number of Sport Cage events into 2011.



THANK YOU TO GRANT AWARDING BODIES

We would like to thank the grant awarding bodies that have contributed significantly to our project funding in 2010 and into 2011:

BCC Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF) and Youth Capital Fund (YCF)

Youth Café Equipment £737.93 (YCF)
Mobile Sports Cage and Vehicle £5,150 (YCF)
Junior Volunteer Residential £3,600 (YOF)
Junior Volunteer Café Training £7,600 (YOF)



Aylesbury Town Council

Awarded £2,000 towards Vale Park Free Family Funday and Youth Band Event (September)

Churches together in Bucks

Awarded £750 towards computer equipment for Southcourt Studios.

The Community Chest Grants (VAHT and AVDC)

Long Term Revenue Grant specifically for AVYFC Youth Cafés granted £20,500 (Year 3).
The total granted over 3 years totals £61,500



Extended Services (Bucks County Council)

(Awarded directly to schools)

Peer Mentoring Training for Aylesbury Grammar School.
Photography and Music Workshops and Equipment for 6 local schools.

Rothchild Foundation

Waddesdon Café grant: £1,500

Bucks County Council Local Priorities Grant

Sports Cage and Trailer: £6,750

We would also like to thank all of the churches and individuals who support the work of our charity through giving, volunteering and partnering with us.





STATEMENT OF INCOME / EXPENDITURE

| | 2009 | 2010 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Opening Balance (£ Sterling) | 13,529 | 14,860 |
| Income | | |
| Churches | 25,504 | 19,885 |
| Individuals | 16,656 | 16,562 |
| Income for café projects | 18,053 | 31,040 |
| Covenant Rebate | 2,378 | 3,678 |
| Southcourt Studios | 0 | 7,756 |
| Special projects | 2,147 | 6,559 |
| Café In a Box | 0 | 197 |
| Deposit account interest | 3 | 0 |
| Grants | 47,801 | 53,208 |
| Total Income | 112,541 | 138,884 |
| Expenditure | | |
| Staff costs | 73,892 | 75,859 |
| Office expense | 5,824 | 7,026 |
| Travel | 2,992 | 5,654 |
| Training | 1,975 | 3,045 |
| Equipment | 15,312 | 8,744 |
| Event costs | 3,811 | 9,407 |
| Publicity | 1,215 | 1,455 |
| Youth Cafés Equipment | 2,737 | 2,640 |
| Youth Cafés Publicity | 356 | 134 |
| Youth Cafés (general) | 3,097 | 6,425 |
| Southcourt Studios Expenses | 0 | 8,465 |
| Café In a Box Expenses | 0 | 1,365 |
| Tithe | 0 | 1,000 |
| Total Expenditure | 111,210 | 131,221 |
| Closing bank Balance | 14,860 | 22,523 |

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The Team and Junior Volunteers

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