



SAINT
Barnabas
CLARKSFIELD

The Barnabas Community Project

Annual

Report

2017



The Barnabas Community Project is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Charity
**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of St Barnabas, Clarksfield (Oldham)**

hereafter referred to as 'St Barnabas Church'.

Registered Charity Number: 1147033

The Charity's correspondence address as registered with the Charity Commissioners is
St Barnabas' Vicarage
Arundel Street
Clarksfield
Oldham OL4 1NL.

Staff

Vicar	The Revd Dr Paul Monk
Community Worker	Mr Duane Kenneally
Administrator	Ms Sarah Gura
Church Treasurer	Ms Gisele Onwumere (and Mr Duncan Goodman, in part)
Child-protection Officer	Mr Duane Kenneally

Trustees

Ex officio

Vicar	The Revd Dr Paul Monk
Church Wardens	Mr Peter Haslam and Mr Ian Hulse

Other

Mrs Linda Dawson	Mrs Michelle Hacking	Mrs Ruth Spratt
Mrs Lynn Thompson		

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Background

The Barnabas Community Project covers the geographical areas of Clarksfield, Greenacres and Littlemoor. Some clients come from west and central Oldham. Clarksfield is one of Oldham's more deprived areas. Using the latest IMD (2015), the Church Urban Fund computes that Clarksfield Parish is in the 2.2% of the most deprived Anglican Parishes.

The Barnabas Community Project started in 2011 to enhance wellbeing and wholeness, to promote better chances in life, and build a stronger community. The project now falls into two broad categories: The Wellbeing Project and The Youth Project. Activities within the project change regularly according to presenting needs and funding. Our website lists all our component groups and projects; see www.medlockhead.co.uk

We estimate the weekly footfall through our Church and Community Project as 450–600 people during term-time and as many as 1000 during school holidays.

The Community Project offers help to everyone who approaches us for help. We refuse to discriminate in terms of age, gender, ethnicity, creed, or sexuality.



Analysis of our clientele

Projects with children: in total, about 200–300 children a week come here for food, youth club, mums and tots and the other groups that use our venues. They are broadly one-fifth pre-school, two-fifths junior, and two-fifths senior age. A majority are white, but we see good ethnic mixing in all groups except troupe dancing. The youth breakfast is nearly all non-white. The youth club is half-half white and non-white.

Projects with adults: the cafe is entirely deprived white and mainly male. The job club is mixed. The textiles project is predominantly female, and two-thirds Asian. The Talk English (entry level) class is almost entirely Asian, but gender mixed.

Projects with disabilities: Hearts and Crafts (women with mental disabilities) is all-age, multi-ethnic, but female only. Billie's friends (self-help for female substance abusers) is all white, all-age. The Church itself has an unusually high proportion of people with disabilities, particularly Autism, dementia, mental health, and a few with physical disabilities.

The Wellbeing Project

The Wellbeing Project comprises a twice-weekly café and job club; food bank; clothes bank; substance-abuser's self-help group. We shortly start an ambitious food pantry (using a model that is also known as a 'Food Co-operative') with a credit union. We are in partnership with groups offering ESOL classes and a self-help through sewing and textiles, both of which convene within the Community Centre. Also:-

- The Community Worker is a formal advocate for the Church of England's crowdfunded grant scheme, ACTS 435.
- Many other groups convene in our Community Centre.
- We host many community events such as barbecues (the last attracted 300 local people).

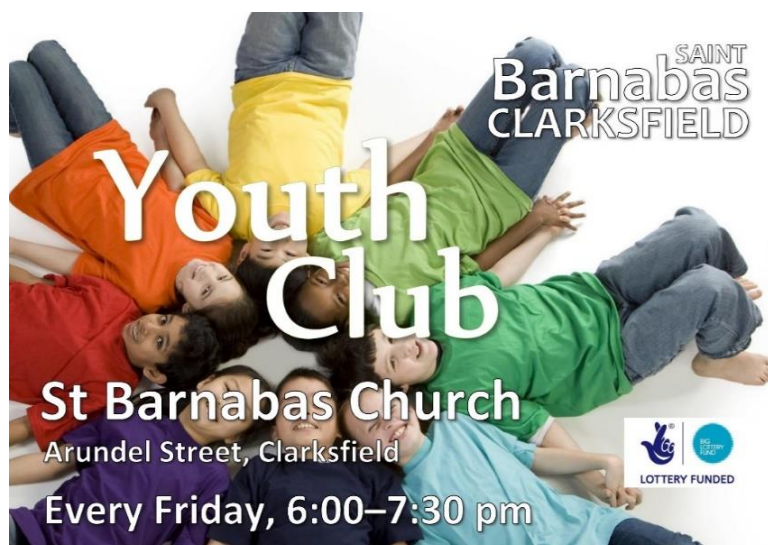
Local partners include Oldham Council, Oldham Police, First Choice Homes Oldham (FCHO), Oldham Credit Union, Hearts and Crafts, etc. We benefit from strong links with a wide array of local Churches via the 'Churches Together' network in east Oldham. Wider afield, collaborators include Fareshare, the Diocese of Manchester, Weight Watchers, and Tesco. Also, TOG Mind and the Dementia Action Alliance have both held training events in the Community Centre.

The Youth Project

The Youth Project comprises the largest youth club in east Oldham; a holiday club; the only breakfast club in east Oldham which offers free food and craft work; and a large multi-ethnic mums 'n' tots group, 'Stay and Play'. Partners include Spring Meadows Children's Centre (NHS), Oldham Play Action Group (OPAG), ifOldham. We also host two large troupe-dance groups.

The Youth Club

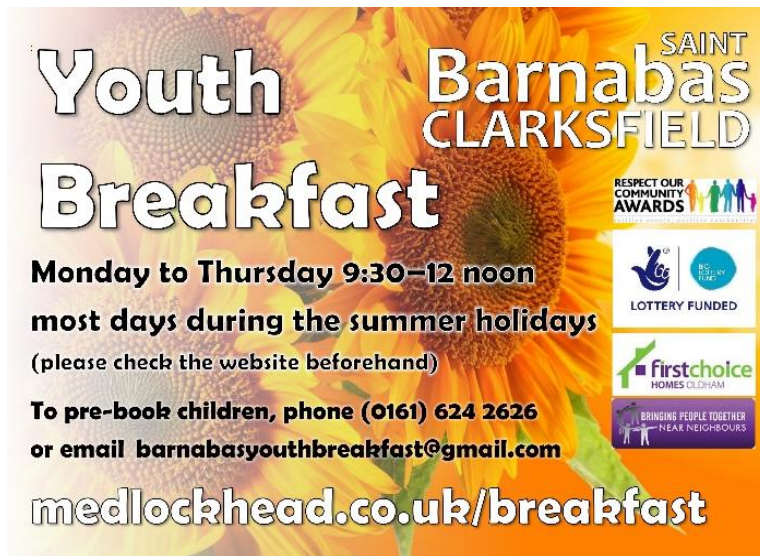
The Barnabas youth club runs all Friday evenings of the year, between 6:00–7:30 pm. The Oldham Play Action Group (OPAG) provides and trains the youth club staff.



It held a few holiday craft clubs on Tuesdays of the school holidays. The success of the Youth Breakfast, which includes craftwork, made this activity redundant; so only two sessions occurred in 2017.

The Barnabas youth club remains the largest in East Oldham. We met on 46 Fridays, with an annual footfall of 1,020 children, so a slight decrease on the 1,115 attending in 2016. The weekly average was 21 children — again somewhat down from last year's average 25.

The Breakfast Club



Youth Barnabas Breakfast

Monday to Thursday 9:30–12 noon
most days during the summer holidays
(please check the website beforehand)

To pre-book children, phone (0161) 624 2626
or email barnabasyouthbreakfast@gmail.com

medlockhead.co.uk/breakfast

The Breakfast Club met each Monday–Thursday of the school holidays (not the Christmas–New Year break).

The Club started at Easter. To date, it has given about 3,000 free meals. Each day included extensive amounts of craftwork.

Also, the Oldham Play Action Group (OPAG) came to the Church some Tuesdays of the school holidays.

Priorities during the most recent project period

(i) To engage better with the white dis-enfranchised sections of the community.

The Barnabas Community Centre is located within LSOA, E01005448. The latest indices of multiple deprivation (IMD-15) indicate it is (overall) in the most deprived 1.1% of all LSOAs in England. It is also in the 1.3% most deprived in terms of crime; 1.5% in terms of income deprivation; 1.9% in terms of health and disability; 6.3% in terms of child deprivation; 6.8% in terms of adult skills and training.

This deprivation causes a sense of isolation; it erodes a sense of self-worth or hope; it also causes inter-ethnic tension. It normalises expressions of victimhood. Malnutrition is common, as are obesity and diabetes. Drug mis-use is extremely high.



We are devising projects aimed at children and health. Projects aimed at children will principally help young people under 12-years of age and will promote inter-ethnic mixing; good diet; and safety. We expect the main take up for health-based projects to be female. Engagement with men will occur principally through inter-connected projects underpinned with good, free hospitality.

(ii) To promote inter-ethnic mixing.

The ethnic composition here is changing fast. Statistics from Oldham Council (2017) suggest the composition is Asian (65%) : eastern European (23%) : indigenous white (10%) : African (2%). The Asian population largely share a rural Pakistani heritage. Residents originally from eastern Europe are generally Roma (from Romania and Bulgaria), but we also host many Estonians and people from Ukraine. The Africans generally come from the southern, non-Muslim countries of the continent.

The main tensions are between white and Pakistani (in both directions) and Asians against the Roma.

In the Asian areas, the needs include domestic abuse against women and girls; dis-empowerment caused by poor language skills; low educational expectations; and a low skills base. The principal needs of many Roma are low language skills, low skills base; and the inherited stigma of being Roma. Anecdotal evidence suggests high levels of sexual violence against women in both the Asian and Roma communities. We have some evidence of people trafficking, particularly in the Roma community.

We are the principal venue for inter-ethnic mixing in this half of Oldham. We already see mixing between women and children from most of the local background cultures. We wish to achieve better mixing between men, particularly from Roma and Asian backgrounds; language is a challenge, so we plan ESOL-related classes.

We promote the inter-social mixing of Roma children with other children.



Milestones in 2017

The number of clients is increasing.

The breadth of the clientele is widening: we help members of the Church (three congregations); existing members of the Community Project; people attending other groups in our Community Centre; and members of the public all naturally turn to us for help.

In 2017, the Breakfast Club gave about 3000 meals. This feat was mentioned in the Church Times, the Church of England Newspaper, and the website of Manchester Diocese.

In 2017, the footfall in the Youth Club was over 1000; and passed its 5000th child since opening.

Our food bank feeds about 50 people a week on average. The cafe gives about 50–60 meals a week to the destitute and sells a further few hundred.

All Oldham Police cadets visit our Community Centre as part of their induction training.

From the statutory sector, the Probation Service gives details of our foodbank to all newly released clients.

Oldham Police, Greater Manchester Probation Service, Oldham Food Bank, First Choice Homes Oldham, and other local Churches all send clients to us for emergency help with food, clothing, companionship, or advice.

In November, the Diocese of Manchester gave our Community Project an award in its new 'Churches for a Different World' scheme. Only 16 Churches received an award; and we received the top category of 'highly commended'.

Financial report

Table 1 Grants awarded in 2017

Date of award	Funder	Amount	Allocation
09.02.2017	GMCPs	£500	For baptistery roof
14.02.2017	Near Neighbours	£1,700	For the breakfast club
27.02.2017	New Innovations	£600	For the breakfast club
08.03.2017	ROCA	£500	For two chest freezers
14.03.2017	Diocese of Manchester	£2,700	For baptistery roof
01.06.2017	Bernard Sunley Foundation	£4,200	For the new kitchen
02.10.2017	Tesco (via bags of change)	£2,000	For a breakfast club
29.06.2017	Kerching	£2,300	For the youth project
15.11.2017	Co-operative (via bags of change)	£4,394	For the youth project
05.12.2017	Diocese of Manchester	£10,000	For new Church toilets
12.12.2017	Viridor	£34,632	For new Church toilets
19.12.2017	Action Together	£10,000	Creating a food pantry

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS – RESTRICTED FUNDS, YEAR TO DECEMBER 2017

	YEAR TO DATE	2016 ANNUAL TOTAL
	£	£
Wellbeing Project		
RECEIPTS		
Community Café income	537	390
Grants – general	20,870	23,500
HOPE Programme	0	0
Grants – ACTS 435	3,425	1,405
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£24,832	£25,295
PAYMENTS		
Community Worker’s salary	16,585	18,515
Community Café	2,179	452
Breakfast Club	2,800	0
HOPE Programme payments	0	840
ACTS 435 payments	3,110	1,969
Other Costs	2,076	4,328
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£26,750	£26,104
COMMUNITY FUND EXCESS OF RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)	-1,918	-809
<i>Fund brought forward on 1 January 2017</i>	4,226	5,035
BALANCE	£2,309	£4,226

Youth Project

RECEIPTS		
Subscriptions	980	973
Bank interest received	0	2
Grants	6,694	9,110
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£7,675	£10,085
PAYMENTS		
Youth Club staff costs	9,729	11,216
Other costs	1,218	1,761
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£10,946	£12,977
YOUTH CLUB FUND EXCESS OF RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)	-3,272	-2,893
<i>Fund brought forward on 1 January 2017</i>	4,052	6,944
YOUTH CLUB FUND BALANCE AT MONTH END	£780	£4,052



We received an award from the Diocese of Manchester in its new 'Churches for a Different World' scheme.

Left to right: Sarah Gura (Administrator); The Revd Dr Paul Monk (Project Leader); The Rt Revd Dr David Walker (Bishop of Manchester); Duane Kenneally (Community Worker); and Michelle Hacking (Trustee).

Targets for 2018

Legal Create a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with the Charity Commissioners.

Legal Update the existing constitution to accommodate the CIO.

Finance Seek additional fund to consolidate salaries for 2018–2020.

New project Start a term-time breakfast club.

New project Start a new senior-age youth club.

Building work Create the food pantry and new meeting room (already funded).

Building work Create a new side Hall in the area currently occupied by the stage.

Building work New signage on the Community Centre.

Building work Install new toilets in the Church end of the Centre (already funded).