



Bridgend Centre

Annual Report 2018-2019



Bridgend Centre
at the  of our community

Message from the Chair



2018-2019 marked a hugely significant year in the history of the Bridgend Centre. In December 2018, we were able to purchase our building at 104 Palmerston Street, which was funded with a hugely generous grant of £150,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation and a mortgage of £130,000 from Charity Bank. This is a great achievement for our charity as it means we can be more confident about occupying the building for many more years to come.

Our services have grown from strength to strength this year with more people than ever coming through our doors (on average 87 adults per day). This year we also launched two major projects, the Heritage Walking Trails and Bridgend Buddies. The Heritage Walking trails project has the aim of renovating eight wonderful walking trails that start from the Bridgend Centre and explore the wonderful surrounding Bollington countryside. Bridgend Buddies was expanded into a significant project with a much larger scope, thanks to funding from Comic Relief. This project supports 28 lonely people in the community and 28 volunteers, with the aim of reducing social isolation and improving their lives.

We are fortunate to have such hardworking and highly skilled employees, who work day in day out to ensure our doors are always open and the kettle is always on. Thank you so much to all our volunteers who play such an important role in many areas, for example, in the Charity Shop, Community Kitchen and Woodcraft Workshop. I would also like to thank my fellow Trustees for their dedication and hard work.

This dedication, shown by staff and volunteers alike, came to the fore following the recent devastating flood which engulfed the Centre. An army of volunteers rushed to help and worked tirelessly alongside staff to ensure the Centre re-opened its doors only six days later! Thank you to you all for your tireless support for our Centre.

Geoff Brown
Chair

Bridgend Services

Drop-in community kitchen

A light, airy and welcoming space which is the heart of the Centre. Perfect for a friendly chat over a hot drink



Walks

Guided walks for all fitness levels throughout the week



Volunteering

Provides work experience and enables people to contribute to the local community



Social Groups and trips out

Our 'Talk and Games' group meet every Monday afternoon and take regular trips out to local attractions



Information Hub

We have lots of leaflets and materials regarding local services. Our community workers are on hand to point people in the right direction



Support

Community Workers are always on hand to be someone to talk to



Activities

A wide range of sessions including Art, Bridge, Mah Jong, Choir, Crochet and Spanish



Walking Trails

We have refurbished our 'Heritage Walking Trails' that explore the beautiful surrounding countryside



Bridgend Buddies

Reducing loneliness and isolation in our community



Charity Shop

Our unique shop is an Aladdin's cave. Visitors love to browse and make new friends in the process!



Social Impact

In 2018-2019



Footfall of 21,939 adults
in one year

87 adults per day visited
the Centre



**360 people took part in
90 walks**



86

Clients accessed
community support for
personal crisis or
mental health problems

**199 people attended
328 activity sessions**



55

People accessed
information

**135 volunteers
worked 5503 hours
during the year**



Financial Overview

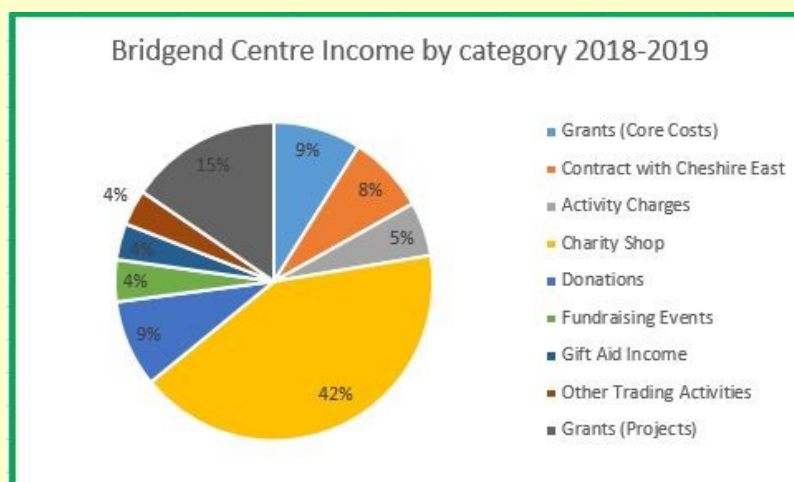
2018-2019 was an extraordinary year for the Bridgend Centre as we purchased our building. We received a grant from the Garfield Weston Foundation of £150,000 to assist us with this purchase and the funded the remaining £130,000 of the purchase price through a mortgage from the Charity Bank.

This had a significant effect on our accounts for the financial year to 31 March 2019 and some of the figures are very unusual for our organisation this year.

This year we received a total income of £350,853 (compared with £156,935 in 2017-2018). A significant part of this was the £150,000 grant from Garfield Weston. Income from our charity shop was £82,619, a considerable increase of £14,917 on the previous year (18% increase).

Expenditure was £165,302 (£141,613 in 2017-2018). This was in line with expectations and reflected the Charity's growth .

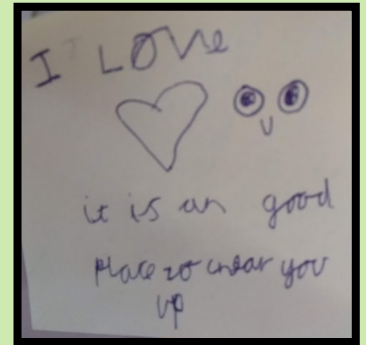
Net current assets, not including the value of the building, were £157,006 at the year end. £22,120 of this is restricted funds to spend on already allocated projects. We also plan to spend a substantial amount on improvements to the building next year, including a new roof.



What does Bridgend mean to you?

"The Bridgend Centre and Bridgend Buddies has changed my life"

"So much"

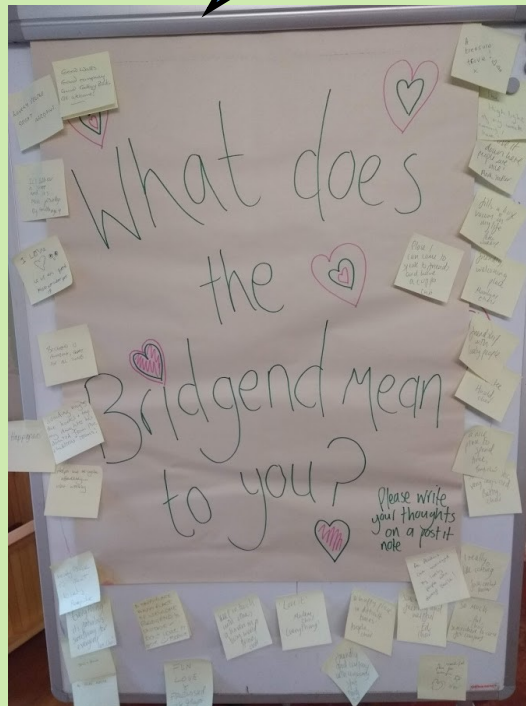


"Biscuits and lovely coffee!"

"It was a delight to visit the Centre. I have huge admiration for what you do as a team."

"Bridgend fills a huge vacuum in my life"

"Fun, love and Friendship"



"A place I can come to speak to friends and have a cuppa"

"Friendship with lovely people"

"A wonderful place for everyone"

"Bridgend is everything, its fabulous"

"My husband enjoys the time spent with his Buddy at the Bridgend Centre. I enjoy the extra 'Me' time."

"A happy place in difficult times"



Thank you to our Funders and Supporters.....

The Bridgend Centre would not exist without the vital support from our donors, supporters and sponsors. As well as the wonderful people who regularly support our Centre through monetary donations and their valuable time, we would also like to thank the organisations below for large grants and donations that have made a vital contribution.



The Poachers Inn

Bryan Lancaster Trust

Emerson Foundation

N.Smith Charitable Trust

Rylance and Smith Charitable Trust

Sir Jules Thorn Trust

The Alchemy Foundation

Hobson Trust

The Lord Clyde pub

Broadheads

Geoff's Ludford Charitable Trust

Lee Bakirgian Family Trust

James Wise Charitable Trust

The Pennycross Trust

WO Street Foundation



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We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Registered Charity number: 1123287



Trustees

Geoff Brown—Chair Barry Matthews—Treasurer John Gooding—Secretary

Alan Scott Lisa Cox Sue Brocklehurst Alison Leah