



NORTHFIELD **ECO**CENTRE

Working with the community to find practical ways to live better & protect the environment

ANNUAL REPORT

2015





STRATEGIC



AIMS 2016



We are an autonomous branch of Central England Quakers promoting sustainable living. 2015 was a year of change with the launch of our strategic plan to 2020, new staff and management committee members and exciting projects coming on board. We continued to have impact in our local community of Northfield including the launch of Allens Cross Community Garden as well as focusing our efforts on non-domestic energy services further afield after the withdrawal of the Green Deal. Highlights include our themed cycle rides and our continued commitment to fuel poverty advice.

As a charity we rely on donations to deliver our activities. Being present in the local community reflects our Quaker concern for fairness and social justice. We work with a wide range of partners and contribute to the Birmingham Green Commission and Sustainable Schools.



northfielddecoentre



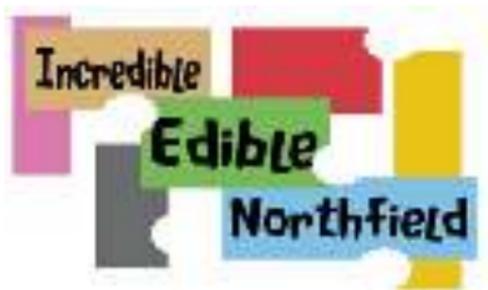
@northfielddeco

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community gardens, skills,
preserving, pruning, urban
harvesting, composting,
recycling, events, food, cooking,
health, growing, sharing,
building, teaching



VOLUNTEERING

Growing & Harvesting



We tackled food insecurity by improving and sharing food growing skills in the local community. 2015 was the launch of Allens Cross Community Garden in a 5 year partnership with Allens Cross Community Centre. Volunteers built their confidence, self esteem & employability skills in our award winning gardens. Come and join in.



Tonnes of fruit harvested & distributed to charities or juiced by Urban Harvest.



Attendances at our community courses and events.



Volunteer hours spent learning new skills in our gardens.

"Thank you for showing me I have a greater potential."

"I felt valued from the beginning."

"It feels incredibly rewarding."



2016 is about bees : Incredible Edible Longbridge launches :
Developing a teaching garden & a therapeutic garden

FUTURE

TUITION, MAINTENANCE, HIRES, LED CYCLE RIDES

GET ON A BIKE. SEE THE
WORLD. GET HEALTHY.
REDUCE AIR POLLUTION. SAVE
THE PLANET. BE HAPPY.
BE PART OF THE CYCLE
REVOLUTION.



Cycle South Brum has become an integral part of the Ecocentre. Highlights included our popular pond-dipping cycle rides for families and increasing our number of instructors to allow us to support more adults and children to start cycling with confidence. We continued to develop partnerships and initiatives with Bike Right, Park Lives and This Girl Can.

5271

People were more confident to ride and maintain a bike.

333

Days of free cycle loans to support low income individuals.

"Still astounded and extremely grateful."

"It still blows us away when we think of the miracle Phil performed! Our son had a beautiful red bike for his 8th birthday - for a boy who was too scared to try and said 'I'm just not a bike riding kind of boy', he rides his bike EVERYWHERE now, and says it's the best thing he's ever done! It's given him confidence to try different things, and persevere, a massive boost. We love you, Phil!"

"Can't recommend this highly enough."

FUTURE

Cycle maintenance for children : New learning resources : Activities in Longbridge

www.cyclesouthbrum.com



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NORTHFIELD ECOCENTRE

Sharing ideas & inspiration to help schools & groups to be kinder & greener to the environment

Green

Generations

Ecokids. Ecotots. Wild Bunch.
Forest Schools. Family
activities. Sewing groups.
Bees. Curriculum based
education workshops.



Ricardo's Story

He used to come with his older brother to the weekly forest school sessions. His brother always seemed to talk him down, not take him seriously and they usually ended up angry and shouting at each other. We noticed Ricardo's love and skill at climbing trees and encouraged him to show younger children how to do so safely. He took pride in this task and gained confidence and the friction between brothers progressively diminished.

252

Hours of fun activities for families

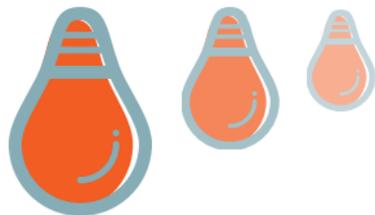
1069

Children got down and dirty with craft & gardening activities.

We are proud that the Green Generations programme has improved the physical and mental well-being, self esteem, confidence and cohesion of children and families in disadvantaged communities and schools across Birmingham.

FUTURE

Shaping Our Future - schools workshop : Arts Award : Wild Bunch Holiday scheme



saving
Energy:Water:Waste

providing

Assessments & Certifications

Advice & Training

Planning & Consultancy

Homes & Organisations

A range of services for individuals and organisations that support positive action towards saving energy, waste, water and money. Our work is based on gathering facts, evidence and data, comparing it with best practice and available technologies before offering advice on how best to move forward. We do this in an ethical, independent and holistic manner that results in thousands of pounds of savings in unnecessary utilities spend and improved PR.



INDIVIDUALS

Our Northfield Warm Homes programme delivered fuel poverty advice, empowering people with the confidence, knowledge and means to warm their homes and find ways to save energy and money.

59

people advised on fuel poverty

257

specialist assessments carried out

ORGANISATIONS

We delivered in depth advice, consultancy and assessments to a range of clients including Lichfield Diocese, Academies and Housing Associations. Energy Performance Certificates (EPC), Environmental Action Plans (EAP), Display Energy Certificates (DEC) and audits provided clear, manageable step-by-step guidelines to improving their environmental credentials.

contact us to discuss ways of helping you become: Future Green

FUTURE

How to take the next step to a greener life : Energy storage : New technologies

FINANCE 2015

Balance b/f: £86,303

Balance Sheet

Current Assets

Debtors:	£11,933
Short Term Deposits:	£26,797
Cash at Bank:	£42,898
Current assets:	£81,628

Liabilities

Creditors:	£752
Income Reserves:	£37,785
Net current assets:	£43,091

Quaker values of transparency are central to our good stewardship. Any surplus funds are classed as designated reserves and are used to support our future activity.

*The majority of the deficit was down to changes in accounting process to an accruals basis.

Income

Earned:	£31,998
Donations:	£12,196
Trusts:	£2,000
Local Authority:	£0
Other Grants:	£98,923
Investment:	£87

 **Income:**
£145,204

 **Expenditure:**
£188,416

 **Deficit:**
£43,412*

Balance c/f: £43,091

A branch of Central England Quakers Charity No. 224571



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WE'D LIKE TO SAY A BIG THANK YOU...

None of what you have just read about could have been achieved without the extensive help and support from all of the generous, dedicated and passionate donors, funders, friends, volunteers, supporters, mentors, partners, management committee members and staff (including Luke and Jordan) who have helped us achieve so much over 2015. It just wouldn't happen without you. Thank you.

keep in
touch



northfieldecocentre



@northfieldecoc

**Why not become part
of our future as a**

**volunteer, donor,
friend, partner**

**contact us
for more details**

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