

Annual Report 2019-2020

*Improving local life by bringing people
together to share skills*



This has certainly been a year we will not forget in a hurry. Despite all the challenges throughout the year, we have adapted our activities whilst continuing to support our members.

At the start of the year the Time Exchange office was busy providing daily 1-1 support, setting up member exchanges and we were full of plans for the gardening season.

Following the closure of the Time Exchange office to the public in March 2020 during the national lockdown we tried to focus on the support we can offer rather than the things we can't. This has given us the chance to find out what members want and what we can do to help. Thankfully we managed to secure core funding to maintain our support services and co-ordinate member exchanges even if we haven't been able to organise member events or activities. The office is currently staffed 5 days a week so although we are not open to the public, we can still take your calls and reply to your messages.

We have had successful year fundraising and we were absolutely delighted to share the news that we hit our Crowdfunding target back in September. We raised an amazing £10,720 in just 1 month! Thank you to everyone who helped us reach our goal by pledging and sharing our project.

We would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to all the members for their hard work, donation, support and commitment to the Time Exchange over the last 12 months. Without the members our achievements would not be possible. We can't wait to open up our doors to you all again.

Theresa Ball - Project Manager

**1760 member
exchanges**

**250 hours of
support
provided by the
Time Exchange
office**

**141 Time
Exchange
members**

It has been a much quieter year for exchanges due to the lockdown and local restrictions.

Time Exchange members exchanged 1760 hours, offering various practical skills, personal support, assisted local community groups and undertaken local environmental improvements. The Time Exchange office has provided more than 250 hours of one-to-one support and the use of facilities to members and local residents through the daily drop-in sessions. We currently provide support to 141 individual members and their families, as well as 30 local organisations, schools or resident groups.

Fundraising

This (financial) year we have raised £2177 through donations and fundraising activities. There are now so many different ways to support our organisation.

Donations can be made via the Charities Aid Foundation. The Time Exchange is registered with fundraising websites Easyfundraising.org and smile.amazon.co.uk so that you can raise funds if you shop online.

The Time Exchange is registered to claim Gift Aid, helping to make any donations go further. If you are a UK taxpayer we can claim an additional 25% on any donations!

Thank you to everyone who has supported us!

Partnership Work

The Time Exchange works with many other local organisations and sharing skills and resources:

Greening Wingrove CIC - Working together to improve the appearance of the West End of Newcastle.

Keyring - Exchanging skills and providing mutual support.

St Christophers House - Providing weekly meals for members.

Nunsmoor Centre Trust - Information Sharing & Community Events.

Newcastle City Council - Envirocall Reporting and Signposting to Specialist Services.

Foodcycle Westgate - Providing volunteer opportunities at weekly community meal.

Headliners - Supporting Environmental Volunteer Days.

The Comfrey Project - Supporting our gardening sessions at the Bike Garden.

Environmental Work



Time Exchange has organised various gardening and environmental activities as a way of promoting wellbeing and community spirit. These sessions enable members to gain credits and learn gardening skills by working on a local community garden and supporting local environmental improvements.

We have run a programme of activities including Food Growing and Garden Maintenance in the Bike Garden involving volunteers when safe to do so. There has been a regular harvest of fresh fruit and vegetables on offer for 'time credits' for members with any surplus being passed on the Arthur's Hill Mutual Aid larder. During the winter months we organised a number of seasonal (and socially distanced) activities including wreath making and bulb planting.



The Time Exchange continues to work in partnership with the Greening Wingrove CIC and POW (Proud of the West End) to deliver environmental improvements in the area. We hosted the monthly Saturday Litter Picks in the Arthur's Hill Terraces up until March 2020. Volunteers have been supported to carry out simple garden maintenance to the brick street planters and litter picking.

The Time Exchange gardener has offered gardening advice and assistance, seeds and plants and loan of gardening tools to Time Exchange members.

Thank you to Helen and Matt for their essential work on the street planters in Arthur's Hill throughout the year. This year they have focused on both gardening and litter picking to keep our streets looking clean and tidy.

Time Exchange Funders

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of our funders.

Our work would not be possible without them. Their kind support of The Time Exchange has enabled us to achieve another record year of activity. We would like to thank:



Awards for All

Reece Group

JH Burn Charitable Trust

Greggs Foundation

British Science Association

The Time Exchange has generated additional income through fundraising activities from:

Charities Aid Foundation

Easyfundraising

Wonderful (now closed)

Events and Activities



The Time Exchange organised a number of events and activities earlier in the year giving members the opportunity to both spend and earn additional credits and meet up with many other members. Our Winter Fayre last year was a great success with lots of donations for our tombola. It was lovely to see some of the fantastic artwork, crafts and creations from our members.

Sadly we've been unable to organise our usual seasonal indoor activities. This year we put together Christmas card making activity packs for members to use at home and several members have made jams and chutneys to offer to members for time credits.

One-to-one support

The Time Exchange has continued to offer daily support to members who are going through a period of mental ill health or crisis due to a number of different circumstances – this may be through coping with the Covid-19 pandemic, unemployment, chronic illness, bereavement, social isolation or family circumstances. The support we provide ranges from simply providing a listening ear, to signposting to other voluntary/statutory organisations for more specialist support, providing advocacy for vulnerable members by making phone calls or writing letters on their behalf, providing reference letters of support for benefits, volunteering and employment opportunities, and supporting people at medical appointments.

Newsletter, Facebook & Website

The Time Exchange produces a monthly newsletter keeping everyone up to date with what we are doing each month, what's happening in the area and what support is available. We would like thank all the members who have helped with the newsletter each month even when the office was closed.

The Time Exchange also has a website with regular news and information about offers and requests. The website address is:

www.thetimeexchange.org

The Time Exchange regularly uses Facebook to post events, share information, promote our offers and requests, and post pictures of our gardening activities and member exchanges.

www.facebook.com/thetimeexchange

Time Exchange Ltd Company Information

Directors:

Dominic Robinson
Tamara Syeda Begum
Ann Atkinson
Marc Barber
Shamaila Riaz
Clare Philbrick

Staff Team:

Project Manager
Theresa Ball

Timebank Assistant
Sunnie Mann

Environmental
Helen Dawe
Matthew Kelliher

Time Exchange Accounts 2019 – 2020

Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account for the year ended 30 April 2020

	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Income from:		
Donations and legacies	19,815	68,526
Investments	83	68
Other income	1,290	823
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Total income	21,188	69,417
Expenditure on:		
Charitable activities	39,180	60,348
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Transfers between funds	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net movement in funds	(17,992)	9,069
Reconciliation of funds:		
Total funds brought forward	62,078	53,009
Net movement in funds	(17,992)	9,069
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Total funds carried forward	44,086	62,078

Aims and Objectives

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives and in planning future activities. The aims and objectives of the Time Exchange are to advance the benefit of the residents of the socially and economically deprived area of the West End of Newcastle upon Tyne by:

- Operating a time bank as a means of relieving poverty, advancing education, relieving unemployment and promoting vocational training for the benefit of the public in the area.
- Developing the capacity and skills of the members of the community in such a way that they are better able to identify and meet their needs and to enable them to participate more fully in society.
- Advancing the education of the public by the provision of information and advice with reference to welfare rights and health related issues.

These are the core values of the Time Exchange:

“We are all equally important and so is our time.

Building home, neighbourhood and community is real work.

Helping is best when we both give and receive.

Being together means being stronger.”