

Ann Craft Trust

Annual Report

2015/2016



MEMBERS OF ACT COMMITTEES AND GROUPS

TRUSTEES

Claire Bearder
Gwyn Fraser (Chair)
Dave Marsland
Tania May (Vice Chair)
Sandy Pearce

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Gwyn Fraser (Chair)
Rachel Fyson
Janet Garnons-Williams
Deborah Kitson
David Marsland
Tania May (Vice Chair)
Rob Morgan
Sandy Pearce
Bridget Penhale

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND CONSULTANCY

Rachael Clawson
Rachel Fyson
Sarah Goff
Deborah Kitson

TRAINING ASSOCIATES

Ian Ford
Claire Greenwood
Sue Gregory
Bill Horrocks
Julia McNaney
Stuart Sale
Nick Slinn
Jacquie Spencer
Tina Thordal
Sue Thurman

PATRONS

Sir Roger Singleton
Kate Spicer

Members of Staff

Lisa Curtis	Safeguarding Adults at Risk Manager
Nicola Dean	Safeguarding Adults in Sport Manager
Sarah Goff	Development Manager – Safeguarding Disabled Children
Deborah Kitson	Chief Executive Officer
Abra Millar	Marketing Officer
Nat Rock	Finance and Training Administrator

**Ann Craft Trust
Centre for Social Work
University Park
University of Nottingham
Nottingham
NG7 2RD**

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Registered Charity No 1086592
Company Limited by Guarantee No 4080805**

Chair of Trustees' Report

Well, we have had yet another exciting year with a great many changes, both to our personnel and to the work we do. It has been a busy year and I am very proud to say that ACT continues to be in the forefront when it comes to promoting safer services and providing training.

There have been a number of changes in our staff team this year. Joyce McGuinness finally left us at the end of 2015 and we hope that she is enjoying her well-earned retirement. She had been such a big part of ACT for so many years that we are still getting used to no longer having her calm presence around. Matt Parr, who was responsible for marketing and for training administration has also left us for new pastures and we wish him every success in his career. The fact that Joyce and Matt have left has caused us to have a re-think about staff responsibilities. Natascha Rock has taken over as Administration Officer to cover finance and training administration and we have created posts for an Adult at Risk Manager (now filled by Lisa Curtis) and a Marketing Officer (filled by Abra Millar). And, of course, there is Nicola Dean, our Safeguarding in Sport Manager, who has been working with us since the end of last year.

I would like to thank all members of the staff team for their hard work throughout the year. Sarah Goff has been working tirelessly on the EU project, comparing residential services for disabled children in four European countries. This has presented many challenges, but is now in its second year and moving forward. Sarah is also maintaining her expertise and interest in child sexual exploitation. She is recognised as an expert in this and regularly speaks at conferences on the subject. Nicola has had contact with many sports organisations and is delivering training across the sport and recreation sector. She has been achieving all targets set by Sport England and we very much hope that her funding will be extended so that we can continue to take the national lead role in safeguarding adults in sport. And, of course, all this has been overseen by Deborah whose knowledge, expertise and hard work has been rewarded by the award of an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Nottingham. Well done, Deborah, this was very much deserved!

Apart from the achievements mentioned above, ACT, along with Rachael Clawson, has continued to lead in the area of forced marriage. ACT is also now part of the consortium for Experts by Experience, another very worthwhile initiative.

My thanks go to the Management Committee and Board of Trustees for all their work and their contributions to the smooth running of the organisation. They are such a committed group of people. We have very much enjoyed working this year with our new Trustees, Claire Bearder and Dave Marsden, who have both brought new skills, experience and insight to our deliberations. And thanks, also, to the Associate Trainers who are such an integral part of ACT.

I wish to thank Bruce Stafford, Head of the School of Sociology and Social Policy and the other staff in the school for their ongoing support. We very much value our links with the school and with the university.

And, last but not least, thank you to everyone who supports ACT. Working together we will continue to do our best to make the world a safer place for disabled children and adults at risk.

Gwyn Fraser
Chair of Trustees

Chief Executive Officer's Report

2016 has certainly continued to be a challenging time in safeguarding as we continue to implement the Care Act and more specifically Making Safeguarding Personal which, however welcome, has required a real shift in thinking and practice.

And as policies and procedures have been updated we are now seeing the impact of the new definitions of abuse in the Care Act – domestic abuse, self-neglect and modern slavery.

The Prevent agenda has also been introduced to health and social care and there is now a responsibility for child and adult services to address issues that may arise with regard to radicalisation. The vulnerability of the people so many of us support creates a high risk in this area and the additional risks from social media cannot be ignored.

And in the area of children's safeguarding we are continually reminded of the need for greater awareness and recognition of the additional risk and forms of abuse for disabled children not picked up across all mainstream services and the need for disability specialist workers to be more aware of the impact of broader risks - child sexual exploitation, domestic abuse, parental stress and the care of disabled children. This is also reflected in adult safeguarding for example Forced Marriage, FGM and domestic abuse and the importance of working across both child and adult services and considering positive transitions.

Our work this year has included the European project led by Sarah looking at the safeguarding of children with learning disabilities in residential care as well as involvement in further research on forced marriage and a number of safeguarding reviews.

This year we have said goodbye to two members of staff – Joyce retired in December having worked with ACT since 1997. Joyce had been responsible for finance, membership and the production of the bulletin during her time with us and completed all tasks with both efficiency and professionalism. Amazingly in all that time – and 91 bulletins later – we can say that the bulletin was never sent out late! Matt Parr also left in April this year – Matt will be known to many of you as he had responsibility for the training and the marketing of the organisation. Matt has gone on to work for Nottingham Forest. Both are missed by us all.

We have therefore welcomed both new Trustees and new staff this year so the team has had quite a change! Elected at last year's AGM, Claire Bearder, an old friend and previously an Associate Trainer of ACT and now General Manager with Nottinghamshire County Council with a lead on safeguarding has joined the Board of

Trustees as has Dave Marsland from Hull University – many of you will know Dave who has written a number of useful resources with regard to safeguarding adults at risk. And in September this year we were delighted that Nat Rock, who had been working for ACT on a casual contract since Joyce retired, was placed onto a permanent contract and is now working three days a week with responsibility for training administration, finance and project support. Abra Millar also joined the team in the summer as our Marketing Officer – she had previously worked for the Woodland Trust and Lisa Curtis took up a new post at ACT – Safeguarding Adults at Risk Manager - Lisa had previously worked for Choice Support.

We have been pleased to work with a wide range of organisations this year, facilitating training to many and reviewing safeguarding strategies, policy and practice. The continued commitment to rise to new challenges and to ensure that safeguarding is a priority is both reassuring and welcome and many of the groups we have worked with have great examples of good practice that they share.

As always I have so many people to thank for their support, participation and contribution. I work with a great staff team who are committed to the work we do. The work that is achieved by such a small team continually astounds me and reflects the commitment that we all share. The University continues to offer support to our work and we very much enjoy and welcome the relationship we have with the school. Receiving my honorary doctorate in July this year from the University, apart from feeling very proud as I received it on behalf of everyone at ACT, made me realise how much a part of the School we are and our inclusion in their Impact work and the Impact Leaders programme reinforces this further. The Board of Trustees and the Management Committee continue to offer me support and are now working more closely with the staff team which benefits us all. And finally I need to thank our Associate Trainers who facilitate excellent training on behalf of ACT nationally and the many organisations and individuals that support our work.

Deborah Kitson
CEO

Deborah Kitson receives honorary doctorate



In July 2016, Deborah Kitson received an honorary doctorate in the form of a degree of Doctors of Laws honoris causa in recognition of her work promoting the development of research-based safeguarding practice and policy for adults and disabled children.

Making a Difference in Sport

Throughout 2016, our Safeguarding in Sport Manager, Nicola Dean, delivered the 'Making a Difference in Sport' seminar across the UK. The course was developed for safeguarding leads within National Governing Bodies and County Sports Partnerships and aimed at developing best practice within sport.



Money Matters Conference



The Oxfordshire Family Support Network invited ACT's CEO Deborah Kitson to speak about financial abuse at the Money Matters Conference in March 2016. The conference was developed by OXFsn, a group run by families and carers of people with learning disabilities.

A Hidden Truth



A Hidden Truth was a series of National Events hosted across the UK throughout 2015 which aimed to help practitioners explore and understand the dangers, recognise the signs and feel confident safeguarding people with learning disabilities from forced marriage.

Safer Lives Seminar 2015

ACT's Safer Lives seminar took place in November 2015 with professionals from all over the UK listening to expert talks and discussing prominent issues and challenges around sexual exploitation, mate crime and forced marriage of people with learning disabilities.



European Project



ACTing against abuse



We have been working with the Mental Disability Advocacy Centre in Hungary and colleagues from Bulgaria and Czech Republic on a project aimed at helping develop ways to monitor the care of children with learning disabilities and mental health problems in institutional care in Europe.

ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st JULY 2016

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Ann Craft Trust

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st July 2016, which are set out on the following page.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

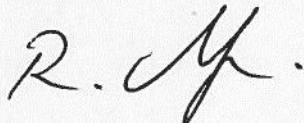
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
 - have not been met or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Signed :-



Date :- 28/10/2016

Mr R Morgan ACMA
14 Scrivener Close
Bushby
Leicester
LE7 9NE

THE ANN CRAFT TRUST

Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31 July 2016

Income and Expenditure Account	Yr-ended 31/07/2016	Yr-ended 31/07/2015
Income	£	£
Subscriptions		1785
Publications	13	138
Training by Associates	78,151	114,154
Donations & Non-recurring income	2,031	22,512
Research/Project Income	126,612	70,762
Total Income	206,708	209,351
Expenditure	£	£
Staff Costs	170,726	146,663
Trainers' Fees	27,845	39,578
Trainers' Travel & Subsistence	4,734	9431
Trust Operating Costs	3,768	5750
Total Expenditure	207,073	201,422
Net Income / (Expenditure) for the Year	(365)	7,929

THE ANN CRAFT TRUST

Balance Sheet as at 31st July 2016

	Yr-ended 31/07/2016	Yr-ended 31/07/2015
	£	£
Cash	129,140	129,505
Net Assets	129,140	129,505
Reserves	129,140	129,505

Notes to the Accounts

1. The movement on the Reserves is as follows:

	Yr-ended 31/07/2016	Yr-ended 31/07/2015
	£	£
Reserves as at 31st July	129,505	121,576
Surplus/ (Deficit) for the Year	(365)	7929
Reserves as at 31st July	129,140	129,505

THE ANN CRAFT TRUST

National Association for the Protection from Abuse of Adults and Children with Learning Disabilities

ACT is an association concerned with facilitating the protection of all adults and children with learning disabilities who are vulnerable to abuse.

AIMS:

- 1. ACT maintains an information exchange network for statutory and voluntary agencies, for professionals and individuals through a national office and**
 - the production and circulation of a quarterly bulletin**
 - the compilation of a network of members and their specific interests**
 - the editing and updating of an annotated bibliography and information sheets on specific topics.**

- 2. ACT works towards raising the general level of awareness of issues relating to the abuse of children and adults with learning disabilities by**
 - making links with other relevant organisations (both specialist and mainstream)**
 - producing a wide range of publications**
 - organisation of, and contribution to conferences, seminars and training events**
 - contributing to public debate as appropriate when matters of concern arise locally or nationally.**

ACT works to an equal opportunities policy, facilitating protection to all people with disabilities, with attention and respect to race, culture, religion, gender, age and sexual orientation.

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