

Unlock

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Unlock, formerly the Evangelical Urban Training Project (Eutp), is a charity established to equip Christians in inner city and outer housing estate areas to be more effective as they share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their own areas.

Unlock employs nine paid staff and has a network of workers across the UK. The charity is overseen by its National Council that meets three times each year. the legal document of the charity is its trust deed, dated 25th March 1972.

CHAIR

Andrew Dorton

CHIEF OFFICER

Dawn Lonsdale

OFFICE MANAGER

Carol Wroe

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Lois Fenton-Smith

National Council

Andrew Dorton (Chair)

Jenny Blake (Treasurer)

Nick Carter (Secretary)

Barbara Funnell (Prayer Sec.)

Maureen Hudson (Worker rep.)

Robert Carrack

Canon John Hunter

Tim Watkins-Idle

Sarah Watkins-Idle

Martin Johnson

Maggie Keane

Dorothy McQuaker

Canon John Roberts

Canon John Stanley

Andrew West

Trustees

Canon John Roberts (Chair)

Canon John Hunter

Nick Carter

Bankers

Co-operative Bank, Salford

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CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT WELCOMES RADICAL 'SHOPS'

Dear Supporter,

Welcome back to Unlock! We've been away for a while, so perhaps it's more a case of some of you welcoming Unlock back - I hope so. There was no Annual Report in 2003. Peter Hall's 'stop press' at the end of his 2002 chair's report was that Jenny Richardson, the chief officer, was leaving. In his report he said that he would be handing over the chair during 2003. The next year or so was going to be 'interesting' if only for these reasons.

Jenny, with great wisdom, suggested a thorough review when she left. Six months later we were considering Greg Smith's 'root and branch' report at a Council meeting during which Peter handed the role of chairing the National Council to me.

Who is he?

Allow me a slight digression, since Unlock doesn't get a new chair often. Peter Hall did the job for 20 years. I am a C.of E. Social Responsibility Officer in Hull and have been involved with EUTP/Unlock for over ten years now.

We have done some 'creative' stuff in Hull with quite a well developed group of us over the years, although we are a bit fallow at present. I was also on Jenny's creative 'think tank' (helping with strategy) for as long as she had it. I am also chair of some other groups and have a lot of experience of running voluntary and community based organisations.

Getting radical.....

Whilst Unlock had not departed from its roots (which the term 'getting radical' might imply) we certainly decided on some serious re-ordering of how we go about our work and the way we spend money.

By October 2003 we agreed that we needed to replace Jenny and David (*our finance officer who left in May 2002*) with one person whilst 'contracting out' certain technical roles. Carol and Lois would have different roles in the office, whilst our unique resources would be available on our website for free! Unlock would move to a new style of development work.

'Corner Shops?'

One or two people have found this analogy confusing I will attempt to explain: Historically the way that Unlock has worked has been a bit like a large central resource and distribution centre where the vast majority of the knowledge, resources, power and £'s spent has been focussed.

We want to engage in a redistribution and our vision is that corner shops will be small but solid local groups with someone paid one day per week to work for Unlock. We will support such developments to the tune

of £2000 if the local group can raise that or more locally. We will also pile in all our support and development energy to these 'corner shops' where the real face-to-face work of enabling people to connect their life with their faith and then share that connection with others will happen.

We truly think that we have hit a rich seam! Thank you for your prayers for our work. Our Glasgow team is now up and running and we welcomed Anne Craig in September 2004. Our budget allows us to develop maybe two more corner shops this coming year, and we have already got four areas who are exploring the possibility.

Finding a new Chief Officer:

I've raced ahead. With no suitable applicants following our first advert for this role, we set about winking the right person out. Dawn Lonsdale is that right person and just about her first big job was to go to Glasgow and interview Anne!

Dawn started in July and has very quickly gained the confidence of us all.

Carol and Lois have had to be extremely adaptable over these last two years; they have weathered a great deal of change that is still happening.



Dawn Lonsdale

I am so grateful to them and also to Jenny Blake, our Treasurer who lives in Sheffield, who has kept close and supportive touch with the office.

Back and ready for action.....

Well, we were never away, but thank you for staying with us. This is going to be an exciting year for Unlock, if rather less nail biting we hope.

Lots of people are talking about 'fresh expressions' or 'new ways of being church'. We've got the structure and the people, and new corner shops coming, so that we can 'unlock real life stories... reveal good news....release life changing skills and confidence!

Without this process, there won't be too many 'fresh expressions' in the cities which are our main business, and they certainly won't have any local leadership to sustain them.

Please continue to pray for this work and enjoy the rest of the report.

Andy.

SOME OF WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING SINCE THE LAST ANNUAL REPORT

A selection of diary dates from both 2003 and 2004:

January

Jenny Richardson leaves to take up post with Church Army.

Greg Smith begins research project evaluating the 'Twenty Trainers Scheme' (both 2003)

February

Feb03 - Sheffield workers assist local group planning for 'Jesus in the City' (Glasgow - June 04)

March

Pizza evening and brainstorm with local Christians in Sheffield for input to 'Jesus in the City' conference.

Sheffield District Methodist Open Day with Brenda Glaves and Robert Carrack. Maureen Hudson supported by Jenny Blake leads a workshop at Cliff College conference in Derbyshire. (all 2003)

April

An Unlock Day with a pensioners group at Eastwood Mission (Rotherham)

Workers Spring Meeting held in Sheffield.

Unlock display at the 'market place' for the Church Army Conference (Swanwick).

2005

Will this be the year that you get more involved with Unlock's work?

May

20th London Walk held in Brixton on Bank Holiday Saturday (3rd May 2003).

June

Residential weekend for National Council members where Greg Smith presents results of research and plans for the future are discussed.

Peter and Jill Hall retire from National Council.

Ruth Weston (Bradford) leaves Unlock as her birthing pool business takes off!! (all 2003)

July

Baptist Urban Group held in Liverpool, Brenda gives a presentation and has information table.

Andy Dorton becomes Chair of National Council. (both 2003)

August

Carol Wroe attends Greenbelt and meets up with Unlock friends there. (2003 & 4)

September

Andy Dorton works on detail of proposals / Unlock vision.

Preparation meeting in Sheffield for 2004's 'Jesus in the City' conference. (both 2003)

October

National 'Estates Church Network' Conference in Rotherham. Maureen Hudson and Brenda Glaves supported by Carol Wroe take an Unlock Workshop based on the Billy Elliot pack, along with Unlock display.

National Council hold their meeting and make major decisions for the future of Unlock.

November

Hull relaunch their local development group at a special event on Nov 5th called 'Remember, Remember'!

Sheffield workers at ToCh meeting to share about Unlock's work locally. (both 2003)

December

Beginning the search for a new Chief Officer. Negotiations for first 'corner shops' with Glasgow and Hull.

2004

Lots of 'behind the scenes' work, including support for local workers and National Council as plans put in place for the new vision of Unlock.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED:
Involvement in 'Jesus in the City' conference.

21st London Walk - Tottenham & (Broadwater Farm Estate).
October - 'National Estates Churches' conference.



UNLOCK CORNER SHOPS

FOUR ELEMENTS COME TOGETHER TO MAKE AN UNLOCK 'CORNER SHOP':

