



**Eden Christian Trust**  
Reg Charity NO. 1001961

# **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended**

**31 DECEMBER 2020**

# Annual Report 2020



## Introduction

The Eden Christian Trust (ECT) was established in 1990 and took its present form of modus operandi in 1997. It has four main objectives, namely

- To work in partnership with local churches and support them in all areas of Youth Work
- To encourage an understanding of the Christian faith among young people
- To provide activities and opportunities that will bring young people together and encourage "Community"
- To work with un-churched young people in the community generally.

The Trust is an inter-denominational Christian charity that works with those services that engage locally with youth activities.

It was felt extremely important that our report for 2020 should document the activities and support it gives to the Young People of Edenbridge and surrounding villages in the course of a 12 month period. This has been significantly affected by National Youth Agency guidelines during the Coronavirus crisis under which we operate.

The Trust has at all times maintained that where possible our Youth Worker should keep in contact with the Young People who come to us via what ever means. This has enabled us to continue to engage with them and as a result, we have been able to offer our support and concern for their wellbeing.

## Activities that would have taken place in a normal year would have included

The weekly **ECT Youth Club**, run on Friday nights in term time by the youth worker and volunteers, which regularly attracts 40-50 youngsters. Special activities are planned for each session, such as:

Craft evenings	Themed movie nights
Trampoline park	Friendly competitions
Games evenings	Cooking sessions
Barbecue	NERF Club sessions
Disco nights	Ice Skating
Christmas party	Laser tag

Club members would have been offered opportunities to attend our popular annual residential camps. These have previously been run at Blackland Farm and The Soul Survivor Festival with up to 25 young people attending from Edenbridge.

### **Youth Club activities during the Pandemic**

Throughout the pandemic ECT has followed guidance from the National Youth Agency who in line with government direction have guided the Youth sector.

Ever since the very first lockdown back in March 2020 we have had to adapt to using online platforms such as Zoom. Activities via Zoom have included quizzes, Jack box games, cooking, bingo, "Would I Lie to You", "Guess who the baby is", topical discussions and much more. The challenge has been thinking up new and engaging ideas for the young people and attendance has fluctuated as not all young people like online platforms.

When permitted by restrictions and guidance, we have been able to run some face-to-face club sessions in our usual venue. We have operated in a Covid secure manner, with two bi-weekly bubble groups of 15 young people. We have also organised several outdoor socially distanced walks in the countryside.

### **The BRIDGE Youth Church**

The BRIDGE Youth Service with the young people had been growing, up until March 2020 when we had to stop due to the pandemic. This monthly service is aimed at secondary school aged young people. We unfortunately had to cancel the autumn praise party, an alternative to Halloween, which had been well attended in the past.

We hope to have The BRIDGE back up and running as soon as possible, as guidance allows.

### **One-to-One Mentoring and Support**

Weekly meetings are normally held for young people who need and want one-to-one support with a designated adult, and are run by volunteers and the ECT Youth Worker. Special activities include swimming, crafts, BBQ, cooking sessions, games and outdoor educational walks and activities.

From March 2020 onward, we were not able to run the sessions in our usual indoor environment, although we did manage to meet occasionally outdoors, as guidance allowed.

### **School Work and Clubs**

Our ECT Youth Worker has good relationships with the teaching teams at 4 local primary schools in Edenbridge, Crockham Hill, Hever and Four Elms. In the past he visited regularly, offering various activities and participating in assemblies. These activities ceased from March 2020, following school and policy guidance. He has maintained contact and offered support as and when required.

## **House Group**

This discussion and activities group meets fortnightly looking at Bible Study and exploring the Christian Faith. In March 2020 the group moved to the online Zoom platform, and has continued to have great attendance.

## **Church Visits and Other Activities**

All of the activities below would have continued to run normally in 2020 if not for the pandemic.

Some activities have been able to continue via online platforms

- Leading church services
- Church networking and support
- Messy Church planning and support for all churches in Edenbridge.
- Baptist and Church of England youth networking meetings
- Participation in local fetes.

## **YOUR SPACE mental health triage service**

ECT and our Youth Worker have been particularly concerned about the isolation and mental health issues facing the Young People of the town and surrounding villages throughout the year.

During the months of November and December 2020 it was felt that we should offer a safe environment for Young People to be able to discuss issues of concern. Subsequently Your Space was devised and set up during Lockdown 3 in from January 2021 to the reopening of in-person youth club activities.

Your Space offered drop in triage sessions for young people in the Edenbridge area, in partnership with Eden Christian Trust and West Kent Housing Association youth service. The sessions focused on supporting the needs of young people, offering signposting and information, or just a listening ear to chat over their worries and concerns. The sessions were arranged to adhere to Covid-19 guidelines.

## **PLANS FOR 2021**

At the time of writing this Annual Report the country is emerging from Lockdown 3. The Youth Club reopened at the end of April 2021 with a limit on numbers, and Covid19 protocols in place. We are optimistic that by June of this year we will be back as a fully functioning Youth Club supporting the children, schools and churches of Edenbridge and the surrounding villages in all the various ways that we do once again.

## **PULSE Camp**

In May 2020 we had planned to host a camp at Blackland Farm, an activity centre near East Grinstead, West Sussex. This would have been the second time that PULSE (Prepare, Unite, Love, Serve, Equip) had run. It was to be open to all young people associated with ECT.

However due to the pandemic, the 2020 outing was cancelled due to restrictions and the closure of Blackland farm. Plans to run this camp in early June 2021 may have to be deferred, depending on government guidance.

## **Supporters of ECT**

The Trustees thank all those who have supported ECT generously over the past year by way of finance or time including individual supporters and the following organisations:

Drake Oil Syndicate	Oxted/Limpsfield Music Society
Edenbridge & Westerham Rotary Club	Sevenoaks District Council
Edenbridge Bonfire Society	St Johns URC, Marsh Green
Edenbridge Town Council	St Peter & St Paul Church, Edenbridge
Great Stonebridge Trust	St Peter's Church, Hever
Holy Trinity Church Crockham Hill	The Eden Church, Edenbridge
The Dulverton Trust (Kent Community Foundation)	Wates Foundation

## **Trustees and Organisation**

At the end of 2020 the serving Trustees were as follows:

- Tim Hill (Chairman)
- Brigitte Hunter
- Sheila Stapleton (Fund Raiser)
- Dorothy Sutton
- Sue White (Safeguarding Officer)
- Heidi Tanner
- Marnie Woodward (Hon Treasurer)

During the year the Trustees were pleased to add Heidi Tanner to their number. Heidi joined us as a representative for the United Reform Church, Marsh Green

There is one co-opted position (non-trustee), Sue Paice, who continues as ECT Secretary.

To deliver the objectives of the Trust, the ECT employs a full-time youth worker (the only paid employee) who is supported in the youth club activities by a number of volunteer youth leaders.

Decision making is by majority vote. Trustee meetings are held monthly and are attended by the above together with a Church Leader. This important role is filled by Dave White, minister for the Grace Church, providing the additional link between the Trustees and the Churches that support the ECT. Support for the youth worker is provided internally by a line manager selected from the Trustees, with spiritual support provided by Rev David Flagg.

None of the Trustees, nor any person connected with them, are paid.

## Accounts for the Year Ending December 2020

The accounts report on four areas of activity in 2020:

- Core ECT expenditure in support of the Youth Worker and related costs
- The "One-to-One" youth counselling scheme, which raises restricted income in support of its ring-fenced activities
- Other restricted income and expenditure
- The ECT Youth Club. Activities are funded by weekly subscriptions from the young people, refreshment purchases ('tuck'), and payments towards outings and trips.

Total income in 2020 was £49,770 (2019: £40,160). We actively fundraise and attract donations and grants from local organisations to support the core activities of the charity. Individual donations of £9,190 were higher than the previous year (2019: £8,554). Income from organisations remained significant, including funding from the Great Stonebridge Trust, the Dulverton Trust (via the Kent Community Foundation), Sevenoaks District Council, and the Wates Foundation. We continue to be supported by numerous local organisations, the local churches in Edenbridge and surrounding villages.

In addition to the One-to-One programme, Restricted Funds included:

1. Trip Sponsorship Fund – available to fund young people who otherwise could not afford the holiday camps
2. Overseas Mission Fund – fund for a future overseas mission.
3. Edenbridge Town Council 2019 grant - camping equipment
4. Edenbridge Town Council 2020 grant – youth club outing
5. Great Stone Bridge Trust – camera equipment
6. Kent County Council – photography project and exhibition
7. Wates Foundation – staff cost support

RESTRICTED FUNDS	Opening Bal £	Income £	Exp £	Returned £	Closing Bal £
Trip Sponsorship Fund	69	-	-	-	69
Overseas Mission Fund	1,607	-	-	-	1,607
Edenbridge Town Council 2019 grant	32		(32)	-	-0-
Edenbridge Town Council 2020 grant	-	330	-	-	330
Great Stone Bridge Trust	12	-	-	-	12
Kent County Council	594		(250)	(345)	-0-
Wates Foundation	-	15,000	(7,500)		7,500
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,315</b>	<b>15,330</b>	<b>(7,782)</b>	<b>(345)</b>	<b>9,518</b>

As a result of the Covid 19 pandemic, total expenditure declined significantly to £32,321 (2019: £38,399). The main on-going areas of expenditure were staff costs and overheads, as lockdown restrictions closed the youth club, schools work and other in person activities from 17 March 2020. Subsequently, youth club activity was offered on-line for most of the year, and trips and outings have been postponed, pending government advice.

In 2020, The Trust reported a net surplus of £17,450 before the application of one half of the Wates Foundation grant to core costs (2019: surplus £1,761). We achieved a surplus of £3,197 in ECT Core funds which was supplemented by £7,500 from the Wates Foundation grant, and reduced by topping up a deficit in ECT Youth Club funds. As a result, core funds rose to £54,101 (2019: £43,723).

### **Fund Balances and Reserves Policy**

Total funds at year end rose to £64,543 (2019: £47,094), comprised of

- ECT General funds of £34,101 plus £20,000 Designated funds
- One-to-One Restricted Funds of £424
- Other Restricted Funds of £9,518:
  - Trip Sponsorship Fund £69
  - Mission Fund £1,607
  - Edenbridge Town Council 2020 grant £330
  - Great Stone Bridge Trust – camera equipment grant £12
  - Wates Foundation grant - £7,500
  
- ECT Youth Club Designated funds of £500 towards youth club running costs.

Due to reliance on fundraised income, the Trust aims to keep sufficient reserves to support approximately six months staff and running costs. Beyond this contingency reserve, we favour the retention of additional uncommitted reserves where possible up to three further months of running costs, to provide security against fluctuations in income to cover core costs. For these purposes, the Trust has set aside a designated fund of £20,000. The General Fund provides additional support for all on-going activities. ECT Youth club funds are maintained to provide sufficient working capital in planning and enabling advance payments towards outings and other expenses. One-to-One manages its own fundraising and expenditure, and is considered a ring-fenced restricted fund. The Trust reviews this Reserves Policy once a year.

### **Accounting Policies**

Income and expenditure are recorded on a cash received basis.

### **Public Benefit statement**

In planning our activities for the year, the trustees keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. We believe that the activities of Eden Christian Trust benefit local young people, volunteers, and the wider community.

### **Risk Factors**

The greatest risk facing the Trust is, and probably always will be, the inability to fund the incumbent. Over 75% of the funding received has to be researched and requested. Therefore, the capacity to fundraise effectively is essential.

To date it has been possible to retain the £20,000 allocated to designated reserves intact. This allows approximately six months direct employment costs, plus other running costs and a working capital contingency, in hand.

Also, the Trust relies on the voluntary support of youth leaders and must be able to retain a core of leaders sufficient to assure the safety of the young people who attend ECT Youth Club and other events.

Finally, the Trust must be able to maintain the capability to manage itself in accordance with all necessary regulations affecting employment, financial administration, child protection and health and safety.

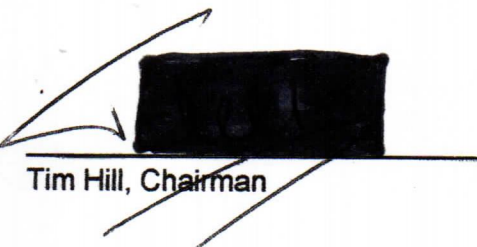
### Coronavirus 2020

For ECT and the young people who use it, be it at the facilities we offer, the school clubs we run or the church services and sessions we are involved in it has been a very difficult, stressful and at times traumatic year. Throughout we have placed the young people and their well being at the centre of all that we have been able to achieve under the extremely limiting circumstances of the Covid 19 coronavirus.

A special mention must be made of Anthony Shipwright, our Youth Worker, who has been innovative and adaptable in all he has achieved whilst also bringing a caring and supportive approach to his work.

To our supporters and donors we are forever grateful of your support over the last 12 months. Thanks to you all for your donations, large and small. These enable us to offer so much.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Trustees and all the volunteers who give of their time freely and willingly to make Eden Christian Trust such a vibrant caring group for the young people in our communities.



Tim Hill, Chairman

19 May 2021  
Date



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of EDEN CHRISTIAN TRUST

On accounts for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2020 Charity no (if any) 1001961

Set out on pages 1 page only

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:
- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*)
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 Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
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.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: [Signature]

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Name: PAULA HARDY

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Address: CAMRIE HIGH STREET BRASTED, KENT TN16 1HS

**Income & Expenditure for 12 months ending DECEMBER 2020**

	OTHER				2020	2019
	ECT CORE	ONE TO ONE	RESTRICTED	ECTreme	TOTAL	TOTAL
	Unrestricted	Mentoring	FUNDS	Youth Club		
	£	Restricted	£	DESIGNATED	to date	to date
£	£	£	£	£	£	
<b>Income</b>						
Individual donations and Gift Aid	9,180	10			9,190	8,554
Donations/grants from organisations	24,445		15,330		39,775	26,579
Fundraising income	0				0	278
Youth Club subscriptions				303	303	1,108
Youth Club Tuck Income				446	446	1,570
Trips and activities				-	0	2,009
Interest income	57				57	62
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>33,681</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15,330</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>49,770</b>	<b>40,160</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Staff costs	27,187				27,187	26,599
Trips and Outings	0			215	215	1,435
Events and Activities	21	141	250	59	472	1,696
Youth Club Tuck Expenses				458	458	1,220
Equip / supplies	587		32	336	956	3,337
Fundraising exp	0				0	23
Travel / Sub	732				732	1,882
Training	105				105	26
Rent / utilities	695				695	941
Insurance	540				540	515
Telephone	277				277	460
Postage / printing / photocopying / office	102				102	0
Fees / subs	238				238	347
Grant refunded			345		345	
Donation to charity (Compassion UK)					0	108
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>30,484</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>1,069</b>	<b>32,321</b>	<b>38,399</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>3,197</b>	<b>(131)</b>	<b>14,704</b>	<b>(320)</b>	<b>17,450</b>	<b>1,761</b>
Opening balance - FUNDS @ 1 Jan	43,723	556	2,315	500	47,094	45,333
TR to/(from) ECTreme designated fund	(320)		-	320	0	0
TR between Restricted and Gen Fund	7,500		(7,500)	0	0	0
<b>CLOSING BALANCE - Funds at Period End</b>	<b>54,101</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>9,518</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>64,543</b>	<b>47,094</b>

<b>Balance Sheet at DECEMBER 2020</b>						
CAF Bank current	3,632				3,632	1,415
CAF Bank Gold deposit	22,212	424	9,518		32,154	44,922
CAF /Shawbrook 60 Day	28,000				28,000	
ECTreme - Nat West current acct				747	747	747
ECTreme - Petty cash				10	10	10
<b>TOTAL BANK AND CASH</b>	<b>53,844</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>9,518</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>64,543</b>	<b>47,094</b>
Due to/ from ECT to ECTreme	257			(257)	0	
Less: Due to HMRC	0				0	
<b>NET ASSETS at Period End</b>	<b>54,101</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>9,518</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>64,543</b>	<b>47,094</b>
<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>						
<b>Restricted</b>						
One to One		424			424	556
EB Town 2020 grant			330		330	32
Great Stone Bridge-cameras grant			12		12	12
KCC Grant 2019 - photo project					0	594
Trip sponsorship fund			69		69	0
Wates Foundation			7,500		7,500	69
Overseas Mission Fund			1,607		1,607	1,607
<b>Designated</b>	20,000			500	20,500	20,500
<b>General</b>	34,101				34,101	23,723
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>54,101</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>9,518</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>64,543</b>	<b>47,094</b>

TIM HILL, CHAIRMAN

MARNIE WOODWARD, HON TREASURER

19 May 2021

19 May 2021