



Chris Worfolk Foundation
Annual Report 2012

Chris Worfolk Foundation
1 Temple Lane
Leeds
LS15 0PH
West Yorkshire
United Kingdom

0113 350 8992
info@chrisworfolkfoundation.org

www.chrisworfolkfoundation.org
facebook.com/chrisworfolkfoundation
twitter.com/cwfnews
youtube.com/worfolkfoundation
flickr.com/chrisworfolkfoundation

Registered charity in England & Wales. 1137220.

Introduction



Chris Worfolk
Trustee

When I first sat down to write the Chair's Report, I was a bit worried I would have nothing to talk about. It didn't feel like we had done that much this year. I was struggling to think of what to write.

So I started where I always do – by browsing through the news items we've published over the past twelve months. I'm glad I did! Reading through each story reminds me that we actually have had a very busy year.

Where it is running the three local community groups we're now maintaining, the continued work of the Humanist Action Group that in addition ran two additional large campaigns, the 2011 Sunrise Conference of any number of the many other activities we've implemented since last year.

For the first time ever, we ran

Sunrise as a virtual conference – anyone, from anywhere in the world, was able to tune in and learn from the variety of speakers presenting talks at the event – and if you missed it, the archives are now available on [Worfolk Lectures](#) too.

Alongside our activities, we've been working to transform the charity into a more sustainable organisation in these times of austerity. With the plan that we have now put in place, we're determined to be in a strong financial position by the end of this coming financial year.

We've also spend the last four months preparing a major new equality campaign that we hope to be launching in the near future, as well as many other exciting projects that we will be announcing over the coming year.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Worfolk
Trustee, Chris Worfolk Foundation



Activities



Top left: Ronald Green on **Worfolk Lectures**. Above: Humanist Action Group Holiday Food Drive. Left: Hand knitted gloves donated to HAG.

Humanism

The **Humanist Action Group** has continued its work this year, led by its homeless outreach work. On top of its regular programme of activities, HAG has also run two special events this year.

In December, HAG ran its second **Annual Food Drive**. The event, which is now an annual fixture of our work, looks to raise as many donations as possible to supply food to local homeless shelters.

In addition to that, in February, when the weather turned exceptionally cold, HAG launched the “**Gift of Gloves**” campaign to provide people living on the street with extra clothing.

The **Humanist Chaplaincy Network** launched its new programme in March, with updated information and resources.

Education

At the beginning of last year, we launched **Worfolk Lectures** – an online archive of talks and informative events, all recorded in high definition and made available for anyone in the world to stream, for free.

In September, we ran our second annual **Sunrise Conference** – bringing group leaders together to share advice and experience. For the first time ever we ran it as a virtual conference to allow people to attend from all over the world.

Our courses continue to attract positive attention. **One Life** looks at the big questions such as ethics, how to live and the meaning of life. **Perspective** is an acclaimed interfaith course that promotes dialogue between believers and non-believers.

The **Answers** course looks at what

people believe and helps them to express their views better. **Intimate Details** looks at issues regarding sex and gender identity, promoting open dialogue about traditionally taboo topics.

We continue to run a number of online educational websites including **It's Only Water**, a homeopathy campaign, **Pro Life Through Pro Choice**, a pro choice campaign and **Galileo Day**, promoting the Galileo Day festival.

We've continued to grow the **Humanist Library of Leeds**, that aims to be a world class research resource on Humanism.



Above: Dr Bruce Turnbull at Leeds Skeptics. Below: Humanist Community of Leeds meeting. Right: Photos from the Sunrise Conference.



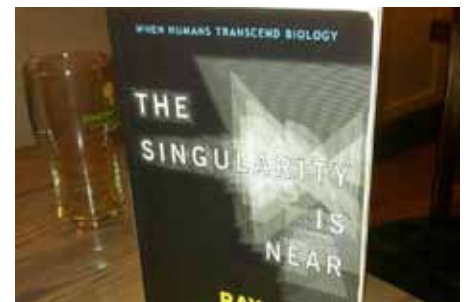
Community

Leeds Skeptics in the Pub has only just settled in to its new home at the Victoria Hotel and we're already filled up all the additional space of the new venue! This year saw another amazing range of speakers Dr John Baruch, Dr Craig Aen-Stockdale and Dr Andrew Rae.

The **Humanist Community of Leeds** continued to run throughout the year, in it's new, more social format. We'll be modifying the format of HCoL once again in the coming months, so stay tuned for more exciting updates.



Above: Dr David Jenkins delivers the second annual Norfolk Lecture. Below (left) SocietasPro website. Below (right) First meeting of Leeds Transhumanists.



New group **Leeds Transhumanists** also held its first event this year, looking at issues surrounding Transhumanism and the technological singularity.

To support other community groups, in February we launched **SocietasPro**, a group management system that allows the committee to easily track their members, mailing list events and publish online content.

Events

Last year, we established an annual lecture fund, named the **Worfolk Lecture**, the first being presented by Dr Terrence Kee on the subject of "did life on Earth originate on Earth?"

This year's event was presented by Dr David Jenkins from the University of York, on the subject of "From Rutherford to the Large Hadron Collider", celebrating the hundredth anniversary of atomic research.

Resources

Our online resource **Atheist Stock** is the biggest freethought stock photography collection on the internet. It contains thousands of images available to local and national groups to use for their projects, for free.

Groups can also collaborate and share talks, presentations, posters and much more using the **Secular Portal Resource Library**.

Organisation



Accounts

Our accounts this year were prepared by the West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service. We would like to thank them for all their support in and advice over the year. You can find a summary of our finances in the section below.

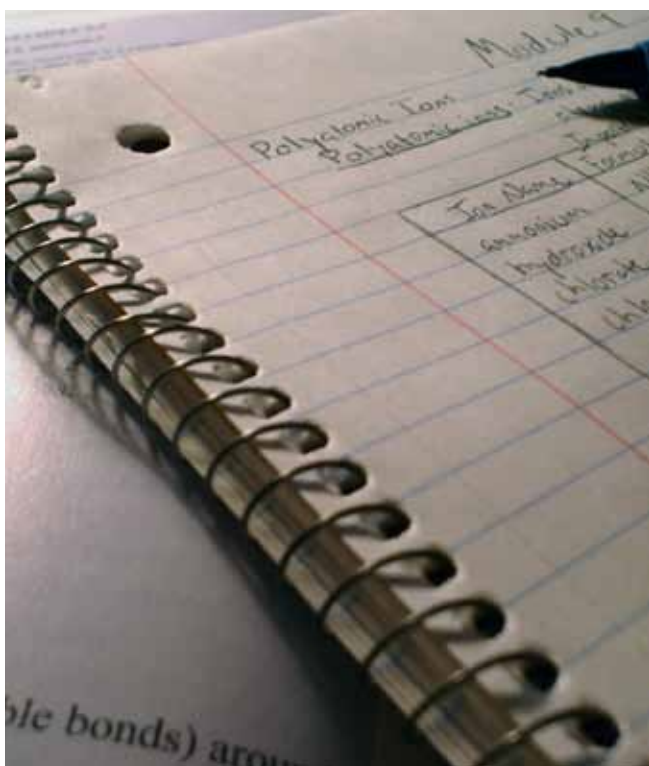
Inclusivity

We continue to run our inclusivity programme, which allows those who may be unable to attend our educational events, to apply for exemption from registration fees, allowing everyone access to education no matter what their background.

Volunteers

We would like to thank everyone who has volunteered their time and efforts with us over the past twelve months. In particular, thank you to Katie Barr for her tireless efforts coordinating the Humanist Action Group and James Murray for his services to Leeds Skeptics.

Also a big thank you to Paul Dean, Katie Worfolk and everyone else who helped out with the Holiday Food Drive.



Finances

Year	Income	Spending
2010/2011	£11,384	£11,718
2011/2012	£5,761	£3,070

Charitable activities represent 92.5% of our spending during the 2011/2012 financial year.

Trustees



Chris Worfolk

The Chair of the Chris Worfolk Foundation already has an extensive background working in the free thinking movement.

He is founder of **Leeds Atheist Society**, the most active atheist student society in the country.

He is also currently serving as treasurer on the committee of the local humanist group, the **Humanist Society of West Yorkshire**.

Chris also founded **Leeds Sceptics**, the local Sceptics in the Pub groups, which he continues to lead. He has also served as a trustee of the **National Federation of Atheist, Humanist & Secular Student Societies**.



Dr Gijsbert Stoet

Gijsbert is a lecturer at the **University of Leeds**, working in the Institute of Psychological Sciences where he chairs the Ethics Committee, as well as sitting on the equality and diversity committee of the university.

He has previously worked in The Netherlands, Germany, the United States and the UK.



Paul Irving

Paul served for many years as chair of the **Humanist Society of West Yorkshire** and continues to serve on the committee of the organisation.

He is also active in campaigning for civil rights and to put an end to LGBTQ discrimination, work he continues through the foundation.



Elina Leiniö

Elina joined our board of trustees in March. Having grown up in Finland, Elina brings a range of new experience and perspective to the organisation, speaking fluent English, Finnish and Swedish. She earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Turku in English & Theology.

“Improving society; building on humanist principles.”
Registered charity in England and Wales. 1137220.

