

Leeds *Bereavement* Forum

16th Annual Report 2015

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Leeds *Bereavement* Forum

Annual Report 2015

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Leeds *Bereavement* Forum

Management Committee Members

Chair

Sue Smith

Honorary Treasurer

Christine Richardson

Honorary Secretary

Lynne Fordyce

Rhian Barnabas

Judy Beckett

Gloria Hanley

Chris Wood

Office Staff

Sue Watts - Manager

Linda Bennett - Administrator

Leeds *Bereavement* Forum

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 29 October 2014

The 15th Annual General Meeting of the Leeds Bereavement Forum was held on Wednesday 29 October 2014 at 1.00pm at Leeds Methodist Mission Oxford Place Centre Leeds.

Sue Smith, Chair of the Leeds Bereavement Forum, introduced herself and then welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were recorded from the following people: Christine Richardson, Steve Callaghan, Georgie Spedding, Mary Smith, Rhian Barnabas, Gill Parker, Sarah Taylor and Chris Wood.

The Chair of the Leeds Bereavement Forum then introduced the Trustees and the staff of the Forum.

The Agenda, the Minutes of the AGM of 2013 and the Annual Report 2013/14 had previously been circulated to the members. The Agenda was followed as below:

AGENDA

1. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2013

The Chair asked the members present whether they had read the Minutes of the AGM 2013 and proposed that they were accepted. The Minutes of the AGM 2013 were unanimously accepted as a true record and duly signed by Sue Smith.

2. REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS

The reports from the Treasurer, the Chair and the Project Manager were contained in the Annual Report, which had been previously circulated.

The Chair thanked the following people for their support over the last year.

1. The two staff members
2. Steve Callaghan - CCG commissioner
3. All Leeds Bereavement Forum trustees
4. Jean Maston, Vice Chair, who is standing down at this AGM. The Chair thanked her for all her hard work for the Forum.
5. Christine Richardson – treasurer
6. Lynne Fordyce – secretary
7. All the members of the Leeds Bereavement Forum.

The Chair, Sue Smith, then asked for a proposer and seconder for the reports and accounts to be accepted. Sue Smith proposed and Jean Maston seconded the proposal.

The Chair on behalf of the trustees of Leeds Bereavement Forum thanked WYCAS for auditing the accounts.

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHARITY TRUSTEES

(a) Resignations

The Chair informed the meeting that Anne Llewellyn had resigned in the middle of the year due to relocation. Jean Maston is standing down due to family responsibilities.

(b) Re-appointments

The Chair read out the names of the people due for re-appointment as follows:

- Lynn Fordyce
- Sue Smith
- Chris Wood
- Christine Richardson
- Rhian Barnabas

The Chair informed the meeting that all these Trustees had a proposer and a seconder. Sue Smith proposed that they be re-appointed en bloc and Jean Maston seconded this and the proposal was accepted.

(c) New appointments

There were two new appointments, Judy Beckett and Gloria Hanley. Sue Smith proposed and Jean Maston seconded the proposal.

(d) Election of Officers

- Sue Smith was proposed by Lynne Fordyce to be elected as Chair of the Leeds Bereavement Forum and this was seconded by Jean Maston.
- Christine Richardson was proposed by Sue Smith to be elected as Honorary Treasurer of the Leeds Bereavement Forum and this was seconded by Jean Maston.
- Lynn Fordyce was proposed to be elected as Honorary Secretary by Jean Maston and seconded by Sue Smith.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair announced that from April 2015 membership to Leeds Bereavement Forum will now be free. This will be open to organisations and individuals.

Sue Watts on behalf of all those present thanked Sue Smith as Chair of Leeds Bereavement Forum for her tireless work for the Forum.

The meeting was then formally closed at 1.15pm.

Leeds *Bereavement* Forum

Chair's Annual Report

Once again welcome and thank you to everyone for joining us today and for your ongoing support for Leeds Bereavement Forum.

We have had another very busy and interesting year with positive developments in some services as a result of support from our team. Sue's report will give more details of this.

As ever it is a pleasure to thank both Sue and Linda for the amazing level of work which they do in a relatively small number of hours each week. What they achieve never fails to amaze me.

Again we have worked closely with our commissioner, now Veronica Lovatt, as there have been changes in allocation and we are now funded with 'end of life' and palliative care services. She has worked closely with us and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her ongoing support, encouragement and challenge to us to continue to improve and develop, and of course our thanks to the Clinical Commissioning Groups for their ongoing funding support.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Trustees for all their support and hard work. We continue to be few in number and would welcome further interest if there is anyone keen to join us. Particular thanks go to Christine Richardson, our Treasurer, and Lynne Fordyce, our Secretary, but all of our trustees work hard to support the service and ensure we achieve our aims.

And not least thank you to all of you, and all our members, for your support at our various events throughout the year. You will have noticed that we have changed the membership system so that there is no cost now and this works well for all of us it seems.

I am sure Sue will tell you about the Conference, Special Interest Groups and other events throughout the year. Our conference was another memorable event, not least because of Ellie's wonderful 'presentation'. Yet again we were able to hold a Death Cafe during Dying Matters Awareness week.

Again Sue has worked hard to maintain the profile of support for children and young people and we have developed and held a specific training for child minders and nursery workers recently in support of this. She has also offered ongoing support for Star Bereavement Support for children, young people and families' based in Wakefield but which it is hoped will soon be offering a broader service across the region. Sue has also continued her support for the new Leeds Suicide Bereavement Service whose workers are now in situ and offering a range of support services. Our

Basic Bereavement Training course continues to be successful with several more volunteers involved in providing the training.

We look forward to the coming year and the challenges it will present to all services and individuals.

Finally my personal thanks to everyone for your support to me as Chair. It continues to be an amazing privilege to Chair this wonderful organisation.

Sue Smith

Chair Leeds Bereavement Forum

Leeds *Bereavement* Forum

Managers Annual Report

This has been an eventful year which has seen some real achievements. Although Leeds Bereavement Forum works with all bereavements, each year seems to have a different emphasis and, whilst last year saw a lot of focus on support for bereaved children, this year we have also been doing a great deal of work on support for people bereaved by suicide. Of course the other work continues too and I currently seem to be having a lot of meetings and networking on different aspects of death, dying and bereavement. This is encouraging because it feels as though bereavement support is being discussed more widely and taken more seriously now than at times in the past and it has been rewarding to be part of this.

Leeds Bereavement Forum's **Special Interest Groups** have played an active role in raising awareness of certain issues and in bringing people together to talk about these and look at ways of meeting unmet needs. One of the main achievements has been our involvement in the planning, development and launch of the **Leeds Suicide Bereavement Service**. Having been part of the Suicide Prevention Group and Task Group for many years it has been lovely to work with a group of dedicated people to develop, create and put forward a successful bid for this three year project and to be part of the Steering Group. Leeds Bereavement Forum receives a number of enquiries from people bereaved by suicide and it is good to have specialist, peer-led support to be able to refer them to.

The launch of the **Children's Charter** in 2012, which came from our **Children and Young People's Special Interest Group** meetings, was a real step forward in recognising the needs of children of all ages dealing with end of life and bereavement in Leeds. Many Leeds agencies signed up to the Charter including Leeds Safeguarding Children's Board, Leeds Children's Hospital, CAMHS Leeds, the Youth Offending Service and the two Leeds Hospices. However, with the onset of financial cut-backs many of us from these, and other, organisations have been meeting to look at ways existing services can be developed to include some bereavement support. There has been input into the Healthy Schools service, TaHMS and the Market Place. Also small charities such as Elliott's Footprint are looking at developing their own support independently. We have also just developed a new version of our **Basic Bereavement Training** for people working with bereaved children and young people which can, hopefully, help to give non-specialised workers the confidence to address bereavement with the children with whom they work.

Leeds Bereavement forum held our fourth **Death Cafe** as part of Dying Matters Awareness Week in May. We also included the **Dementia Awareness** training for people who attended. As a city, Leeds has recently started to draw together a group of organisations who hold events for Dying Matters Awareness week and we are part of the **Dying Matters Stakeholder Group**. I have also recently attended the Aging Well Board to talk about Leeds Bereavement Forum and the work we do.

Our May **Conference 'How We Deal With Bereavement and Loss'** looked at alternative ways to view bereavement. Actor Ellie Harrison presented her one-woman show from The Grief Series, Judith Hodgson from Dove House Hospice, Hull looked at death and bereavement in art, Jaqui McGuire from St Gemma's Hospice looked at ways to work with bereaved children and Ian Leech of Dying Matters, the National Council for Palliative Care and St Giles Hospice, Lichfield talked about his work as Community Engagement Officer changing attitudes in communities around death, dying and bereavement. This was one of our most successful conferences to date and delegates seemed to enjoy looking at different ways of addressing death and dying.

Our three hour **Basic Bereavement Training** continues to run regularly through Adult Social Care but we also deliver this to any group who can draw together enough people (between 8 and 20) to make it work. We have just developed a new version of the training, **Basic Bereavement Training with Children and Young People**, for people working with bereaved children and delivered this to a group of childminders. This is something we have had requests for in the past so it will be good to be able to provide this training from now on.

I sit on a variety of other advisory, review and development groups in Leeds including facilitating the new **Leeds Citywide Adult Bereavement Forum** attended by Carers Leeds, Commissioner Veronica Lovatt, Cruse, St Gemma's Hospice and Wheatfield's Hospice. The group's purpose is to encourage partnership working across Leeds, to improve co-ordination of adult bereavement services and to maintain and develop high standards in services.

It has been a busy year but one with some real commitment to developments in bereavement awareness and support and I hope to see this continue.

Sue Watts

**Manager
Leeds Bereavement Forum**

Leeds *Bereavement* Forum

Treasurers Report for 2014/15

Leeds Bereavement Forum has again managed the funding for the year 2014/15 with success; this resulted in a small surplus leaving the Reserve balance unchanged. The funding from the new commissioning bodies was received regularly in response to LBF invoices during 2014/15. It is anticipated that funding will continue in 2016/17.

The careful management of the available funds has enabled the discontinuation of the membership fee for 2015/16.

All LBF staff continue to support the financial functions and supply a high level of commitment to providing the required services.

The financial accounts for 2014/15 have now been examined by WYCAS for accuracy and authorised by all parties, copies available. WYCAS continue to offer advice and practical help when required.

Should there be any queries regarding these accounts please contact Sue Watts, Manager, who will forward them to me for reply.

Christine A Richardson

Trustee and Honorary Treasurer

Evaluation 2014/15

Event	Date	Number of delegates	Topic
AGM	2014		
	29 October	17	Leeds LAS (Living After Loss Through Suicide)
Children and Young People Special Interest Group	2014		
	22 October	9	"How can we support young people around bereavement" The Market Place
	2015		
	25 February	20	"The Therapeutic Use of Stories in Childhood Loss and Bereavement"
Older Peoples Special Interest Group	2014		
	19 November	15	"Hospital to Home" Age UK
Death Cafe	2015		
	20 May	9	Dying Matters Week Death Cafe
Basic Bereavement Training	2014		
	30 October	18	Adult Social Care – Leeds City Council
	2015		
	28 January	6	Adult Social Care – Leeds City Council
	9 June	9	Adult Social Care – Leeds City Council
	10 October	18	Childminders
Conference	28 May	38	'Death and the Arts' how to deal with death and loss
Directory of Bereavement Services	247		

Evaluation

Leeds Bereavement Forum AGM Monday 29 October 2014

“Leeds LAS (Living After Loss Through Suicide)”

Excellent mix of the personal and the professional – showed how it’s done!

Clearly presented. Personal story moving and powerful.

17 Delegates 13 forms returned	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Overall structure of the day	0	0	8	5
Content	0	0	5	8
Judith Hodgson	0	0	1	12

Thank you Judy for your very moving personal account of your loss.

Judy was excellent, thanks.

Good news for Leeds. Hope this exciting venture does well.

Well presented even though talking about her experience must have been painful.

Leeds Bereavement Forum Conference Thursday 28 May 2015

"How We Deal With Death and Loss" alternative ways to view bereavement

Many thanks for the fascinating conference. I really enjoyed it.

An excellent study day. A good balance of speakers. Thank you.

Thought provoking and fascinating – really good day.

38 Delegates 26 forms returned	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Overall structure of the day	0	0	14	12
Content	0	0	10	16
Judith Hodgson	0	0	11	12
Ian Leech	0	0	7	19
Jacqui McGuire	0	0	17	9
Ellie Harrison	0	0	7	19

Really excellent content.

Fantastic conference. I feel inspired and motivated to go back to work.

Really enjoyed the day. Thank you!!

I felt there was a real mix of speakers.

Judith Hodgson

A really warm humorous and intelligent presentation, informative and useful.

Found myself exploring the paintings myself in great detail! Very interesting.

Shared useful experience.

I will be looking up some of the artists – thanks for sharing.

Interesting art – got me looking outside the box.

Ian Leech

Empathy and warmth demonstrated – excellent - making the attraction to such a delicate subject.

Fantastic speech.

Both touching and fascinating particularly about the school work.

Great ideas. Good presentation. Upsetting at times so personal.

Very informative, interesting and has given me great ideas for my own practice.

Got good ideas in regards to client work.

A funny, enthusiastic and lively presenter.

Jacqui McGuire

Fantastic resources and chance to network – very useful.

Good interactive and informative presentation with useful resources, promoting further discussions.

Very helpful, lots of transferable ideas.

Enjoyed the interaction and got some great ideas.

Fun to take part.

Wonderful ideas, valuable.

Ellie Harrison

She is special and talented. Should be on TV. **Loved it.**

Fabulous, very interesting and thought provoking.

Absolutely fabulous production. Very cleverly done.

Absolutely fabulous production, fully of energy.

Another thought provoking session. Great Artist.

Very wonderful, thanks.

Basic Bereavement Training

Really lovely approach by both trainers – put me at ease straight away.

Lots of handouts to look at later – brilliant. Thank you.

Well delivered content.

Good to remember how important to listen- properly listen.

Basic Bereavement Training				
Attendees 51	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
How confident were you to work with bereavement at the start of the training?	16	30	4	1
How confident are you to work with bereavement now?	0	17	27	7
Facilitators	0	1	14	27
Workshops	0	1	22	28
Content	0	1	23	27

I was unsure of what to expect, but on reflection this has helped me greatly on a personal level.

Brilliant, very informative and reassuring.

Low key, accessible group work session on a very sensitive subject. I enjoyed it thank you.

Excellent delivery.

Equal Opportunities Evaluation

Basic Bereavement Training					
Age	16-24 (1)	25-34 (3)	35-44 (13)	45-54 (17)	55+ (17)
Gender	Male (4)	Female (47)			
Disabled	Yes (3)	No (48)			
Ethnic origin	White British (47)	Polish (1)	Indian (1)	Bangladeshi (1)	White and Black Caribbean (1)

Conference 28 May 2015					
Age	16-24 (0)	25-34 (6)	35-44 (2)	45-54 (6)	55+ (9)
Gender	Male (2)	Female (20)			
Disabled	Yes (1)	No (22)			
Ethnic origin	White British (19)	Indian (1)	Iranian (1)	White European (1)	Welsh (1)

Leeds *Bereavement* Forum

Websites

2014	
September	334
October	301
November	307
December	218
2015	
January	383
February	325
March	333
April	313
May	366
June	276
July	283
August	265
September	262

The Leeds Bereavement Forum would like to thank the following organisations for their loyal support:

Bereavement Liaison St James University Hospital

Bradford Community Palliative Care Team

Catholic Care

Chaplaincy Department St James University Hospital

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service Leeds

Cruse Bereavement Care

Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe Project for Elders (HOPE)

Home-Start Leeds

Hull City Council

Inner East Cluster Lincoln Field Centre Leeds

Just 'B' Bereavement Care Harrogate

Leeds IAPT Service Leeds Community Healthcare

Marie Curie Hospital

Martin House Children's Hospice

Menston and Burley Bereavement Care Group

Middleton Community Clinic Leeds

PICU Leeds General Infirmary

Regional Specialist Team Leeds General Infirmary

Relate Leeds (Mid Yorkshire)

Rotherham Hospice

Rothwell St Mary's RC Primary School

Springhill Hospice Rochdale

St Gemma's Hospice Leeds
STEP (Supporting The Elderly People)
Sue Ryder Wheatfields Hospice
The Hospice Of The Good Shepherd Chester
Wakefield Hospice
Women's Counselling and Therapy Service
Womens Health Matters

Leeds Bereavement Forum would like to thank those individual members for their loyal support over the years.

Organisations Leeds Bereavement Forum has had contact with during 2014/2015

Adult Social Care Leeds

Age UK Wakefield District

Audley Care Ltd Ilkley

Bradford Bereavement Care

Care and Repair Leeds

Carers Leeds

Catholic Care

Childhood Bereavement Network

Leeds Cruse Bereavement Care

Doing Good Leeds

Elliot's Footprint

Fulneck School Independent Day and Boarding School Leeds

Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe Project for Elders (HOPE)

Healthy Lives Leeds

Home Start Leeds

Just 'B' Bereavement Care Harrogate

Leeds Children Hospital (PICU) Leeds General Infirmary

Leeds City Council

Leeds Safeguarding Board

Leeds South and East Commissioning Group

Leeds Suicide Bereavement Service

Leeds Survivor Led Crisis Service

Leeds Teaching Health NHS Trust
Leeds University
Levi Star
Levis Angels
Lincoln Fields Medical Centre Leeds
Marie Curie
Martin House Hospice Leeds
Meanwood Health Centre Leeds
Menston and Burley Bereavement Care Group
Leeds MIND
Person to Person Listening Service
Prince of Wales Hospice Pontefract
Public Health Leeds City Council
Ramshead Approach Supported Living Service Leeds
Relate Leeds (Mid Yorkshire)
Rotherham Hospice
Sad Events Team
Samaritans Leeds
Scott Hall Grove Respite and Emergency Service
Shakespeare Primary School Leeds
Sinai Synagogue Welfare
SOBS
Springfield Hospice Rochdale
St Gemma's Hospice Leeds

St Giles Hospice Lichfield

St Giles Trust Leeds

St James University Hospital Bereavement Office

Sue Ryder Care, Wheatfields Hospice Leeds

Tenfold (Leeds Voluntary Sector Learning Disabilities Forum)

The Market Place

Volition

Winifred Taylor Ltd York

Winston's Wish

WYCAS