



# Annual Report 2017

# Introduction

Hello everyone and welcome to this year's Annual General Meeting of BAFF, my name is Sam Samociuk.

This will be my last year serving on the Board and I am torn about leaving at such an exciting time in the development of this wonderful charity, but more of that later. BAFF has not only continued to offer its range of groups, activities and days out over the last year, but they have also nurtured the soil and battled the elements to grow fruit and vegetables, they have had encounters with very angry wasps and been the guests of royalty. Not bad for a small group from Beeston?

I am writing this on the morning of Yorkshire Day and how fitting it is to reflect on the people who work so hard to make BAFF work for their community and the qualities of the Yorkshire spirit and character. The staff and volunteers of BAFF work tirelessly, they do this with a generosity of spirit and care for each other which in my experience is unequalled anywhere.

They have Yorkshire grit and determination and although at times daunted, they collectively have a 'can do' attitude which helps them to scale obstacles. But, more than anything at their centre is Love. They all began this many years ago to give their children and family members a more integrated, socially inclusive life, with fun, excitement and relationships - just like anybody else. They have succeeded.

Their efforts, heart and integrity have also been recognised by Royalty! BAFF was given an award by the Duke of York's Community Initiative and representatives had a day out to meet the great and the good in London. But even more than that, our big news is that we are getting a new building. The old Community Centre is being demolished and there is funding for a new, two storey, Centre with a car park and new entrance. The possibilities for the future are enormous and BAFF, along with other community groups, have the opportunity to grow and develop further than ever before.

As I said at the beginning this is my last year as Chair of the Trustees and I am stepping down from the Board at this AGM. I would like to thank everyone from BAFF, particularly, Lynn and Kausar and Naseem, who were the original driving force, for welcoming me into their world all of those years ago when we met at the University and I hope that in some small way I have helped.

We could not do this work without our funders, so a massive thank you to them and I hope that they will continue to support this fantastic charity.

Finally, it is now the right time for someone from the Trustees, who knows this world inside out, to lead the group into a bright and exciting future. So, goodbye, enjoy the day, and thanks for the laughs and the samosas!

G 'Sam' Samociuk  
Chair of the BAFF Board of Trustees  
AGM September 2017



# A Message from Lynn

Hi Everyone – I can't believe it's that time once again for the BAFF AGM and I'm pulling information together for our annual report. We have had another wonderful year when all the groups have been busy thanks to all the hard work from our super volunteers and workers who always go that extra mile. It was our first year on the allotment and we were so excited to win 2nd and 3rd prizes for our vegetables at the Middleton Produce Fair. Another piece of brilliant news was that we were chosen for a Duke of York Community Initiative Award this gives us Royal Approval of Excellence and we can now use their logo. Four members attended the awards ceremony at Huddersfield University where the award was presented to BAFF by the High Sheriff of West Yorkshire. Three members were also invited to St James's Palace London to meet His Royal Highness The Duke of York. The good news still goes on and Health for All have received lottery funding to have a brand new Community Centre in Beeston, so BAFF will have a new base in 2018.

The Carers Reference Group have also been very busy attending 2 days training for wills & trusts and planning for the future for our siblings who we care for. Also Graham Firth delivered Intensive Interaction training at St Mary's Hospital to the group members. We have had many organisations attend the meetings to hear the views of carers and to get their input.

Good Lives Leaders – received the Leeds Volunteer Kitemark for best scheme recognising all the good work the project do. We visited 37 services over the last year and put changes in place so people with learning disabilities can have a better life.



Well, I'm running out of space but would just like to say a massive thank you to the funders, everyone who support BAFF and to the Board of Trustees. A really big, big thank you to Sam who has been the BAFF Chair for many, many years and is stepping down this year. We will all miss him so much and wish him all the best in his future ventures.

Hope you all enjoy the BAFF annual report and all the comments from our members. Thank you. - Lynn

# Social Group

Loved working  
with BAFF it's a  
privilege - Julie

It's fantastic -  
Leanne

Leanne & Kelly relax at the Monday Social Group





Jackie & Suzie enjoying the belly dancing

## Exercise Sessions

Likes the music,  
dancing, games  
& everyone who  
comes to the  
group - Suzie

I like playing  
boccia & games in  
circuits - Andrew

# Walking Group

Great fun & we get exercise - Chris

Gets me out of the house & gives me something to do instead of playing on the Xbox - Cameron

Lovely morning at Rodley Nature Reserve



# Family Fun

Ajay comes for football on Wednesday which I like - Alfie

Like to socialise & to see Alfie happy with his friends - Jess

Craig helps Rosie with her sewing project



Fantastically positive BRILL



Ab Fab. We need more of these brilliant events



I loved performing singing, keyboard and showcasing my skills to the public







I really enjoyed the  
BAFF meeting it was  
good to see great things  
happening in Leeds



Nice to see people working  
for others benefits



# Allotment

I like to see the finished product & eating the fruit & vegetables makes me feel proud knowing we've grown them ourselves - Becky

Can't believe we don't know what we are doing & tiny seeds turn into beautiful vegetables. We are learning all the time - Jackie

Noah helps with the digging at the allotment



# Good Lives Leaders

BAFF support the carers of the Good Lives Leaders project & it's good to see how we work together as a team to help give people with learning disabilities a better life for the future - Lynn

A chance to change peoples lifes & promote a more positive outlook - Yvonne

Good Lives Leaders celebration





Intensive Interaction Training with Graham Firth

## Carers Reference Group

BAFF facilitate the carers reference group & it's really good to see carers having a voice to make changes for adults with learning disabilities & their families - Lynn

I think it gives carers a chance to share information & pull resources together from other organisations - Liz

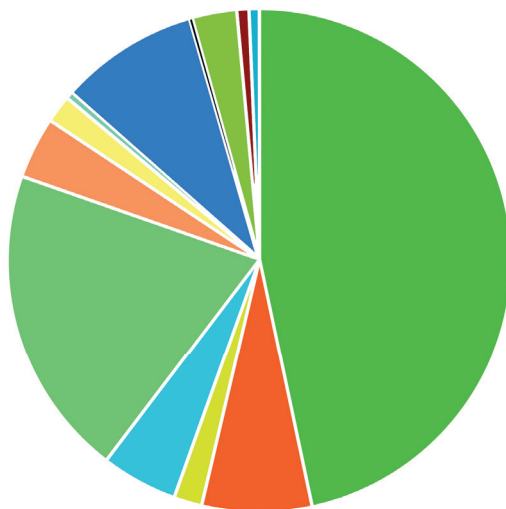
## Income

Year Ended - 31 March 2017



## Expenditure

Year Ended - 31 March 2017



# BAFF Board of Trustees 2016/2017

**Gerald 'Sam' Samociuk** - I have been involved with BAFF for many years, as a member of the Steering Group which led to the current Board of Trustees. I am no longer able to continue as a Trustee and Chair of the group and so am standing down this year. I want to wish the next board members, staff and volunteers all the very best wishes for the future.

**Pat McGeever** - I really believe in BAFF's aims and its work for people with learning disabilities and their families. I have been involved since BAFF was first established, helping in the background with advice regarding small grants. I think all the groups and activities that BAFF are running or are involved in are really beneficial to people in the community and would like to see BAFF become even more successful and effective in the future.

**Kausar Iqbal** - I am a sister carer for 2 brothers with learning disabilities. I have been involved in BAFF since its inception.

**David Hill** - I am a person with a learning disability and like to attend the Trustee meetings to have my voice heard.

**Alia Nessa** - I am a parent & carer and I would like to continue to be a BAFF trustee as I believe in the fantastic work they achieve and the difference they make to individual lives & families. I would like to give my support in helping BAFF to continue this invaluable work and develop further.

**Rebecca Mitchell** - I find that being a trustee helps me have a voice, enabling me to make decisions that can help people in the local community.

**Jackie Hartley** - As I am a parent of a child with a disability and carer, I have dealt with many obstacles and feel that my input will benefit the organisation.

**Leanne Benson** - I want to be a trustee to make a difference for people with learning disabilities.

**Yvonne Ugarte** - As I am a local parent/carer, I feel that being on the Board would enable me to signpost strategies to help the needs of our community.

**Celine Laycock** - I try to contribute as a Trustee to make a difference for people with a learning disability.

**Rita Metcalfe** - I am already involved in the group and interested in planning for the future.

**Martin Brennan** - I would like to continue in my role as a BAFF trustee so as to continue to influence how adults with a learning disability are treated. BAFF is a person centred organisation with equality and respect at the heart of their values. I would like to help steer the project to continue on with these aims.

**Tony Dawson** - I want to make adults with learning disabilities more independent and I would like them to have more things to do. I want to help other people with learning disabilities.

**Cllr Adam Ogilvie** - I would like to continue been a Trustee to help support BAFF in the work that they do. I feel passionately about the need for better provision for carers and their families and hope I would be able to add value to the Board of Trustees.



# BAFF Aims & Mission Statement

## MISSION STATEMENT:

Working to...

Improve the lives of people with learning disabilities and their families in Leeds, through targeted and inclusive action.

## BAFF AIMS

- Our main priority is to focus on an inclusive service that will benefit parent/carers, people with learning disabilities and their families.
- To widen and improve partnerships with other similar organisations.
- To run weekly groups to promote health and build confidence for parent/carers, people with learning disabilities and their families.
- To create job opportunities for parent/carers and people with learning disabilities.

# Thank you's

We would like to say a massive thank you to our funders:

Streetgames-Door Step Club

Arise

Awards for All

Comic Relief

Greggs

Morrisons

GiveLoveLeeds Fund

Leeds City Council-MICE

Adult Social Care

Good Lives Leaders

Carers Reference Group

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