

Heart4Harlow Newsletter

Church and Community
Working Together



It all starts with prayer...

The Cross is the biggest Political Event of History

When the early Christians chose the name 'church', they used the name for a community gathering.

'Church' was what happened when the town clerk called people together to address an important community issue.

The difference for Christians of course is that it is Christ who calls us together. And when we gather as church we are responding to Christ who calls all the community together.

For the Cross – with the Resurrection – is the biggest political event of history. All of life and all alive are summonsed to find life there!

One day this will be the case. In

the meantime we proclaim Christ as Lord of all and call all, that 'at the name of Jesus, every knee may bow'.

This means that there is no division between our faith as Christians and life as a whole. Just as Israel learnt that God was very much present outside the boundaries of their land, so Christ is with us in our places of work, our communities and anywhere we might find ourselves.

One way this has expressed itself is in Hope4Harlow - providing refuge for those without homes. It was over two years ago that someone brought this to one of our leaders forum as a matter of prayer. Various conversations



Photos on front page and to the left: Christ being proclaimed at the heart of our community

“This means that there is no division between our faith as Christians and the whole of life.”

followed and we were delighted to welcome Kerrie Eastman from Streets2Homes to one of our monthly prayer gatherings some months later.

Links were then made with GrowTH a church-based group doing excellent work in Tower Hamlets, London, who subsequently shared with us at another Leaders Forum.

Streets2Homes, Chocolate Run and ourselves partnered to

take things forward. Last January, and with further partners, four centres opened roughly once a week for a month. Indeed, one stayed open for three months!

We give thanks to God that all went smoothly and this year we have been able to build on this. Six centres are now involved, with the aim of covering January and February (and one is again aiming for longer!)



God is at work in all of life. There is no religious – secular divide. And he wonderfully answers prayer as we work in unity to ‘seek first his kingdom and what he requires of us’.

In addition this year we again celebrated at the Festival and the Heart4Harlow awards.

We are people of hope. And amidst all the sadness in our town during the summer it is also a key part of our witness to share in the sadness, as we were at the vigil.

We are salt and light as we heed Jeremiah’s words (29:7) and work for the good of all. And in this way we also point to Christ, who calls us together.

By our words and deeds his kingdom goes forward.

Thank you for your involvement with Heart4Harlow. We are delighted to invite all to join with us in mission and evangelism, in prayer, in partnering with our community, and if you are able in financial support of our initiatives. Details are below.

Martin Harris, Chair

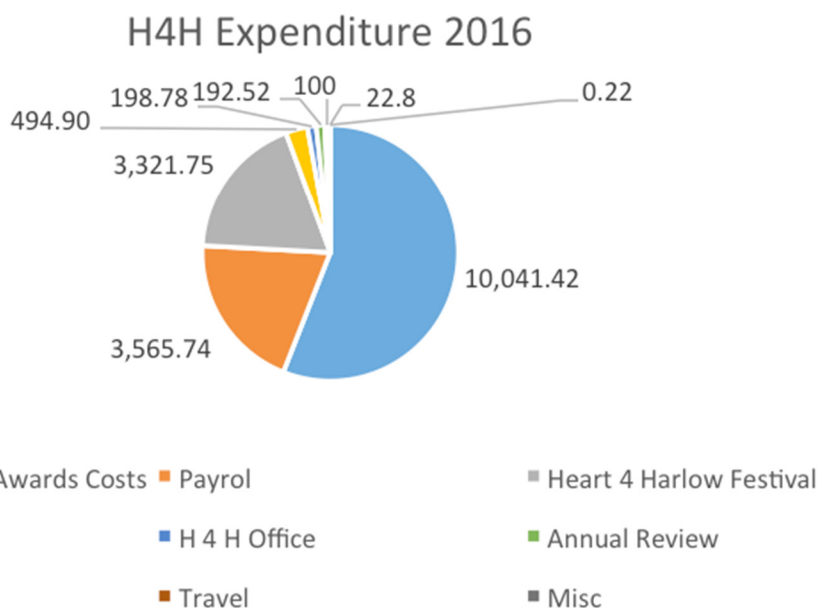
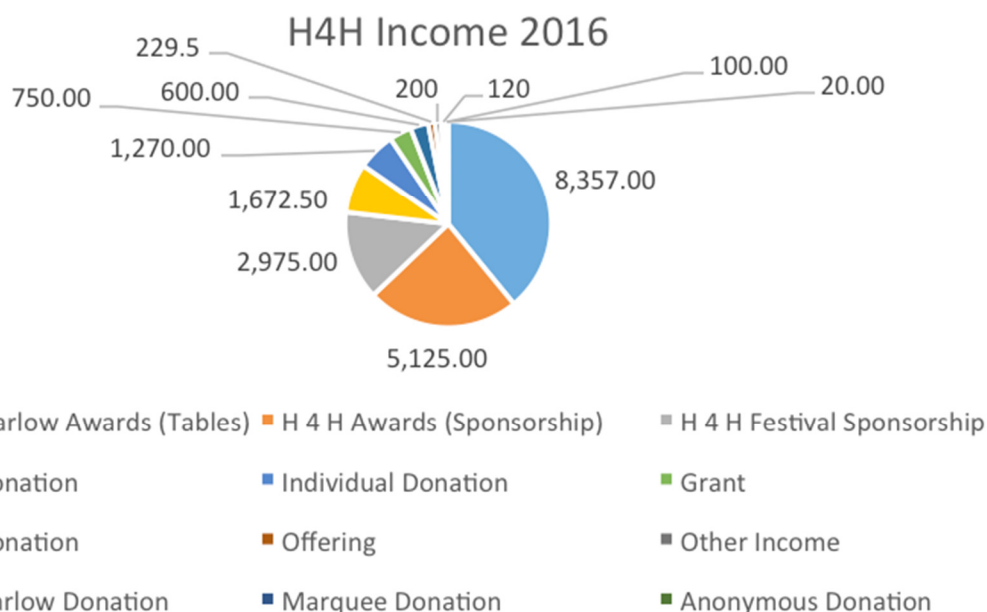
Heart 4 Harlow Finances 2016

Heart 4 Harlow received £21,419 in income last year (an increase of 11% on 2015), while our total Expenditure was £17,938 an increase of 2.5% on 2015). Balances at the end of the year were £13,886.

We are really pleased that we have been able to cover our costs in 2016 and, due largely to generous support for the awards, were able to increase our balances.

We give thanks to the generous support of individuals, charities, churches and companies who have enabled us to achieve so much in 2016.

Ron Kingsmill (Treasurer)



Please note all figures are prior to independent examination.

Robert Findlay, Town and Communities Chaplain, writes...

Harlow has a good history and a all people of good will work great future both welcoming and serving the world. together with a Heart 4 Harlow.

Harlow was one of ten “satellite” We welcome people of all towns proposed for London in nationalities and as PHE Abercrombie’s plan. He was greatly taken by the quality of the Landscape and by the villages’ proximity not only to London – Cambridge railway line but to the proposed new arterial road (M11). He said “It is relatively near the overcrowded East end industrial area and should prove for that reason an attractive one to develop”. We now see London as a global financial centre too.

Abercrombie’s thoughts and plans before Harlow new town was built reflect upon the great potential that our future holds for us in 2017, the 70th anniversary of the town.

We are grateful to God for the blessings that are coming to Harlow. Public Health England, The Enterprise Zone, global industries like O-I, Trucklite and the refurbishment of the Town Park.

All these illustrate that Harlow is a special place to live and work at the Heart of the M11 corridor.

The Church in Harlow has many congregations and expresses the love of Christ in local ways and through town wide endeavours like Foodbank,

Streets 2 Homes, Street Pastors and Hope 4 Harlow.

The church also proclaims a message of hope for this life and beyond the grave too. God has a Heart 4 Harlow and

Heart4Harlow is a registered charity

Charity Number 1160547

Donaions can be made online through our website, or by cheque of BACS by contacting our administrator on 01279 883662.

