



## Annual Report 2017

### *Where we are and what we do*

The RSResource Centre operates from rented accommodation within the Vine Community Centre at St. Stephen's Church on Bobbers Mill Road in Nottingham, and is managed by Rev'd Ken Johnson.

We assist schools to enhance their delivery of RE through the items we have available for loan or through our Faith Experiences. The Centre is also the office of Nottingham Inter Faith Council. Together we try to answer a range of enquiries made to us from various communities.

Through an annual subscription of £15 per academic year, subscribers can borrow artefacts / books / DVDs from our range to enhance their work in Religious Education. Orders are placed on line; collected from the Reception at The Vine, to where they are returned after use.

The Centre Manager voluntarily gives his time to run and to communicate the work of the Centre, which is affiliated to the Federation of RE Centres operating across the country. He currently serves as the Secretary of the Nottinghamshire County Council **Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education**.

Through consulting our web site, teachers can find out about what is happening in RE and can consult the County **SACRE** pages which are hosted on our web site.

Our Management Committee, which meets termly is composed of representatives from our various stakeholders. The RSCentre is self financing, receiving no financial assistance from any authority.

### *The year gone by*

We have continued to operate from within the Vine Community and we have hosted meetings in the centre. We continue to be grateful for the willingness of the Vine Reception staff to assist with the handing out of loan orders and receiving them back for us. This service enables us to assist schools in their development of good RE through the use of artefacts.



We have welcomed visitors from schools and other groups to the Centre to view the resources we have available, though this needs to be arranged in advance. Most of the administration of the Centre is done away from the Centre itself which is why we ask for 7 working days notice for loans.

### **Conferences and Courses**

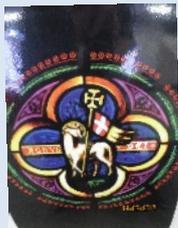
The RSCentre has been represented at various courses and conferences held within Nottinghamshire. This year saw us invited to a day conference at Cardiff University due to our involvement with diversity through faith experiences. We were invited to give a presentation to a meeting of teachers at Lincoln University. Later in the year we accepted an invitation to give a keynote to a meeting held at Wolverhampton University on the need for qualified RE teachers and the work of faith experiences. We were also represented at the Federation of RE Centres Conference held in Durham over several days.



## Faith Experiences during 2017

We have visited schools to deliver Faith Experiences in; Bramcote, Retford, Selston, Worksop, Newark, Hucknall, Beeston, Chilwell, Collingham, Mansfield, Eastwood, Arnold, Long Eaton & Poolsbrook in Derbyshire as well as Glenbrook & St Ann's Well Academy in Nottingham. In some of these locations we have visited more than one school as well as delivering several experiences in the same school having worked with around 3,600 young people in total. We also worked in one special school this year which was rewarding to see how interested the young people were.

We are grateful to those who offer practical support in any way to our experiences. It is through the work of the Faith Experiences that we raise the finances to run the centre and develop our work. Though we try to replicate what it would be like in a place of worship we do modify the content to fit in with requests; so we have offered sessions on Diwali, Hanukah, Simchat Torah and beliefs.



### Teacher evaluations from 2017 from some of the schools we visited

“Loved the range of activities & the humorous delivery”

“Fantastic – the children love these experiences”

“A very informative experience that brought a Gurdwara to our school for all to enjoy”

“A great way to bring it to life in the classroom and make it feel more exciting & real.”

“An excellent experience led by engaging people that the children enjoy learning from”

“Everything was well covered Children were asking at break to look at churches worldwide.”

“The resources were fabulous & transformed my classroom into a beautiful meditative space.”

“A fantastic kinesthetic, tangible experience for the pupils - an experience that they will remember for a long time! “

“An interesting experience for the children, rich with learning & delivered by knowledgeable experts on a child-friendly level”

“Fantastic experience, educated the children and allowed them to be curious & ask questions.”

“ A super session, encouraging questioning and thinking whilst being informative and highly enjoyable.”

“A truly worthwhile experience for pupils living in a community that is basically non religious”

### Our Web site

We continue to host the Nottinghamshire SACRE pages, details of courses offered in the County and our termly newsletters as well as links to various resources.

Our RSResource Centre Manager currently edits the newsletter of the Federation of RE Centre which links us with the work of RE Centres across the Country as well as giving us representation on the RE Council of England and Wales.



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Nottingham RS Resources

