

### Executive Committee (at 31/12/14)

Melinda Connelly – BBC Children in Need  
Peter Hughes – Charity Bank  
David Owen – Rubery Owen Holdings Charity  
Donald Payne – Bewley Charitable Trust (Vice Chairman)  
Debbie Pippard – Barrow Cadbury Trust  
Pauline Roche – Individual member (Chair)  
Steven Simpson – Harborne Parish Lands Charity (Treasurer)  
Barbara Welford – Grantham Yorke Charitable Trust (resigned December 2014)  
The Committee met 4 times during the year and the meetings were generously hosted by Anthony Collins Solicitors and Harborne Parish Lands Charity.

### Thanks

The Committee would like to take the opportunity to thank:

Barrow Cadbury Trust for providing additional funds to take forward plans to develop the work and services of the Group to its members. Barbara Welford who stepped down as a member of the Executive Committee in October 2014. Barbara was a Committee member of CTWM for many years and we would like to thank her for her valuable contribution to the work of the organisation.

We would also like to thank Dipali Chandra, the CTWM Secretary, for her valuable and dedicated services and our colleagues on the Executive Committee for the hard work they have put into CTWM's activities and development

### Events calendar 2014

**Thursday 30th January -Workshop: Legal Structures for Charitable Activities Shivaji Shiva, Anthony Collins Solicitors, Melanie Mills, Social Enterprise WM @ Anthony Collins solicitors (Attendance 20)**

**Tuesday 27th March - ABM and Talk: Reflections and a review of the state of the West Midlands. Speaker: Professor Pete Alcock, Director, Centre for Third Sector Research, University of Birmingham @ BBC Children in Need (Attendance 22)**

**Thursday 29th April - Roundtable discussion: Strategic Regional Funding -London Funders Forum, David Warner, CEO @ Anthony Collins Solicitors (Attendance 16)**

**Thursday 24th July - Roundtable Discussion: Supporting charities with deficits: Is this the best use of grants @ Anthony Collins Solicitors (Attendance 15)**

**Wednesday 17th September - Seminar: Imran Hussain, CPAG Review of welfare reforms and impact on charities and funders @ Midland Arts Centre (Attendance 21)**

**Monday 22nd September – Roundtable Discussion: Roundtable discussion: Core funding versus project funding: should trusts review their priorities? Gilly Green, Comic Relief, Peter Cunnison Lloyds Foundation, Martin Holcombe, Fentham Trust @ Harborne Parish Lands Charity (Attendance 19)**

**Wednesday 13th November - Annual Autumn event: Speaker: Mark Rogers, CE, Birmingham City Council: "Over and Out" @ Chantrey Vellacott (Attendance 39)**



# Charitable Trusts West Midlands ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Mark Rogers, CE,  
Birmingham City Council,  
with CTWM Executive  
Committee members,  
Secretary and Nick Simkins,  
Chantrey Vellacott on right.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS WEST MIDLANDS is a network of charitable trusts and foundations that operate across the West Midlands. It exists to support the development of effective, sustainable, independent grant making practice in the West Midlands. Charitable Trusts West Midlands does this by providing opportunities to share and learn from each others experience of grant giving; explore matters of common concern and forge productive relationships that contribute to the wider benefits and overall sustainability of the region's voluntary and community sector. The organisation also aims to provide a route for charitable trust funders to be able to engage formally with private and public funders and their networks to increase opportunities for co-ordination and collaboration to better meet the needs of the diverse communities in the region.

[www.ctwm.net](http://www.ctwm.net)  
@westmidfunders

## DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITIES 2014

With the help of the final year's grant from Barrow Cadbury Trust (@BarrowCadbury) grant we continued working on membership development, focussing on marketing and communications. We engaged Sally Edwards (@SpotOnCIC), a Marketing & Communications specialist, to advise us on improving our marketing and communicating our messages more professionally. We continue to strive to increase our membership each year, especially by smaller trusts, and we hope improved communications will help with this.

Our Twitter account (@westmidfunders) continues to be maintained by our Chair Pauline Roche (@paulineroche). We now have 284 followers (+72), we are following 189 others (+26) (including the members who are also on Twitter) and we have tweeted 704 (+174) times. We continue to use hashtags for our events to spread news about our work and connect with others doing similar work, and use this route to circulate information and promote members' work. We are still retweeting members' tweets as a priority, and have added this facility as a service to the membership.

Our new constitution is making our governance more fit for purpose.

Last year we introduced quarterly e-bulletins instead of a newsletter, which has saved both time and postage, and has enabled a wider circulation of the newsletter amongst the members – both staff and trustees.

Our ABM in March 2014, kindly hosted by BBC Children in Need (@BBCCiN), featured a local speaker, Dr Pete Alcock from the Third Sector Research Centre (@3rdSectorRC) at the University of Birmingham (@unibirmingham). The Centre works to enhance knowledge through independent and critical research and includes one member of CTWM amongst its supporters.

In January 2014 we held a workshop on Charitable Legal structures and social enterprise. The discussion was facilitated by Shivaji Shiva (@ShivajiShivaLaw), Charity Associate, Anthony Collins Solicitors (@ACSLLP) and Sallie Ryan, representing Melanie Mills (@Melanie\_SEWM) from Social Enterprise West Midlands (@\_SEWM).

In April David Warner, CEO of London Funders network (@LondonFunders) spoke to us about the history of London Funders Forum, its Strategic Regional Funding approach working with London Voluntary Service Council (@LVSCnews) and the challenges posed by this approach. Members considered what relevance this approach could have to the West Midlands.

The roundtable meeting in July focussed on the topic of 'Supporting charities with deficits: Is this the best use of grants'? Fred Rattley (@fredrattley), Director, Community Regeneration, Diocese of Birmingham (@cofebirmingham) and Trustee, Grantham Yorke Trust, Melinda Connelly, Regional Manager, BBC Children in Need (@BBCCiN), facilitated a discussion on how trusts and foundations are responding to voluntary organisations who have seen a significant dip in their reserves to maintain to survive the difficulties of an economic recession and public sector cuts to maintain service levels.

In September, we held the 2nd of our annual members networking event at the mac (@mac\_birmingham) (arts charity funded by several CTWM members), where Imran Hussain, Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) (@CPAGUK), was the key speaker on the CPAG Review of welfare reforms and its impact on charities and funders.

In September we also held a roundtable discussion on 'Core funding versus project funding asking should trusts review their priorities'? Speakers were Gilly Green, Comic Relief (@comicrelief), Peter Cunnison, Lloyds Bank Foundation (@LBFEW) and Martin Holcombe (MartinHolcombe) representing the Fentham Trust.

Our annual Autumn event in October saw us hosting the new Chief Executive of Birmingham City Council (@BhamCityCouncil), Mark Rogers (@MKMRogers), kindly hosted once again by Chantrey Vellacott (@CVDVK). Drawing on his perspective of not only a large local authority but also as President of SOLACE (@Solace\_UK) the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives, Mark spoke eloquently on the future of local authorities, in a speech provocatively entitled 'Over and Out'. This was followed by a lively discussion with the audience, members and non-members, facilitated by our Chair.

CTWM is working to remain an essential and challenging network for trusts and foundations, and for the voluntary and community sector, and to build on our partnerships and potential alliances with other relevant regional organisations, including emerging networks

### Membership

At the end of December 2014 there were 30 Trusts, 2 associate organisations, 5 individual members and 6 honorary members (two ACF staff, Erik Pearse, Northern Rock Foundation). The total membership based on subscriptions paid is 78 (Trusts can nominate up to 3 members per subscription)