



**Leeds  
Church  
Institute**

---

**ANNUAL  
IMPACT REPORT  
2021**



**[www.LCILEeds.org](http://www.LCILEeds.org) | @LCILEeds**

# INTRODUCTION BY THE VICE CHAIR (LAY) OF LEEDS CHURCH INSTITUTE

---

I am pleased to be able to introduce this year's Annual Impact Report.

2021 has been a year of both consolidation and also of change. Consolidation in so far as the new premises on The Calls have been arranged and are gradually coming into full use. It is pleasing to see that there is such good use of the space and the flexibility that the open plan gives to the Institute.

Change will always be a function of the LCI, as the work being achieved is vibrant and ready to meet the needs of Leeds, both theologically, as well as with a desire to communicate in a variety of ways. The desire to promote theology through the arts is a strong feature of the work. Please note all the activities that have taken place at LCI this year.

Mention must also be made of the partnerships that have been built up by sharing the offices with Leeds Sanctuary and Leeds Citizens - this is a feature which inevitably supports the development of work at LCI.

We have had changes too at Council membership and gratitude must be given to those who have served with diligence and commitment.

As we look to 2022, LCI will continue to be an Institute responding to the needs of Leeds in faithful learning and effective engagement.

**Canon Ann Nicholl**

# REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

---

2021 began with a third lockdown and there were varying degrees of restrictions during the rest of the year. In this context, LCI pursued a policy of hybrid working, that is both online and in person, seeking to engage as fully as possible with members and with city life. This meant it was a year for staff to keep learning and experimenting with new event formats, technology, communications and topics. This work reached people through events, podcasts, blogs, publications and videos.

The work focussed on six different themes:

- Social Justice
- Theology and the Arts
- City Life
- Ecology and Theology
- Ecumenical Mission and Learning
- City Engagement

## Social Justice

LCI was a partner in a series of events and blogs on the theme of 'Power to the People' as part of the Leeds Piano Trail.

LCI began supporting schools to engage with the Schools of Sanctuary Award Scheme. This work will continue throughout 2022.

## Theology and the Arts

LCI published *Reflections. A Poet-Theologian in Lockdown Leeds* by Hannah Stone. Copies of this book were sold on request and sent free of charge to Care Homes in Leeds.

The House of Questions Exhibition (from the 2020 Bursary) was hosted by Epiphany Church Gipton, and a second Theology and Arts Bursary ran in 2021.



Power to the People Event Piano

# REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

---

## City Life

- LCI was part of the Creating Connections event at City Hall, run with the Religion and Media Centre. LCI facilitated the contribution of three speakers on Faith and Art, and there was a special focus on Faith and Media in the CITYtheology Winter Edition.
- LCI completed the third and final phase of the research into church responses to the pandemic. Findings were published in a special focus CITYtheology Spring Edition. LCI co-established a group of different organisations who had undertaken research during the pandemic and the group worked towards a joint publication to be ready for dissemination in January 2022.

## Ecology and Theology

- LCI held a book launch for *Praying for the Earth* by Rob Kelsey featuring Noel Moules as keynote speaker.
- The delayed Hook Lecture 2020 was given by Revd Dr Frances Ward, titled A New Moral Ecology for a World where Climate Catastrophe is Real.
- The Hook Lecture 2021 was given by Dr Carmody Grey, titled What do we want to sustain? Thinking about Faith and Climate Change.

## Ecumenical Mission and Learning

- LCI distributed the Leeds Lent Prayer Diary to all members, held four separate online events for the Leeds Lent Prayer Diary, posted a daily mission focus on the website throughout Lent and published a special focus on mission projects in CITYtheology Summer edition. There was very positive feedback about the theme of 'Hope' which resonated with people and projects' sense of the current time as precarious and full of potential.

## City Engagement

- Leeds Church Institute entered the fifth year of its partnership with Leeds Citizens with a focus on building leadership in faith communities and reflecting on economic, spiritual, religious and social life in Leeds. Work was carried out in the South Leeds area around developing community voice and action. The Community Organiser, Becky Howcroft, has written a series of reflections on the work of Citizens for the Leeds Church Institute website and CITYtheology.



# REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

**838 People  
attended  
events**



**4,342 views of  
events and  
recordings on  
YouTube and  
the LCI website**



**866 views of  
blogs related to  
events posted  
on the LCI  
website**



**House of Questions  
was a feature  
article in the  
Church Times (print  
circulation 20,000  
and 26,000  
subscriber views**



House of Questions Exhibition by Phill Hopkins

# PROPERTY AND PREMISES

---

At the start of 2021, LCI Council made the considered decision to sell the New Market Street property and look for new, smaller work premises that would meet the requirements for future working. As with the decision in 2020 to not re-open the Learning Centre, this process was guided by sustainability concerns and re-invigorating the commitment to the promotion of religion and education as in our charity objectives.

Following professional advice, LCI first sought to acquire the outstanding head lease relating to the property because a clean and marketable title will enhance value and marketability. After protracted negotiations, the head lease was finally acquired in December.

In June, LCI signed a five year lease on the Lower Ground level of 43 The Calls, Leeds, LS2 7EY. The premises is equipped to be a place of work, meeting and partnership shared with Leeds Sanctuary and Leeds Citizens. Staff began to work from the premises as covid-related restrictions allowed.



43 The Calls Leeds



# ACHIEVEMENTS



**LCI were a finalist in the Leeds Compassionate City Awards 2021 in the Diversity Project of the Year category.**



**We were a recognised National Living Wage Employer in 2021**

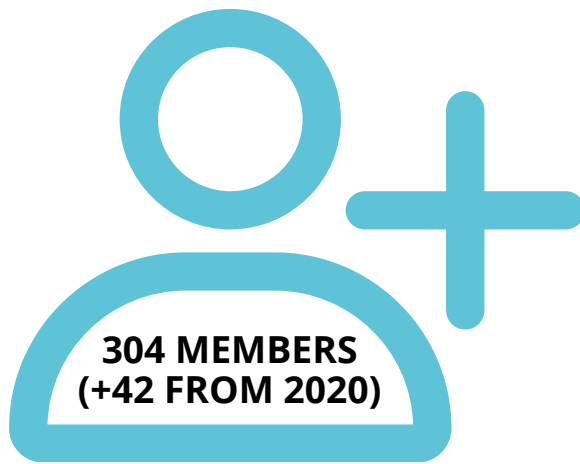


**Dr Helen Reid and Mrs Awais Dominic receiving Compassionate City Award Certificate**



# ACHIEVEMENTS

---



## Governance



Five LCI Council Meetings and an AGM  
New style Impact Report read by 160 people  
(online and printed copies)

# CITYtheology

The magazine of the Leeds Church





# FINANCIALS

During 2021, the pandemic continued to have an impact and LCI made some significant changes to its operations. The table below outlines the financial position at the end of 2021.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Total Income	219,506	233,691
Total Expenditure	335,189	396,898
Net Expenditure (before gains)	(115,683)	(163,207)
Net Gains on Investment	678,535	289,488
Net Income	562,852	126,281
Total Funds carried forward	6,878,003	6,315,151

The decrease in income during 2021 was a result of the cessation of income from the Learning Centre, however income from investments continued at the expected level, as did lease income. Expenditure was lower than in previous years due to the smaller staff team, no expenditure on running the (now closed) Learning Centre and fewer in-person events in the educational programme. There was significant expenditure on acquiring the head lease on 20 New Market Street, and marketing the building for sale will take place in 2022. Despite the operating loss experienced in 2021, the value of the Charity's investments increased. This resulted in an increase in the funds held at the year end.

For further information, the annual accounts are available to view on [www.LCILeeds.org](http://www.LCILeeds.org).

# DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

---



## Website Views:

2020 - 16676 views

2021 - 14884 views



## Twitter Followers

2020 - 889

2021 - 942



## Facebook Followers

2020 - 319

2021 - 396



## YouTube Subscribers

2020 - 3

2021 - 34

**The number of subscribers and followers across all social channels has increased significantly, representing new ways of digital engagement**



Leeds International Piano Competition 2021 - Final

# DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

Most listened to podcast:

Winter Hook Lecture 2021 –  
Thinking about Faith and the  
Climate, What do we want to  
sustain?



Most viewed YouTube content: Hook Lecture 2021

## Most popular Tweet

**Top Tweet** earned 2,039 impressions

Still time to book for this Friday 5th March,  
1pm poet theologian Hannah Stone  
[@LeedsLit](#) book launch based on uplifting  
& empathetic weekly reflections during  
pandemic for LCI as we continue in  
uncertain times [@LeedsInspired](#) #LLF21  
[buff.ly/3rCPArk](https://buff.ly/3rCPArk) [pic.twitter.com/eDJP5r6t4m](https://pic.twitter.com/eDJP5r6t4m)



## Most popular Facebook post



Leeds Church Institute

Published by Buffer · 27 July 2021

Tomorrow is our final day at @ephiphanygipton who have supported us in hosting the House of Questions Exhibition. If you haven't been yet or visited the church, this is a great opportunity and take part in a supported reflection workshop. [#goodnewsleeds](#) [#houseofquestions](#)





# PARTNERSHIPS AND PROJECT PARTNERS

---

- Leeds Citizens
- Leeds Lit Fest
- LCCT
- Leeds Sanctuary
- Leeds Minster
- Schools of Sanctuary
- Network Leeds
- William Temple Foundation
- Leeds Beckett University
- Gather Leeds
- Leeds University - School of Philosophy, Religion and History of Science



Sanctuary by artist Shaeron Caton  
Rose on permanent display at LCI

# LEEDS CHURCH INSTITUTE

---



**@LCILeeds**



**@LCILeeds**



**@Leeds Church Institute, LCI**

**[www.LCILeeds.org](http://www.LCILeeds.org)**

**43 The Calls**

**Leeds, LS2 7EY**

**0113 2454700**

**[info@leedschurchinstitute.org](mailto:info@leedschurchinstitute.org)**

**Charity no. 220966**

