

Annual Report 2013/2014



# Welcome Stephen Hardy MBE, Chairman



During 2013 ICET has funded 33 projects injecting £502,125 into local communities affected by landfill. The Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) via Environmental Bodies such as ours makes an essential contribution to help local projects that other funding streams would not. With that track record of success within our communities, I find it astonishing that in the 2014 Budget, the Government has chosen to denude the LCF of funds yet again. You may remember in 2003 the Labour Government slashed the funding of LCF by two thirds to fill a yawning hole

in local government funding. The Coalition Government then brought in a formula for funding which year on year has gradually reduced the amount of funding coming to LCF. For this Budget it has found another excuse to reduce still further the LCF's money, this time by a massive 10%. It wants the money to plug a gap in government finances, allegedly to help the Environment Agency fight 'waste crime'.

This is yet another attack on the good work of the LCF, and Environmental Bodies, quite apart from the operational controls that HM Treasury have recently imposed, affecting unnecessarily and unjustifiably the good governance of our scheme. As a result, I am afraid we will have to reduce yet again the amounts we are able to grant to worthy applications.

**I would like your views on this, to see if we can dissuade the Government from killing off the LCF and our own Trust by stealth. Please write to me at [shardy@ibstockcory.org.uk](mailto:shardy@ibstockcory.org.uk) and let me know if you are as stirred up by this as I am, as well as perhaps telling us how well you think Environmental Bodies, and ours in particular, work.**

ICET has always made it easy to submit an application. Angela Haymonds, our Trust Secretary, provides amazing assistance to all those wanting to make one. Her knowledge of our scheme and helpfulness make applying for funding much less daunting than for other grant making bodies. I would like to thank Angela personally and on behalf of my fellow Trustees and all the people and organisations who in the past year have benefited from her guidance and expertise. I should also like to thank my fellow Trustees for giving up their time to make the very difficult decisions about the winners and the losers, and the small team of advisers who support the Trust so ably.

**Stephen Hardy MBE, Chair,  
Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust, July 2014**

**PS - don't forget to let me have your views please**

The areas that the Trust is able to fund and welcome project applications for are in the following ENTRUST categories:

- A) reclaim land and bring it back into use for the community
- D) create or maintain public amenities and parks
- DA) conserve the environment and encourage biological diversity
- E) restore or repair buildings of religious, architectural or historical significance

# Supporting the Community

### St Stephen's Church Kitchen Project, Tonbridge

St Stephen's Church in Tonbridge, Kent is a very active church in the community. Every week it hosts Re:Fresh, an opportunity for anyone to come and enjoy tea, cake and a chat. Secondary school aged children come together on a Sunday Morning for a Big Breakfast, while the church's Bumps and Babes group attracts pregnant mums and anyone who looks after a baby to share their experiences over a cup of tea. Senior citizens also gather for nosh, natter and nurture sessions, dads enjoy a bacon sandwich while their toddlers play on a Saturday morning, and a number of community organisations use the church and its facilities to host their own events.

ICET provided £10,000 towards a new bespoke mobile kitchen that marks the completion of a five-year church restoration project. Previously the four volunteers had to move hot water urns and the washing up backwards and forwards from the church to kitchen facilities in another room down a bumpy corridor. This was limiting how many times they could provide catering each week.



The new kitchen took just four months to build and has a wide range of modern features. It has also allowed volunteers at St Stephen's Church to open more frequently throughout the week and welcome more community groups into the church.

### Webster Park Toddler Play Space, Kirkby, Merseyside

The play space in Webster Park began its rejuvenation in 2009 following a public consultation held by the Friends of Webster Park. The park is the only green space in Kirkby and had become run down and a host to crime and antisocial behaviour. The Friends of Webster Park set about changing this with the development of a Play Pathfinder play area, including picnic benches lighting and better footpaths. Play Pathfinder included the refurbishment of a toddlers' playing area that was becoming very old and would only have lasted a couple more years before becoming totally unsafe.

ICET provided £15,000 to fund a new play area that has helped rejuvenate the popularity of the park as parents bring their children to play on the new equipment. The play area includes a springy seat that is very popular and a see saw and roundabout that a host of children can play on together, including those with mobility problems. The most popular piece of equipment is the climbing frame with two different ways of getting on to it. The first is designed for children over the age of five while the second lets smaller and less mobile children play too.

Webster Park is now enjoying a new lease of life as crime has disappeared from the park and children have fun while their parents look on and socialise.



# Conserving the Environment

### Holywell Orchard, Stroud Valleys Project, Gloucestershire

Holywell Orchard is a 1.9 hectare green oasis in an urban part of Dursley. Located on the doorstep of a council estate, it provides a safe haven for children to play, whilst also affording a home to a rich diversity of native species, including orchids, butterflies and bats. In order to enhance and improve this fantastic natural resource,

ICET has provided £15,000 to fund a range of improvements that are aimed at enriching the biodiversity of the site. Over 20 volunteers have been working on the site to deliver this worthwhile project. The Stroud Valleys Project is leading the improvement programme and has had tremendous support from local people on the estate surrounding Holywell Orchard who volunteered to help. Their hard work is now paying off as they begin to see more wildlife making the orchard their home. The Holywell Orchard site includes a meadow and a small pond. Volunteers have been managing the meadow, raking out old growth and debris. Wild orchids now grow in the meadow.



They have also been clearing the pond, which had become overgrown with bullrushes. It has now been replanted with more native species, including yellow iris and water forget-me-not. The improvements have already encouraged bats to visit the pond to drink and feed at dusk.

### Heathland Restoration at Broadwater Warren

Broadwater Warren is a nature reserve owned and managed by the RSPB. ICET provided £15,000 to help fund a project to restore historic lowland heathland and improve visitor access. The heathland restoration work included removing 57 acres of non-native conifer trees and restoring 91 acres of original heathland. This is recognised as internationally important habitat that supports 28 rare and declining priority species in the reserve. After removing conifers work began on restoring a decoy pond and planting 350 native trees.

Things are improving already with sightings of a grey wagtail nesting on the island in the pond. Native butterfly species such as the Brimstone are being found in increasing numbers where the conifers have been removed. Woodlarks, tree pipits and other butterflies, such as Small Heath, Small Copper and some of the blues, are also flourishing. In addition the returning heather is blooming and already buzzing with bees. The work continues with a number of features to help visitors enjoy the site. New trails have been developed accompanied with new gates and benches to rest and observe the wildlife. New signs and interpretation boards let the growing numbers of visitors know more about the rare species they are likely to encounter as a result of the returning heathland.





# New facilities for Sport

### Dance Studio at Zion Christian Centre, Halesowen

The Third Place, part of Zion Christian Centre, in the heart of Halesowen, provides a hub for the local community. Young and old alike come together here to enjoy a wide variety of activities, from socialising at luncheon clubs, to playing indoor football. Support and advice is also provided to those who attend parent and toddler groups. The Third Place is an old warehouse style building that has been progressively refurbished to include a comprehensive range of facilities for the community. The latest refurbishment is a performing arts studio where hip hop and street dance will be taught.

Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust (ICET) has provided £19,000 to fund the creation of the new performing arts studio that will provide opportunities for young people to try street dance and help budding performers to hone their skills. The community youth group has 175 young people using the facilities every week, with growing interest in learning modern street dances. The project involved transforming an old storeroom through the installation of new

doors, seating, mirrors, a sound system, and a sprung floor dedicated for dance. The studio is proving popular with local dance groups and is also used by Phase Trust, a charity working in the Dudley borough to equip, inspire and transform the lives of young people.



### Grass Roots Project, Kewford Eagles FC, Wall Heath, Dudley

Kewford Eagles Football Club is a grass roots football club in Dudley. In 2005 it became a recognised community club by the FA, being awarded Charter Standard Community Club status. In 2006 it began looking at how it could secure a plot of land to create dedicated football pitches that could be used by the community. The quest to make Eagle Park a reality was born.

ICET has provided £30,000 of funding to help fund the building of football pitches in this exciting community project that encourages the local community to try football and benefit from the active lifestyle it brings. In April 2014 Eagle Park was launched in spectacular style, with hundreds of players of all ages, clad in green and white, together with twice as many parents, grandparents and friends of Kewford Eagles in attendance. Sir Trevor Brooking CBE, the club's special guest of honour, blew the whistle to commence play on the new pitches. Eagle Park will provide a great grass roots facility for the public and for local schools that do not have their own playing fields.

The club currently has over five hundred members, including 247 junior boys, 77 girls and ladies and 25 senior men. The club is also the inaugural Disability Football Club representing the whole of Dudley Borough with 45 registered disabled players.



# Restoring Historic Buildings

### Bilston Methodist Church and Community Centre, West Midlands

Bilston Methodist Church and Community Centre is at the heart of the community, providing an important venue for local activities. A host of community groups all enjoy its hospitality with over 1500 different events take place during the year. Originally built over 120 years ago, the weather had taken its toll and the building needed underpinning on one corner of its façade and the foundation stones need replacing.

ICET provided £10,000 to help reinforce the internal walls and preserve the exterior of this church. Local stonemasons refurbished the seven historic corner stones at the front of the building. The faces of the stones were so badly weathered that little of the inscriptions could be read. As the foundation stones were an important part of the church's heritage, the inscriptions could be determined from the original programme inviting people to the laying of the stones in 1896. Prominent people in the community at the time were recognised on the stones. These included Joseph

Sankey, a local industrialist manufacturing wrought iron on an international scale, who originally began business making tea trays from sheet iron.

The refurbished foundation stones will ensure that the prominent people, who helped shape Bilston, continue to be recognised.



### Upper Ettingshall Methodist Church

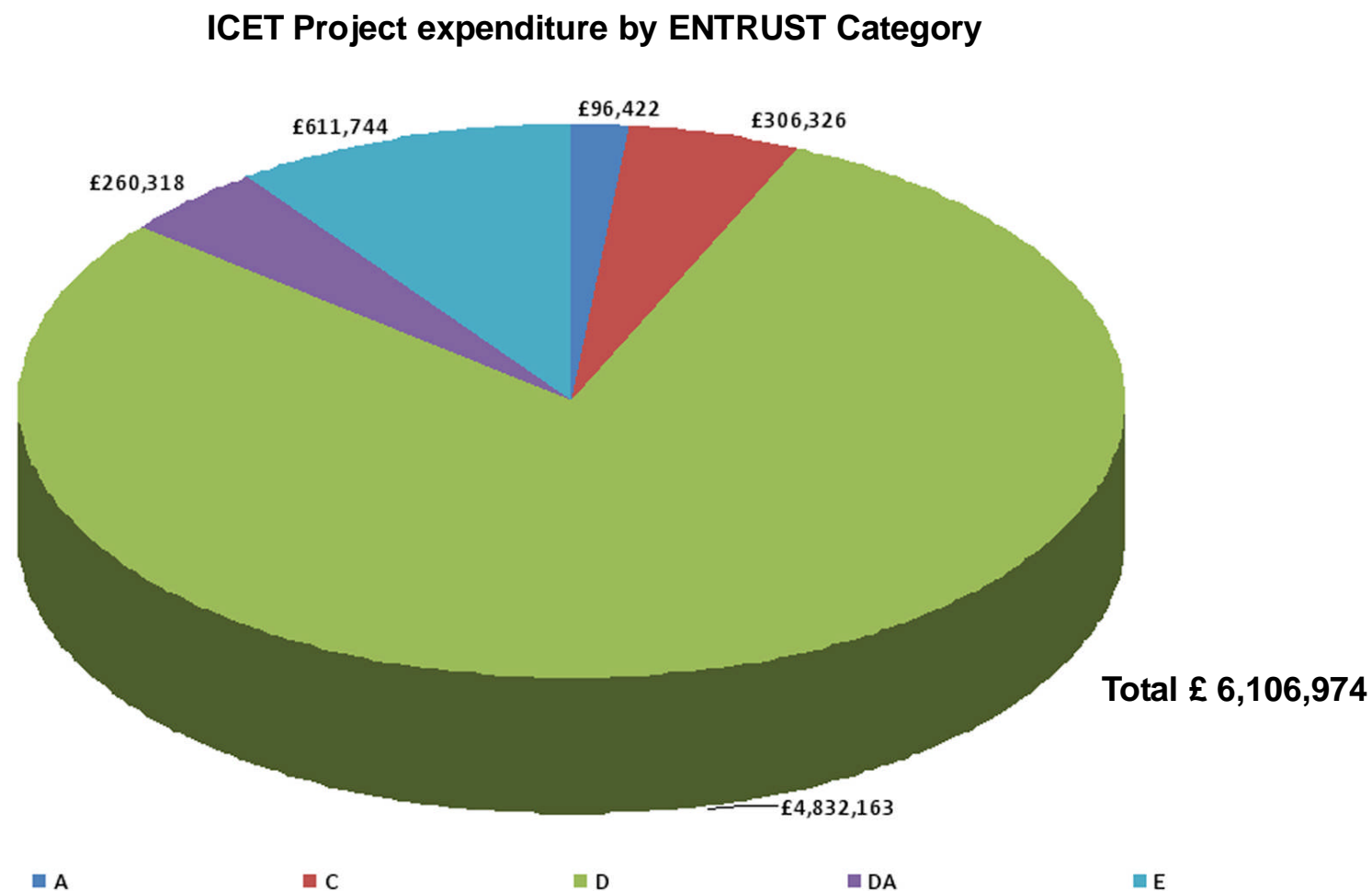
The unusual two-storey church at Upper Ettingshall is a landmark building that is used by many people and organisations in the area. £24,500 from ICET funded urgent internal and external repairs to ensure its future.

Upper Ettingshall in the early 19th Century was full of highwaymen, drunks and gamblers. Riots were common along Hell Lane, and the primitive Methodists decided a chapel was needed. Nicknamed Sodom Chapel, referring back to the Old Testament, it was a haven for locals who lived in fear of their lives.

Recently locals' greatest fear was that the chapel would not survive for many more years. This local landmark church is popular, running a community café and providing a venue for many local associations. Restoration work was desperately required to protect the fabric of the building, stopping the damp and repairing damaged walls and ceilings. Work on the chapel started in earnest and included: a complete re-rendering of the building, stripping and repairing 21 window frames, replacing rotten wooden window sills, and taking down ceilings and plastering walls. The landmark building has also been given a fresh coat of paint. Recognised as the 'big white church', the render is now vibrant again, while the interior boasts buttermilk coloured walls with warm orange ceilings and a rust red feature wall.

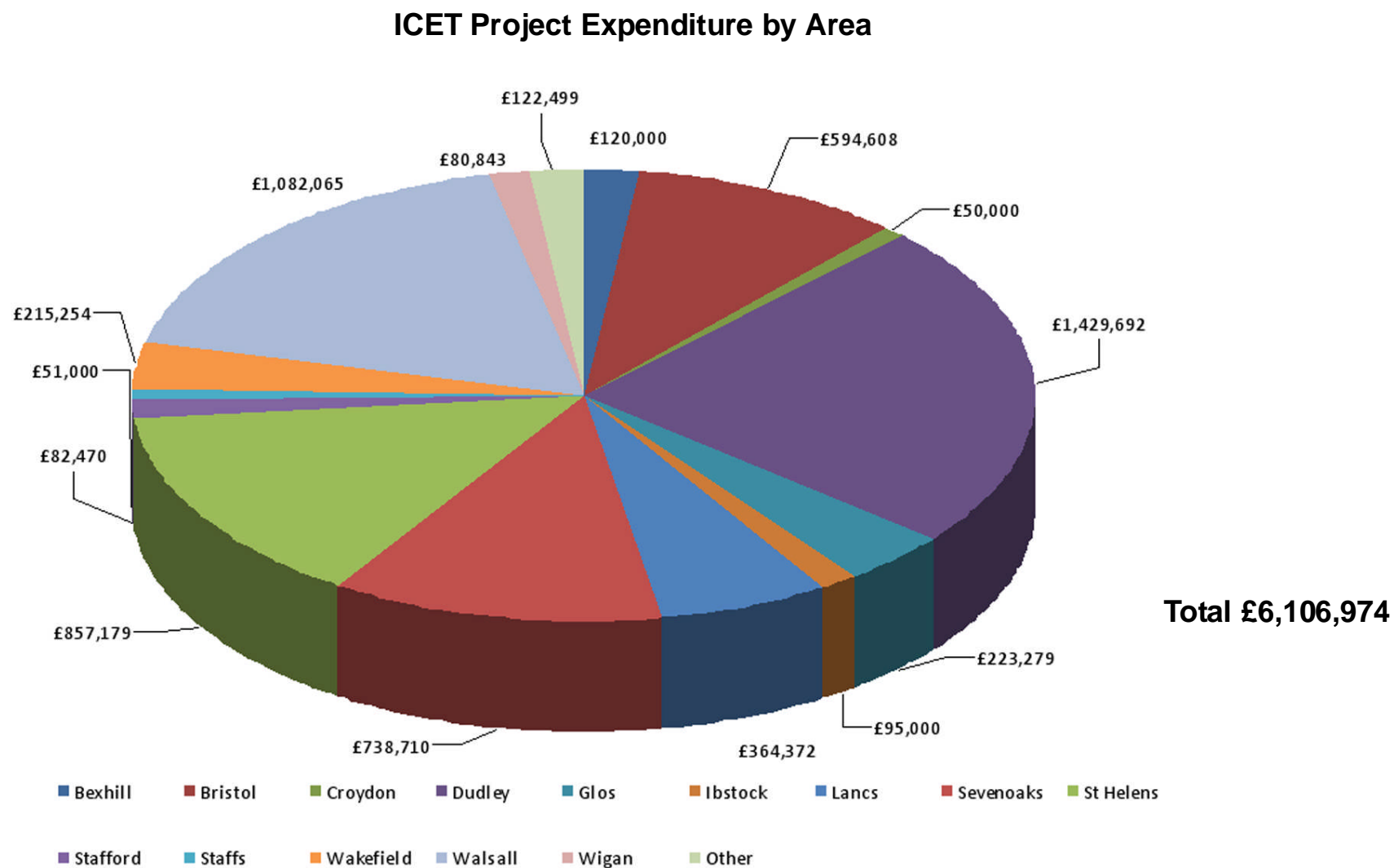


## How the grants were allocated from 2001 to 2013



Note: See page 2 for full description of ENTRUST categories  
Category C is no longer an available category for further funding

## How the grants were allocated from 2001 to 2013





## Statement of Financial Affairs

for the period ended 31st December 2013

	Restricted* funds 2013 £	Restricted* funds 2012 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>		
Investment income	7,824	3,175
Grants from Landfill Operators	509,522	571,150
	517,346	574,325
<b>Resources Expended</b>		
Entrust Commission	10,190	11,423
Management and Administration	39,426	38,739
Project Expenditure	603,647	559,394
	653,263	609,556
<b>Net Incoming Resources</b>		
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>	(135,917)	(35,231)
Balance at 1st January 2013		
	736,272	872,189
<b>Balance at 31st December 2013</b>		

## Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2013

	Restricted* funds 2013 £	Restricted* funds 2012 £
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	141,462	157,532
Cash at Bank and in Hand	670,523	790,578
	811,985	948,110
<b>Creditors:</b> amounts falling due within one year	(75,713)	(75,921)
	736,272	872,189
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		
	736,272	872,189
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>		
	736,272	872,189
<b>Total Net Assets</b> (*Restricted Funds)		
	736,272	872,189
<b>Total Funds</b>		
	736,272	872,189

\*Restricted Funds are funds which have been given for particular purposes and projects. The restricted fund must be used wholly to provide grants to successful applicants.

This data is extracted from fully audited financial statements for 2013.

The Trustees of ICET are: Margaret Brown, Christopher Corrigan, Louise Cullen, Stephen Hardy MBE, Nicholas Lacey, Tanya Savini, Ben Stansfield.

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ICET is keen to make the application process for funding as easy as possible. We have a comprehensive application pack that shows you how to apply and gives you examples of how to complete the application form, and explains the supporting information you need to provide. If you would like an application pack, please contact Angela Haymonds, or download one from our website.

[www.coryenvironmental.co.uk/page/lbstock.htm](http://www.coryenvironmental.co.uk/page/lbstock.htm)

Photo on front cover: Riverhead Parkland Pond project, recipient of ICET funds  
Photo on back cover: Trustees visit Kinver Edge, recipient of ICET funds