

CREATION FEST

2019
Annual Report



An Extraordinary Year



Festival Round-up

AN EXTRAORDINARY WEEK IN AUGUST

Putting on a free festival that creatively and clearly communicates the gospel, that feeds hungry hearts and yet appeals to those on the fringes, that is easy to access and yet is not surface deep is no mean feat. Run it in a corner of the country, on a shoestring budget and with no paid staff, and you see the extraordinary manifest in festival form. This year was no exception. High winds meant our final day was not as we planned it. But whilst festivals all around us closed, we re-shaped, and right until the final notes of Pat Barrett closed out the night, it was soaked in the presence of God and an utter joy to behold.

A NEW YOUTH VILLAGE

This year, we significantly invested in expanding our youth provision at the festival. Two age-specific venues for morning worship,

daily seminars and a programme of fun activities that ran morning 'til night. A youth cafe, plus one for parents and youth leaders to hang out in too. Because growing in faith is an adventure best had with friends!

THE KIDS ZONE

On top of our action-packed daily programme for primary aged kids, 2019 saw us partner with 31:8 to launch Splash, a whole new venue for 0-4's, as well as a parenting seminar stream with talks from Rob Parsons, Andy Frost and more. Plus, we launched World Changing Families, fun-filled family worship sessions that were attended by well over 300 families throughout the week!

“
***I've been to
Creation Fest
many times before
but have never
attended any
sessions. This year,
I went to the Youth
Village for the first
time and gave my
life to Jesus. I feel
like Creation Fest
has changed my life
forever and I never
want to look back.***

Livvy, Wadebridge

Festival Stats



9877 Cups of coffee sold



172 Faith commitments



472 Volunteers



15 Venues



9000 Day Visitors



2252 Campers



6 Baptisms



195 Slushies sold



9450 Meals served in
our kitchens



GLOW

Our year-round teen ministry, run in partnership with South West Youth Ministries, is designed to help young people know God and know each other better – all whilst having fun, worshipping God and learning how to practically apply their faith to their everyday life. In Cornwall, this may be the only opportunity that young people from rurally isolated churches get to meet with other Christians their age.

With takeovers from YWAM, Open Doors and PAIS, this year saw us double the size of our youth ministry by launching Glow Plymouth, providing the same opportunity for teens in Devon.

"We have loved being part of GLOW and sharing with the young people about God's love for the whole world. It was such a powerful evening and so great to see young people so meaningfully meet Jesus."

James Pickin

Youth Manager (England and Wales), Tearfund



1611 in reusable cups



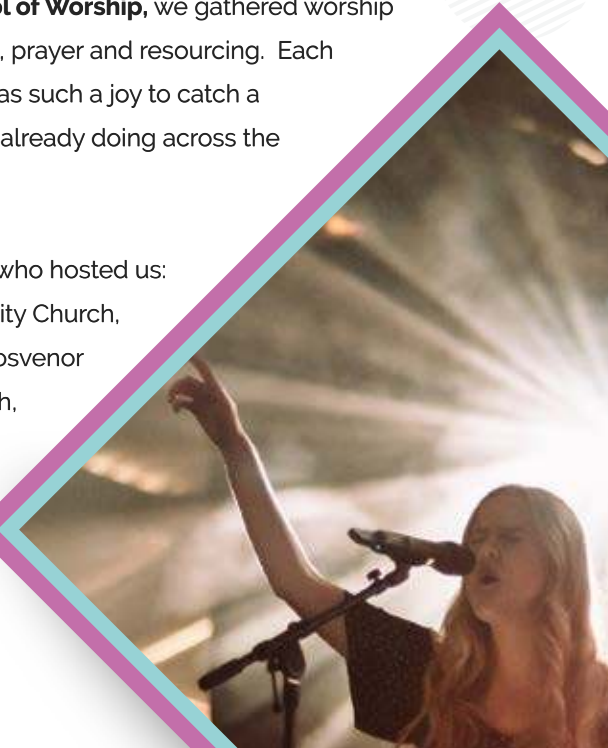
274 Gospel responses in the Kids Tent

Worship Nights

We loved the 2018 Worship Tour so much that this year, we **expanded it to six locations**. Over 831 people from 60 different local churches joined us throughout the week for six nights of unhindered praise and worship.

In partnership with **South West School of Worship**, we gathered worship teams at each location for networking, prayer and resourcing. Each night had such a distinct feel, and it was such a joy to catch a glimpse of and partner in what God is already doing across the South West.

A HUGE thanks to all of the churches who hosted us:
St Martin's Liskeard, Oceans Community Church, Bude, The Engine House, Redruth, Grosvenor Church, Barnstaple, Riviera Life Church, Torquay and Wave House, Newquay.

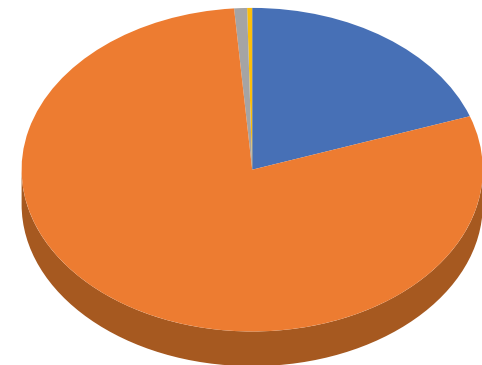


Finance

Thank you to the churches, trust funds, organisations and individuals who help to keep Creation Fest free. Your support enables us to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, clearly and creatively, at the festival and throughout the year. To help us keep Creation Fest free donate at:

www.creationfest.org.uk/give

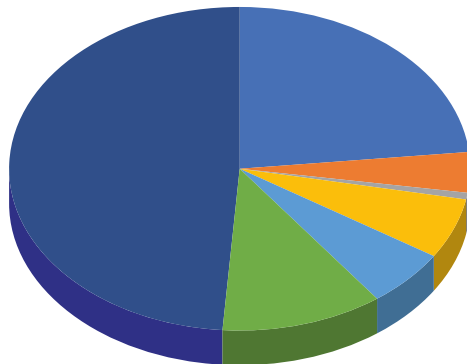
EXPENDITURE



£438,183.37

- Administration
- Other Events & Costs
- Festival Costs
- Glow

INCOME



£427,157.12

- Festival Income
- Church Support USA
- Church Support UK
- Other Income & Support
- Grants
- Individual Support/Donations
- Key Partners

Join the Team

It takes over 500 people to make the Creation Fest magic happen. Come serve for a week, stay for the summer or join our year-round office team. Bring a team from your church or serve as a youth group (free camping provided!)

To take a look at all the available roles, see www.creationfest.org.uk/volunteer or email office@creationfest.org.uk for more information.



*Really love what
you are doing
and how totally
accessible it is...
The gospel was
truly free... Thank
you for providing
this opportunity.*

Youth leader, Cornwall



“

*We had a brilliant
time at Creation
Fest with another
one our children
giving their hearts
to Jesus...*

Mike & Zoe Tomlinson



“

*Once again in
2019 Creation
Fest has been
a catalyst for
local churches
and local Church
leaders to
rediscover the joy
of shared gospel
ministry. Thank
you on behalf of
us all.*

Rt Revd Dr Chris Goldsmith

National Director of Ministry, Church of England

An Extraordinary Year

Every year, we pray for the extraordinary to be manifest amongst us. But when you name it as your festival theme, it feels like it carries an extra layer of expectation. Year round, we watch the ways that God brings His extraordinary transformation to our every day: new team members that help us make a free festival for nearly 12,000 people come to life. 472 volunteers, formed in the crucible of service and grown into an extraordinary sum that is so much more than its parts. Young people, whom we have walked with through unspeakable pain, coming alive in Christ. Worship tours and launching our youth ministry into new cities.

We live in the extraordinary blessing of a creator God that is able to do immeasurably more than we can ever ask for or imagine. We did not imagine that it would involve winds so strong that festivals around us would close and we would have to rearrange ours to stay open. But through it all, we remember these words: *"Whoever watches the wind will not plant; whoever looks at the clouds will not reap."* (Ecclesiastes 11:4)

So we keep our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, and we trust that he will work His extraordinary will out in our ordinary lives. We plant, we pray, we reap. We look to Him and trust for extraordinary grace, this year and every year.

CREATION FEST

Celebrating the good news of a God who loves us through festivals, events, and gatherings designed to creatively communicate the Christian faith and inspire others to do the same.

Our aim is to put on brilliant, free, fun events that bring Christians closer to Jesus, and that are accessible and attractive to those who don't know God, or who are on the fringes of church community.

CREATION FEST

The Goods Shed

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www.creationfest.org.uk

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