

RESIST RETHINK REBUILD RESIST RETHINK REBUILD RESIST RETHINK REBUILD

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RESISTOR



ANNUAL REPORT 2019



HOT CHOCOLATE TRUST


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My current living situation is that I'm in my own hostel, and I'm also sharing with a friend who was kicked out, so I'm giving him a place to stay. The company helps with the mental health. I know I'm capable of doing 'adultly' things - I know how to cook and all that - but I don't feed myself. I'm not asking to be fed, it's just that I don't have the motivation. I haven't had a proper meal in about half a year. Anon, 20

It was incredibly useful to meet the three girls who agreed to talk to us. We were so impressed by how they explained the issues they had encountered in such a calm and confident way. It helped us gain important insights into some of the issues that should shape our thinking around community support. That one meeting was more useful than a hundred in St Andrews House. Civil Servants from the Children and Young People's Mental Health Division, Scottish Government

2019 WASN'T AN EASY YEAR FOR MANY IN OUR COMMUNITY.
AROUND A QUARTER HAVE EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS.
HALF WORRY ABOUT MONEY NEARLY ALL THE TIME.
HALF DON'T FEEL HOPEFUL ABOUT THE FUTURE.
ALMOST ALL ARE SUPPORTING FRIENDS
THROUGH MENTAL HEALTH STRUGGLES.
IN RESPONSE TO INJUSTICES SUCH AS THESE, WE PURSUED
RESISTANCE! AS OUR THEME FOR THE YEAR, WITH THREE STRANDS:

R E S I S T A N C E !

CHALLENGING US TO STAND AGAINST THE FORCES WHICH OPPRESS,
EXPLOIT, MARGINALISE AND DEHUMANISE.

R E T H I N K !

INSPIRING US TO DREAM, CREATE AND BECOME PROPHETS OF AN
ALTERNATIVE FUTURE REALITY.

R E B U I L D !

COMPELLING US TO ACTION: USING OUR VOICES TO INFLUENCE
THOSE IN POWER, AND USING OUR OWN HANDS AND FEET TO FORM
NEW REALITIES WHILST WE WAIT FOR THE 'POWERFUL' TO CATCH UP.

THIS TASK IS NOT EASY AND IT IS DEFINITELY NOT WITHOUT COST. BUT
WE 100% BELIEVE THAT... ANOTHER. WORLD. IS. POSSIBLE.

WHAT FOLLOWS IS AROUND 60 VOICES OF YP, TEAM AND PARTNERS,
TELLING THE STORY OF OUR COMMUNITY'S YEAR.
THESE VOICES REFLECT THE RANGE AND REALITY OF OUR
EXPERIENCES AND MAY STIR UP A VARIETY OF EMOTIONS:
FROM LAUGHTER TO TEARS, ANGER TO HOPE.

PLEASE JOURNEY WITH US THROUGH OUR
YEAR OF RESISTANCE! AS WE HAVE ASPIRED
TO RESIST, RETHINK AND REBUILD THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT.

I try to be that person who connects people who are new. It's not always easy to come to a new group, but I want everyone to have the same feeling and joy that I get when I come here. It feels really good when someone you've welcomed and shown around ends up coming back and back, and you can see them progress. It gives great positivity to me. Knowing that there's this big place with lots of people, where you know them all, and they're all there for you. It's warming, welcoming and family - a place where you can feel accepted. It just feels good. Reji, 20



HOT CHOCOLATE TRUST (HC) IS A YOUTH WORK ORGANISATION
BASED SMACK BANG IN THE CENTRE
OF DUNDEE, IN THE STEEPLE CHURCH.

SINCE 2001, HC HAS WORKED WITH THOUSANDS
OF YOUNG PEOPLE (YP) WHO HANG OUT IN THE CITY CENTRE,
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND SUPPORTING THEM TO BECOME
AGENTS OF CHANGE IN THEIR LIVES AND COMMUNITIES.

THE WAY WE WORK IS SIMPLE (BUT NOT EASY).
WE THROW OPEN OUR DOORS AND WELCOME ALL YP WHO COME IN*,
AND GROW A COMMUNITY TOGETHER BASED AROUND
THE NEEDS, INTERESTS AND AMBITIONS OF THE YP.

WE'RE A CREATIVE AND QUIRKY BUNCH: NOISY AND COLOURFUL,
THOUGHTFUL AND PASSIONATE, AND OFTEN FOUND WITH
A SKATEBOARD, GUITAR OR CAN OF ROCKSTAR IN HAND.

HC IS OPEN TO ALL YP WITHOUT PREJUDICE
OR DISTINCTION OF RELIGION, RACE, CULTURE,
DISABILITY, GENDER IDENTITY, SEXUALITY OR POLITICS.

THE ONLY RESTRICTIONS ARE OF AGE: YP MUST BE IN 1ST YEAR
OF HIGH SCHOOL UP TO 21 YEARS OF AGE
(ALTHOUGH WE DO SOMETIMES CONTINUE TO WORK
WITH FOLKS ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS AFTER THAT).

05



*WHEN WE'RE NOT IN THE MIDST OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC, OBVS.

RESISTANCE! IS NOT JUST AN ANNUAL THEME FOR HC, BUT A STATE OF BEING. THAT'S WHY STIRRING UP AND ENCOURAGING ACTIVISM THROUGH BOTH DEBATE AND ACTION IS A KEY PART OF OUR IDENTITY AND MISSION.

RE-
THINK:
WHAT NEEDS
CHANGED
?

Wasps! Why are they here? They just sting you for no reason and they don't even pollinate! They're just tw*ts!

Get rid of Straight Pride.

I am slowly but surely trying to save the planet. I'm planning on planting trees because the planet is dying and no-one recognises it and it's really sad. And we only have 11 years to reverse the harm we've caused. So I'm trying my hardest to get everyone on board to stop using plastic and polluting the oceans. I get angry about the older people having messed up the world and leaving us with all this sh*t. So when I have my baby, I don't want him to feel that way about me and my generation. No-one else is going to make these changes - we have to do it.

Quadruple PE. Just why?!?

We have loads of trips here, but the First Minister's Questions one was really different. The best bit was sitting in a room with Nicola Sturgeon and hearing her debate the Tories. It was quite funny when she took down a lot of old men, but it was pretty educational - I learnt a lot. We met Shona Robinson too. She was great, discussing issues about Dundee - especially drug and alcohol abuse, and possible solutions. There's so many people who have died of overdoses in the past year. I personally knew one of them, so it's pretty gutting. But I realised that there's actually some politicians that really do care, that do put in the effort to change the whole system. After that trip, I had my view changed on politics and I've become more interested. I've had my eyes opened. It's my future, my children's future, the country's future - it matters. I don't want the NHS to be privatised. The people who are struggling, who are ill or homeless or whatever, they often don't get to vote. I'm paying attention to all that now. Hammad, 18

Dungeons & Dragons is really cool and everyone should play it.

Trump needs to get out.
And war can get tae, too.

The design of public bathrooms so women don't have to queue so long.



OPEN SESSIONS

(150+ EACH YEAR)
LIE AT THE VERY HEART OF OUR WORK AND IMPACT. THESE INFORMAL AND UNSTRUCTURED DROP-INS ARE WHERE YP COME TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS, HAVE A SAFE PLACE TO 'BE', DEVELOP NEW SKILLS AND EXPLORE NEW WAYS OF THINKING.
TUE 7-9PM // WED 7-9PM // SAT 2-5PM.

There's loads of people, you chat to the team, play pool, make cups of coffee and tea, you sometimes go up to the music room and play the piano, you hang out in the chilling room and talk sh*t with your mates. My first time at session wasn't that fun, coz I was so nervous - I felt like I didn't fit in with the whole goth thing. I was so nervous that for the first hour I didn't come in, I just stood outside. And then Andy B came over and said hi, and I came in eventually and my friend made me a cup of tea. After a while, I got more comfortable and I started getting more out of it. Now it feels like a good place to come and relax. It's hard to explain. You don't just come here to pass the time - you come here because you really want to come here. Leah, 18

Open sessions are always different, but always the same. You kind of know what to expect - you'll be greeted at the door, people will be nice to you, team will start up conversation with you - it's just nice and chill. There's often interesting things going on too, like the music room's open or archery or basketball or ping pong. Always something different, something to keep it fresh. Jared, 21

1 - 1 S

(400+ EACH YEAR)
ARE WHEN A TEAM MEMBER AND A YP MEET 1 ON 1 TO EXPLORE ISSUES, INTERESTS, AMBITIONS - AS DETERMINED BY THE YP.

I've had 1-1s for around 5 or 6 years. We go to get hot chocolate, jam together, and speak about everything going on in my life. This has been brilliant for me and it's really nice knowing that there is actually someone there to listen, who genuinely only wants what's best for you and goes out of their way to help. 1-1s have helped me work things out with my family, and I personally feel that I have grown loads as a person because of them. Hannah C, 19

The 1-1s have really helped me. My life was a bit of a state (it's still a bit of a state) but HC has definitely helped change my life in a really positive way. Before there were so many things wrong, but since coming here my life's started to get more stable. I've had more to do. I've not just been roaming around the city - here's somewhere warm with people to talk to. Jared, 21

Nicole (team): What kind of music stuff have you done in HC?

Lauren (19): My own

N: Do you feel like you are more confident with writing your own music now?

L: Yes

N: What has made you feel more confident?

L: Singing with you

N: Last question - is there something you are most proud of?

L: Being able to get my flat

COMMUNITY MEALS

A NEW (AND PRETTY POPULAR!) DEVELOPMENT THIS YEAR, THESE FORTNIGHTLY MEALS ARE PLANNED, ORGANISED, COOKED & SERVED BY YP.

I've been involved with community meals since they started. We make a shopping list, do the shopping, do the planning, do the cooking. You learn a lot - budgeting, cooking skills, how to double or triple recipes. It can be a bit stressful coz there's not much room in the kitchen, but when you make food for 36 people and they say it tastes really nice and they go back for seconds, you get a total sense of pride and achievement.
Mya, 18

It's good that everyone gets together to socialise. Everyone else anyway - I don't really like socialising that much.
Cameron, 17

I always have family meals at home (there's 11 of us!) and I really miss that aspect of life since moving to Dundee. Sitting down together at the end of a day, being together, having a chat in the midst of our hectic lifestyles. I still don't know many people in Dundee, and community meals are an easier way to get to know the young people - it can be a bit radge in open sessions sometimes.
Ally, 18

It's food! Tonight it's Italian - I'm not going to turn that down. I love food - it lets us live.
Noll, 16

GROUPS, TRIPS & PROJECTS

(150+ EACH YEAR) AN IMPORTANT PART OF HOT CHOCOLATE'S LIFE, THESE RESPOND TO THE NEEDS, SKILLS & CURIOSITY OF THE COMMUNITY. THEY ARE MASSIVELY VARIED & INCLUDE CREATIVITY, VOLUNTEERING, YOUNG PARENTS, DUNGEONS & DRAGONS, RESEARCH, MUSIC, FUNDRAISING, POLITICS, AND ROCK CLIMBING....

When I first came here, it was a big change to meet new people. I'm not getting involved with stupid things any more. Climbing makes me motivate myself to want to do something, instead of just giving up.
Becca, 19

The trips are always fun, exciting and adventurous.
Nathan D, 12

I loved the film making project, coz it gave a look into another industry that I'd never really considered. But then seeing all the hard work that goes into making a film, and all the different discussions, and analysing and breaking things down as well - I mean, I can't watch a normal video now without breaking it down into what it's supposed to be.
Dione, 19



JASPER'S STORY (NOT HIS REAL NAME)

***TRIGGER WARNING* THIS STORY CONTAINS THEMES OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE. IT'S HARD TO READ, BUT IT'S THE REALITY FOR JASPER AND HIS MUM - AND THERE IS MUCH THAT WE, AS A COMMUNITY AND AS A SOCIETY, NEED TO LEARN FROM THEIR EXPERIENCE.**

I remember going home one day and my mum was white in the face and had a bucket next to her bed. Her lips were blue and a paramedic was running into the room. She had taken an overdose. I was ten. I didn't see her for two days after that - I didn't know what was going on.

As I got a bit older, I realised that she needed help. I didn't want to burden other people with it, so I bottled everything up. But as I got involved here and with Young Carers, that's when I started speaking about what was going on at home.

She suffers from voices - audible hallucinations which can be quite persistent - and she's attempted suicide a few times since then. One of the worst times was when I basically did a suicide watch for her for four weeks. It was really really hard. I didn't go to sleep until she was asleep. I slept right next to her so if she got up I knew she was awake.

As a teenager, none of my friends were doing all the chores at home, or carrying the mental burden of that kind of situation. I cursed the universe so much because of that. It just seemed so unfair.

It sounds bad, but I've kinda got used to doing this. I've been doing it so long, it's just what my life is.

When it started affecting my mental health, I realised that I had to look after myself too - that I needed a safe space where I could concentrate on myself. That's what this place has been for me. I always looked forward to a Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, knowing that even for that small window of time, I could escape and be (kinda) free from worry.

I'm about to start a new job - working in mental health support, actually. I'm excited about that, but I honestly don't know what the future holds, especially with my mum. It feels like a battle at times, with her, with the voices, with the mental health system. It's been so hard to get her the help she actually needs. All I want is for her to be cared for as a person.

I STOP... *forgetting to water my plants*

I LOVE... *NIKE*

I FIGHT... *The Communists*

I AM... *a person who*
loves his
country

I IMAGINE... *to rule*

I AM... *A Day Queen*

I AM NOT... *Smart*

I DO... *STOLE THINGS*

I CREATE... *Food in my*
KITCHEN

I AM... *WATER*

I THINK... *I am genius*

I THINK... *that I am smarter than my*
dad

I DREAM... *of a world with*
no stereotypes

I DO... *NO ONE*

I CREATE... *ONOMATOPEIC*
CANDIDART

I LOVE... *identifying*
myself
with
other
people

I IMAGINE... *people being able to be gay*
and
transgender

I DO... *nothin'*

I STOP... *Boyz n the Hood*

I STOP... *work*
because
it's
too
slow

I HATE... *most*
of
my
generation

I IMAGINE... *all*
the
people

I THINK... *Belgium*
is
the
best

I FIGHT... *for*
the
rights
of
everybody

I CREATE... *friendships*

I IMAGINE... *my*
dreams

I DO... *nothing*
because
I
can't

I CREATE... *life*

I HATE... *RACIST*
Blacks
Telling
Jokes
and
wearing
hats

I STOP... *waking*
up
in
the
morning

I THINK... *that*
it
is
okay
to
be
gay

I STOP... *the*
things
that
are
bad

I LOVE... *the*
things
that
are
good

I AM... *in*
love



IN KEEPING WITH THE YEAR'S THEME, WE EMBRACED TWO BRAND NEW RESIDENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES TO STRETCH OUR UNDERSTANDING OF AND IMPACT ON THE WORLD, BOTH WERE LIFE CHANGING - AND LIFE SAVING - IN DIFFERENT WAYS :



(1) UNDERTAKING ASIST (APPLIED SUICIDE INTERVENTION SKILLS TRAINING) TO RESPOND TO THE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

We had a two day residential where we worked with certified ASIST trainers, to become qualified in being able to help someone who might be in a position of suicidal thoughts or actions.

We worked through different kinds of situations, doing workshops and role play conversations, learning techniques. There's definitely been moments since, where I've known how to use the different techniques and how I can try to uplift someone if they're in a rough patch.

It was really beneficial to have a mix of team and YP doing the course together. It was easier, knowing that you have people you feel safe around learning with you and helping you through it. Plus, doing it as a residential made the experience so much better coz we were able to collectively wind down with a film or games or eating dinner and have a laugh together too when it was needed. MK, 20





ZAMBIA

(2) GOING TO ZAMBIA FOR A CULTURAL EXCHANGE WITH THE BRITISH COUNCIL AND CREATIVE SCOTLAND.

This was a life changing week where I saw a group of YP throw themselves into creative challenge, work as a team, share their passions on community learning and connection, and manage to deliver incredible creative outputs through cultural collaboration in the space of five days! If there was one word to sum up this adventure for me it would be 'inspiring'; inspiring YP who taught me a few things about love, connection, and the Dundonian dialect!; inspiring country with incredible creativity and innovation oozing from its people; inspiring youth leaders who can truly make life changing interventions for young people. Now I wait in anticipation of our new friends arrival from Zambia, hopefully one day soon, to Scotland. Laura Black, Arts Officer: Cashback for Creativity, Creative Scotland

Zambia, Africa. It was amazing. I literally was only interested in it because I knew that if it was getting done by HC it would be probably one of the best experiences of my life. I wouldn't just book a flight for myself and go to Zambia, like absolutely not.

When we got there? There was dancey people. We done art projects, dance projects, y'know, met Zambians. Went to a safari that not many of us liked.

What did I get from it? A wee bit of enlightenment, do you know what I mean? Like seeing how they react with what they have, then coming back and seeing the people react here with so many more opportunities. Some of the shops we saw, that slum we went to... my god, that's literally normal life for them. Seeing all that made me realise that I saw the world from a bubble - and that bubble kinda burst.

The experience has basically changed everything for me. It made me realise that I don't want to just be, you know, stuck in Dundee. I need to see what else I can do with my life. And that's why I'm going to Nepal for three months, to volunteer around education and young women's health. I'm gonna try my very best to help anyone I can in life. That's me making my small contribution to other people's lives. Toni, 21

SINCE WE BEGAN ALL THOSE YEARS AGO, CREATIVITY AND THE ARTS HAVE BEEN A BIG PART OF HC'S LIFE. THE MAIN FOCUSES RIGHT NOW ARE VISUAL ART AND MUSIC.

Art in HC doesn't have to be professional, it can just be *"scribbles with pencil"*. Anything can be art, just put pencil to paper and that's it. Noah, 20

I always said that I couldn't do art and I wasn't creative, because school taught me that. Then I came here and I learnt that a doodle could be art. Art's meant to be a manifestation of who you are. And people aren't orderly or in a straight line. Erin, 18

Art helps me to get stuff off my chest, when there's not always a lot of people around us to do that. It's helped me express myself more after my baby boy was born. It also gives me opportunities to do stuff with him, which is good for bonding. Dione, 19

I'd taken videos on my phone before, but I got the chance to learn the equipment and software, to make something I think looked semi-professional. It's harder than I thought but the end results were phenomenal, and I got to show it to loads of people through the exhibition. Displaying it made me want to share more of what I do, and the feedback made me feel great. I definitely want to look into editing more in the future. Anon, 17

Ultimately, they didn't just gain specific skills, they took ownership of a discipline. In an environment where there was 'no such thing as a dumb question', the YP appropriated the practice of filmmaking to better communicate their ideas, emotions and humour. They didn't just learn how to make films, they learned how to be filmmakers.

Sam Goncalves, Film-maker specialist



Three years ago when I started writing music I was scared to mess up, but now I feel good about it, and I've started recording again. I'm a lot less scared to perform in front of people. Here the people are nice and supportive and challenging - I don't think I'd have kept writing if it wasn't for HC. Hannah, 19

The band project has helped me make friends with people I normally wouldn't speak to and I feel like I can have full conversations now. It also helped me express my emotions in a new way. Anon, 16

The band feels more like community than just a groups of pals. We're all from different parts of the city and from different backgrounds. I've learned more skills around songwriting and chords - like I can't play a bar chord if I'm sitting down. Angus, 15

The best bit is all the adrenaline when you're doing music and with other people who have a passion for it, the same as you. It's impossible to explain, being in the moment and enjoying life. It's amazing. Michael, 18

We did a project with the Tinderbox Orchestra from Edinburgh. I think the whole different environment was good for me and the boys! Especially when we were there performing for their end of year thing and seeing all the kids being buzzin' - it was a really awesome atmosphere! Tom, 18

We love working with HC because they put positive relationships as the number one priority. You can feel this as soon as you meet any of the groups at the place. There are such a lot of great musicians and it was an absolute pleasure to collaborate with them at a number of events over the year, including gigs in Dundee and Edinburgh. It was a great finish to 2019 to have a band of HC regulars, 'Flatlined', headline our Christmas Concert in Muirhouse. The young people were blown away. Jed Milroy, General Manager, Tinderbox Collective

Artists are contemporary prophets. The young people here have plenty to be (rightly) angry about. Art and music in HC give multiple opportunities for them to express, heal, speak, grow and point to a better world. Our arts practice is deeply rooted in social justice. Charis Robertson, Assistant Director, HC



R I L E Y ' S S T O R Y

Over the course of this year I started coming here and I was in a rough place as I think most of the team could see. About six to seven months ago was the hardest point that the team saw me in, in terms of drug misuse, non-stop partying, and a lot of reckless behaviour.

When I first started realising that I had a massive problem and it wasn't just a recreational hobby, I spoke to Georgia and she suggested different organisations to help me realise how I can actually change that. I started having weekly meetings with one of those places about my addiction and started creating a plan to stop using that substance, and I did.

I've done YLVT (Youth Led Volunteering Team) this year too. Glen first approached me and said: "you're doing YLVT." I told him I never asked to do it, but then he said "I know but I think you'll love it". Initially I thought it was going to be boring as f*ck and I didn't want to do it but I stuck with it, he mentored me through the first session of it and I was like "okay this could be really fun". Then we created an idea, got the supplies and all that and we set it up and actually it worked out really well and I loved it, and so did a bunch of other people. I think it was one of the best opportunities I think I've taken at Hot Chocolate.

16

I've not had any help with college, coz I don't feel I need it. Having open sessions through the week as a bit of release is enough. In terms of job ambitions, two months after I started coming here, so about ten, eleven months ago, I came to Peter about a job search and we sat here in the chill room and we sat looking at jobs online, setting up different CVs, and looking at what's available. I started working within the hospitality industry as a front of house worker in a café. I work on a zero hour contract now which fits perfectly into each day off I have from college.

I've had a lot of help. I guess I wouldn't have been able to get out of that cycle of doing whatever I wanted and not going anywhere in life without the support of HC. So, over the course of one year, my life has turned around massively.

Riley, 17



EDUCATION
EMPLOYMENT
+ TRAINING

THROUGH 2019, 179 DIFFERENT YP WERE SUPPORTED TOWARDS POSITIVE DESTINATIONS IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING .

SPECIFICALLY :

86 VOLUNTEERED
(GAINING NEW SKILLS,
CONFIDENCE AND EXPERIENCE)

9 COMPLETED THE INTENSIVE
YOUTH LED VOLUNTEERING
TEAM PROGRAMME

21 ACCESSED EXTERNAL
SUPPORT TO OVERCOME
BARRIERS
(I.E. POVERTY / HOUSING /
HEALTH / SUBSTANCES /
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES)

33 STARTED IN EMPLOYMENT

30 STARTED IN EDUCATION

6 STARTED IN TRAINING

5 UNDERTOOK WORK
EXPERIENCE

32 TOOK STEPS TOWARDS EET
(IE CVS / APPLICATIONS /
INTERVIEW PREP)

32 SUSTAINED IN EET
WHEN THEY OTHERWISE
WOULD HAVE DROPPED OUT



EXO DUS!

EXODUS IS A THREE WEEK INTENSIVE PROGRAMME OVER THE SUMMER, FOCUSED (UNSURPRISINGLY) ON THE THEME OF RESISTANCE, AND PACKED FULL OF CREATIVE PROJECTS, DISCUSSIONS, TRIPS, AND PLENTY OF SCRAM :)

Exodus is like normal HC but with much more happening and it's open more. I thought the theme was good. I think we learned a lot, like pure sticking it to the man and politics and stuff. It wasn't too political though. It was just encouraging us to kinda find our own path and stuff. Rachael, 18

An enlightening experience, it kept me busy, I really enjoyed it. When it came to interactiveness this year was the best. It was more welcoming. The spray painting was amazing. Hammad, 18

THE THEME. Exodus is so cool. It's never the same from year to year. You never know quite what to expect. I thought it was really smart how 'Resistance!' was picked because it means different things to different people. It's a strong, powerful word. It's always eye opening. I always learn a lot about myself and even more about other people. It's like a full circle moment. It helps you realise your own self-worth and other people's self-worth: It makes you feel capable of anything. Mikaela, 19

TRIPS. We went on a bunch of trips, including conservation projects, Parliament, Fox Lake, St Andrew's aquarium, Dundee Rep - to name just a few!

If you don't care about the environment and f*ck it up, then everything's going to get lost. If you want to be in a city that's got clean and fresh air, then you need to make the moves to make that happen. In Exodus we went up to Forfar Loch to help do some environmental work around their centre. It's a good feeling to be able to do something good for the world and other people, and not just yourself. Anon, 14

THE TABLE. We upcycled our big dining table, plastering it with quotes and lyrics about resistance. The table was good, doing it was fun and therapeutic. It's cool it's going to be like that for a while. Kirstin, 20





THE WALL. We worked with Dundee Print Collective to build a giant cardboard wall, as a slightly defiant nod to certain other wall builders of the world. Jordyn (19) made a Black Lives Matter screen print for it. Here's why: Racism is bullying and it needs to stop. The thought of bringing up my child in a world that tolerates that is horrible. We have the same dreams and the same problems and we need to work together to make the world better.

Visually and in concept, the project was simple but strong. Applying design parameters of a limited colour palette and repeat pattern/images worked very well in this situation. The message of Rebuild/Resist/Rethink was something that resonated well with the YP and that is apparent in their own hand cut stencils and art works used on the boxes. The final outcome was a visually impressive modular installation, which we hope that everyone involved in its making was proud of.

Scott Hudson, Dundee Print Collective

ZINES. Daisy (20) wrote a piece for one of the weekly zines.

No more glass ceiling. Isn't it time just to take a hammer and smash through it? Cross over to the untouched territory. Get that promotion. Wear that suit. However, easier said than done. It seems like you need to know people in higher places to be heard. But don't give up ladies. Keep working hard. Ignore the ignorance. As women we are strong, powerful and beautiful. We all thrive, provide and work hard to put food on the table. Resist ignorance. Resist giving up. We can do it ladies, let's go.

POLITICIAN VISITS. We had visits from three politicians during Exodus, for YP to be able to express what's on their minds to people in power. I was part of the group that met with the MSP Jenny Marra. I researched her in advance - her voting history, etc. We talked about things that matter to us: mental health and accessing the system, LGBT rights, drug use. It helped me see how important it is to have a devolved Parliament. Being a local politician is a really complex role, but has lots of opportunities too. I like that HC sets up these kinds of meetings. This one restored a bit of faith in the system for me. Ruairidh, 18





RESISTOR



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WHAT MATTERS TO US

ALL THIS AMAZING STUFF DOESN'T HAPPEN BY ACCIDENT, BUT BY OUR COMMUNITY BEING REALLY CLEAR ABOUT WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO US, AND UNCOMPROMISING IN HOW WE WORK. THESE 'CORE VALUES' INCLUDE...

- 1) VIEWING YP AS WHOLE PEOPLE:
SUPPORTING THEIR HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT WHICH REALISES PHYSICAL, MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL POTENTIAL.
- 2) GROWING A COMMUNITY WITH YP WHICH IS SAFE, WELCOMING AND AFFIRMING TO ALL.
- 3) BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS BASED ON RESPECT AND TRUST, RELATIONSHIPS WHICH ARE VOLUNTARY AND TWO-WAY.
- 4) ENSURING THAT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES ARE OWNED BY YP, ADAPT WITH THE CULTURE, AND BRING POSITIVE CHANGE FOR ALL INVOLVED.
- 5) EMBRACING A CULTURE OF REFLECTIVE LEARNING WHERE WE LEARN FROM OUR OWN EXPERIENCES (EVEN OUR MISTAKES).
- 6) KNOWING WHAT WE'RE GOOD AT - AND NOT SO GOOD AT: WORKING WITH OTHER PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS WHO CAN PROVIDE SPECIALIST OPPORTUNITIES FOR YP THAT WE COULDN'T MAKE HAPPEN ON OUR OWN.

AND IN CASE THAT SOUNDS A BIT FLUFFY AND VAGUE, LET US ASSURE YOU THAT YOUTH WORK IS NOT JUST ABOUT PLAYING POOL OR 'GETTING YP OFF THE STREETS' (WHO HAVE AS MUCH RIGHT TO BE ON THE STREETS AS ANYONE ELSE, AFTER ALL). GOOD YOUTH WORK IS, IN FACT, BASED ON TRIED AND TESTED EDUCATIONAL THEORY, WITH STRONG EVIDENCE THAT IT MAKES A REAL DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF YP. HERE ARE SOME KEY 2019 STATISTICS TO PROVE IT...

A C T I V I T Y

THROUGHOUT 2019, HC
WORKED WITH AROUND

400 YOUNG PEOPLE
(171 OF WHOM WERE NEW).

THIS WORK TOOK THE SHAPE
OF:

168 X OPEN SESSIONS
(WITH AROUND 400
DIFFERENT YP)

482 X 1-1S
(WITH 84 DIFFERENT YP)

161 X GROUP SESSIONS
(WITH 152 DIFFERENT YP)

**5 X RESIDENTIALS +
2 'NON-RESIDENTIALS'**
(WITH 34 DIFFERENT YP)



O U T C O M E S

AS PART OF THESE ACTIVITIES,
YP REFLECT ON THEIR
EXPERIENCES AND LEARNING -
AND RECOGNISE HOW THEY'RE
CHANGING AS A RESULT.

THESE REFLECTIONS, ALONG
WITH THE TEAM'S
OBSERVATIONS (AND GDPR
CONSENTS!) ARE RECORDED ON
OUR 'OUTCOMES DATABASE',
WHICH HELPS US BETTER
UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE
WE MAKE.

SO, IN THE PAST YEAR, WE HAVE
SUPPORTED YOUNG PEOPLE
TO DEVELOP IN THE
FOLLOWING WAYS:

**190 GREW IN
SELF-KNOWLEDGE**

174 INCREASED SELF-WORTH

218 IMPROVED SOCIAL SKILLS

**187 INCREASED IN THEIR
AWARENESS THAT THEY CAN
POSITIVELY IMPACT THEIR LIVES
AND COMMUNITIES**

**165 ACTED TO POSITIVELY
IMPACT THEIR LIVES AND
COMMUNITIES**

**140 IMPROVED THEIR ABILITY TO
LOOK AHEAD,
PLAN AND STICK TO GOALS**

**44 DEEPENED THEIR
UNDERSTANDING OF
THEIR SPIRITUALITY AND/OR
CHRISTIANITY**



WIDER
IMPACT

WE ALSO STRIVE TO AMPLIFY THE VOICES OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE, AND USE OUR COLLECTIVE EXPERIENCE AND RESOURCES MORE WIDELY, TO INFLUENCE POLICY AND PRACTICE BEYOND DUNDEE.

UNI **MODULE.**

IN 2019 WE HAD ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD AND DELIVER A MODULE FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION STUDENTS FROM DUNDEE UNIVERSITY. THIS HAPPENED WITHIN HC'S SPACE, AND WITH YP AS CO-LECTURERS. HERE'S WHAT SOME OF THE STUDENTS SAID ABOUT IT:

Really enjoyed being out of a classroom!! // Getting to know the YP was a bonus. Have taken a lot from this experience!! // Loved the theory (it certainly does matter!) + the reading list. It gave me back my passion of reading and working with YP - they can be so insightful. // Really enjoyed getting off campus and learning about this type of youth work. // Loved the variety of topics covered! Will defo help my practice :) // I wish it was longer. When I come here I feel like I've come home.

BARDSLEY **YOUTH** **PROJECT.**

WE'VE BEEN PALS WITH THIS PROJECT SINCE 2010, WHEN WE FIRST VISITED THEM IN COVENTRY AND DISCOVERED WE HAD LOTS OF SHARED IDEAS ABOUT YOUTH WORK. WE'VE LEARNT A LOT FROM THEM OVER THE YEARS, AND IN OCTOBER THEY WERE FINALLY ABLE TO VISIT US TO DIG DEEPER INTO OUR PRACTICE:

"We were impressed with how they record youth sessions and engagements, through writing letters to each YP after every session which recognise the YP's attendance and engagement. This felt warmer and more personal than other ways of recording information and is something we would like to look at using moving forward."

YOUTH **WORKER** **OF** **THE** **YEAR.**

WE'RE NOT REALLY INTO AWARD CEREMONIES MUCH (THEY'RE A BIT BLING), BUT WE WERE TOTALLY DELIGHTED THAT OUR EILAINÉ WAS NOMINATED FOR - AND WON - THE YOUTH WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2019. THAT'S A PRETTY BIG DEAL, AND HERE'S WHAT SHE SAID ABOUT IT AFTERWARDS:

"For me the biggest honour on receiving this award is that YP took the time to nominate me. I can honestly say I was blown away when I found out. I have spent 10 years of my youth work life at HC, because it's a place where YP and team can grow and learn together. The project gets alongside YP, providing space for them to connect, to explore, to share their life, dreams, hopes, fears and ambitions - at HC every day is most definitely a new day."



**RESIST!
RETHINK!
BELIEF!**

**THEY SAY THAT RELIGION AND
POLITICS SHOULD NEVER BE
DISCUSSED OVER DINNER.**

**WELL, WE BELIEVE THAT
N O T H I N G
IS OFF LIMITS IN TERMS OF
C O N V E R S A T I O N .
IN FACT, WE POSITIVELY
EMBRACE OPPORTUNITIES
TO GET STUCK INTO SOME OF
THESE BIGGER QUESTIONS OF
L I F E .**

**WE WANT TO RESIST THE
NARROW BOXES OF BELIEF THAT
WE OFTEN GET STUCK IN - COZ
IF YOU'RE NEVER
CONFRONTED BY OTHER
PERSPECTIVES, OR
CHALLENGED ABOUT YOUR
OWN WAY OF
SEEING THE WORLD,
YOU'LL NEVER GROW...**

You don't get spoon-fed here. We get pushed to be proactive, think for ourselves, and make things happen. That's important, especially in terms of politics, and especially for us young people who feel like we don't often have many options in life.
Rhuairdh, 18

Some LGBT people think that all religious people are against them, which just isn't true. So I think that HC being a Christian organisation and being very LGBT friendly is a good thing - it shows there's diversity within both LGBT and Christian groups and that they can cross over.
Erin, 18

I've been a Christian kind of my whole life so the fact that HC's in a church is kind of a nice thing for me. I try to emphasise to people that doesn't mean that you have to believe in God to come here, it's kind of a homely feeling for me personally.
Daisy, 20

I've always found it ironic how all the gays and goths congregate in a church. I've never seen any dislike from either side though - there's always been a mutual respect. I find it quite funny - I think most people do to be honest.
Tegan B, 17

I explore spirituality regularly with YP, even though I'm an atheist. HC's Christian values are pretty aligned with my youth work and personal values. To me, it's important to be part of a community which is founded on mutual respect, inclusivity and acceptance, but which also has room for dissent.
Georgia Doak, Youth Worker, HC

It depends. It depends on the mood, on the time, on the atmosphere. It being busy and noisy isn't necessarily a bad thing. Having the choice of where to go is key.

This place works because it feels like a teenager's bedroom. We've picked the colours in here, we've got our photos all over the place, just like we'd have band posters. You rearrange a bedroom god knows how many times as a teenager to get it to work. And here you get to do that too.

If you feel stressed out, you don't really like seeing people. The cocoon room door's in the wrong place - when you have to walk past everyone to get in there, you can feel quite vulnerable.

If it's too noisy, we'd sit outside. There's not really a quiet place in here any more. It's all loud. I like the cocoon room because it's small and it's on its own, and how it's laid out - but the right place isn't in here because it's too loud. But at the moment there's not enough space to put it anywhere else.

I don't like people. They make me really anxious. There's too many people here - that's why I stand at the front door, so I can bolt.

This place isn't meant to look fancy. It's supposed to look a bit sh*t - but then we get to make it good.



2019 SAW THE LAUNCH OF 'HOME FAE HOME', A THREE YEAR PROJECT WHERE YP WORK WITH DESIGNERS AND ARCHITECTS TO REDESIGN THE PHYSICAL SPACE OF HC.

SPECIFICALLY, THIS PROJECT IS FOCUSED ON HOW THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AFFECTS RECOVERY FROM TRAUMA/TOXIC STRESS.

WHILST THE CONSTRUCTION WORK WON'T BEGIN UNTIL 2020/21, WE'VE BEEN LEARNING A LOT THROUGH THE DESIGN AND RESEARCH PHASE, ABOUT WHAT A SAFE AND CALMING SPACE MEANS FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE.





TEAM

THE HC TEAM IS MADE UP OF VOLUNTEERS, INTERNS, STUDENTS AND STAFF WHO HAVE A WIDE RANGE OF SKILLS, BACKGROUNDS, PERSPECTIVES, IDENTITIES AND BELIEFS. WHETHER PAID OR VOLUNTARY, EACH HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO BRING THEIR OWN SELVES, SKILLS AND INTERESTS TO THE RICH MELTING POT OF COLLABORATION THAT IS HC.

The amount of personal growth that HC has to offer is huge. I've never walked in to volunteer one night and thought to myself "why am I here?" From my first few weeks of chaos in Exodus to the chill Saturday afternoons, I would never give it up! I think the key difference we make to each YP is that we help them learn new skills or we expose hidden talent, we help build the courage to start that new job, reconnect with family, express their true inner self. The team brings together so many different people from a wide array of skill sets that work with such harmony none would think possible. Most importantly to me though, I feel like I make a difference here.
Nathaniel, Volunteer

I've learned so much, both from the team and YP. You can see all the theory being put into action, but you can physically see the impact that youth work makes on YP's lives. I feel really honoured to be a part of HC, and this being a student here has really set me up for my future.
Alyssa, Community Learning and Development (CLD) student.

Being involved in the creative projects at HC has really impacted the way I see community. It has truly broadened my horizons within the art and design scene around Dundee. Projects here give both YP and team an amazing platform to express themselves. It allows volunteers like myself to offer guidance to the YP in a specialism I am a part of. I've been encouraged to further my education to go on to do a postgraduate course in CLD. Hopefully one day I'll become an arts youth worker myself.

Courtney, Volunteer

I miss you guys but I still hear the team's voice in my head saying 'Jack, what are your choices here? Consider all your options'. That's sure steered me right now that I have become part of the grown up world.
Jack R, 23, Former HC YP

The HC team are unbelievably supportive. No matter what the problem or situation they will always provide a helping hand. They've helped me learn loads of life skills: from writing CV's to studying skills, learning about money and budgeting, all the way to finding diplomatic solutions to volatile situations. For me, this caring support and gentle encouragement is amazing.

Verena, 20



WHAT KIND OF YEAR HAS IT BEEN FOR YOUTH WORK AND CHARITIES IN SCOTLAND?

There has definitely been a reduction in universal youth work provision and funding is often tied to specific outcomes, for example in employment, health and addiction. More generally, charities are facing reductions in giving and indecision over the economy and austerity. At the same time there seems to be increasing poverty, including for people in work.

WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO THANK THIS YEAR?

So many people across the HC family... The Board have appreciated the Team's expertise and dedication to the HC vision, for some during personally difficult times, and often going above and beyond. We're always grateful to the Steeple for their ongoing support over a long period of time, to our external funders and all the individuals who give financially and through their time and expertise as volunteers and Board members.

IN MARCH 2020 WE WERE DEEPLY SADDENED BY THE DEATH OF OUR CHAIR, TONY BOFFEY.

TONY MADE A HUGE CONTRIBUTION TO HOT CHOCOLATE OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS THROUGH HIS EXPERTISE, HIS FAITH AND CARE, AND HIS UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO YOUNG PEOPLE.

TRUSTEES 2019:

TONY BOFFEY // Chairperson

AMY MCDONALD // Vice-Chairperson

RICHARD MCCALLUM // until December 2019,
Vice-Chairperson and Treasurer

CHRIS LAFFERTY

DAVID JOHNSTONE

DEBORAH FARLEY // until August 2019

DEBBIE FELLOWS

JULIA BROWN // until August 2019

PAM MELLSTROM

PIERS BOWSER

SHONA DOBBIE // joined in September 2019

STEPHEN ELWELL-SUTTON

WHAT HAS STOOD OUT TO YOU ABOUT HC THIS YEAR?

I've been continually impressed by the love and respect the YP show to each other and the feeling that this place and the team are valued. YP say "I feel safe here." Volunteers are crucial to this, as they are often the first people that YP meet. I also see a close fit between the needs YP are presenting and the provision of youth work. It's not just assumed that the needs will stay the same from year to year – it's a learning organization. As a Board, we have seen a huge amount of work coming before us for development and decision-making and we've been working, individually and collectively, to support the leadership and strategy of HC.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO THE TEAM AT THE END OF THIS YEAR?

Don't underestimate your expertise and the effect you have on YP. Keep innovating and developing your skills and don't be discouraged when changes seem to take a long time.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE?

Keep supporting each other and take up the opportunities that can help you realize your ambitions. You remain our best ambassadors for HC: its existence depends a great deal on how you act and use its resources – so we want to hear from you.

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THESE LINES COME FROM A CONVERSATION I HAD WITH TONY IN DECEMBER - AS EVER, HE BROUGHT REAL INSIGHT AND WARMTH TO OUR REFLECTIONS.

I MISS MY COLLEAGUE AND FRIEND, BUT HERE, AS IN MANY PARTS OF OUR ONGOING WORK, WE STILL HEAR HIS WISDOM AND GUIDANCE...

**DAVE CLOSE,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

AT HC, WE COULDN'T DO WHAT WE DO WITHOUT THE GENEROUS GRANTS AND DONATIONS FROM OUR FUNDERS AND DONORS. MOST OF OUR MONEY IS SPENT ON SALARIES, AS, IN ORDER TO BUILD AND DEEPEN RELATIONSHIPS WITH YOUNG PEOPLE, WE NEED TO SPEND TIME WITH THEM. AS WITH MOST CHARITIES, WE NEED TO DO A LOT OF FUNDRAISING SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE AND RESPOND TO THEIR NEEDS. AT HC, WE HAVE BEEN GRATEFUL TO RECEIVE FUNDING, DONATIONS OR DONATIONS IN KIND DURING 2019 FROM THE FOLLOWING FUNDERS, FUNDRAISERS AND DONORS:

Abacus Agents Ltd
 Abertay Renaissance
 Martial Arts Society
 Angus Allnatt Foundation
 Avian Blue2
 Balgay Children's Society
 BBC Children in Need
 British Council
 CAF America
 CAF Resilience
 CashBack for Communities Youth Work Fund
 CashBack for Creativity: Targeted Fund
 Claverhouse Rotary Club
 Comic Relief
 Corra Foundation
 Creative Scotland: Youth Music Initiative
 Dundee Trust
 Dundee Youth Fund
 Gannochy Trust
 Garfield Weston Foundation
 Inspiring Scotland
 Investing in Communities Fund
 Life Changes Trust
 MAKE Trust
 Miss AM Pilkington Charitable Trust
 Northwood Charitable Trust
 People and Communities Fund
 Postcode Community Trust
 RJ Larg Family Trust
 Robertson Trust
 Saints and Sinners Club of Scotland
 Scotland's Gardens Scheme
 SCVO
 St Katharine's Fund
 Tay Charitable Trust
 The Baird Trust
 The Henry Smith Charity
 The Joseph Rank Trust
 The Listening Fund
 The Stafford Trust
 The Steeple Church: Dundee (Church of Scotland)
 The Wood Foundation
 Tillyloss Trust
 Tudor Trust
 Walter Craig Charitable Trust
 William S Phillips Charitable Trust
 WM Sword Charitable Trust
 Young Start
 and all our individual donors and fundraisers.

ANALYSIS OF INCOME 2019

Total Income £573K
 £426K Restricted Grants (74%)
 £42K Unrestricted Grants (7%)
 £12K Gift Aid Donations & Tax (2%)
 £5K Other Donations (1%)
 £77K Donated Services (14%)
 £9K Wider Impact Income (2%)
 £2K Other Income (0%)

ANALYSIS OF EXPENSES 2019

Total Expenses £558K
 £535K Charitable Activities (96%)
 £23K Fundraising (4%)

FUNDS AT 31 DEC 2019

Total Funds £197K
 £154K Unrestricted Funds (78%)
 £43K Restricted Funds (22%)

These rounded figures are from our draft accounts and may be subject to change. Our full accounts will be available on our website in due course.



IVY'S STORY (NOT HER REAL NAME)

When I first came to HC I was a scared quiet teenager, unsure of myself and where wanted to go. I wasn't comfortable in my own skin and I felt that there was nowhere I fitted in. That year had been unbelievably rough. I was dazed and confused after losing a family member. I'd never experienced grief before, and I'm from a family who keeps things to themselves. So there was no processing, just bottling stuff up. At the same time I was diagnosed with a health condition that stripped from me all the things I loved doing. Pressures of school and home became too much. I just couldn't find a way of being me again, and I ended up in hospital for an overdose.

So when I came to HC I was really closed off. I'd sit in a corner, curled up in a ball. I didn't want people to see me. Even if you were sat next to me, I'd be in my shell. But I'd got involved with some art projects at HC and had started to get to know a couple of the team. Looking back, I think they were trying to crack open that shell - to help me see that I wasn't alone and that it was okay to say how I was feeling. It took me about a year to unpack what had happened to me, to understand my emotions and make sense of myself. They helped me to see that even if you can't change the situation, you can change the way you see it. I learnt that there's not always a choice in life. Sh*t goes wrong - and it's ok to have a hissy fit, but you have to find a way to get on with life.

I feel like a completely different person now. I'm living away from Dundee. I'm able to make sensible and suitable decisions for myself. And I know how to stand up for my own choices. I started off as this small timid girl who was sat in a puddle seeing everything as dark and sad, but over time I've turned into a woman who has learnt to dance in the rain and see that there are rainbows made even on the darkest of days. I'm proud of the growth through my time at HC.

I don't care how much money I make or what house I live in. I'm not interested in the rat race. It's taken me a long time to realise that I don't want what everyone else wants - and that that's ok. I'm learning how to swim against the current and the norm.



HOT CHOCOLATE...

IS FUN.

Charlie, 17

IS DISTRACTION.

Emma, 18

IS FUN AND SUPPORTIVE.

Jenny, 17

IS THE BEES KNEES.

Paul, 18

IS A FUN PLACE TO CHILL.

Ethan, 17

IS SUPPORTIVE AND HAPPY.

Lisa, 16

IS A HOT DRINK.

Taylor, 18

MADE ME FEEL NOT ALONE AND NOT UNHAPPY.

Eden, 17

For me HC means a safe space. Whenever I'm feeling low I can come here and I know that I won't be judged by anyone here, that I can always turn to someone to talk to for a few minutes even if session is on, just to get a bit of a relief, just to get something off my chest. Peter K, 18

HC's helped me through really hard times. Nobody tries to fix me here, they get alongside and help me work it out. Hannah, 19

Sofa surfing is really hard. I had £5 to my name for four months. I hated relying on everyone, people knowing my business. I felt vulnerable. I now have a place, but it's really not as easy as you think, living on your own. It gets lonely and it can play with your head a bit. Anon, YP.

When I came here from Italy, I felt weird and lost confidence in a way I couldn't control. But I've found a new me - feeling a part of something has made it easier to be myself and open up, and that's made a way in for me. Annaliza, 19

It's a good place to come and chill with mates. Jordan D, 18

This place is something to do. That doesn't sound like much, but it's a lot. There's not much to do in Dundee. But here offers something different... it's literally stopping people doing bad stuff, it's offering an alternative. Anon, 20

I didn't expect to be this involved, doing things like climbing. I loved that in the past, but never had the money to do that. Jared, 21

IT FEELS VERY STRANGE, BRINGING OUR WEE BOOK OF RESISTANCE! TO A CLOSE, AS WE NOW FIND OURSELVES IN THE MIDST OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC.

IN MANY WAYS, 2019 SEEMS LIKE A LIFETIME AGO.

BUT THAT MAKES IT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT TO DOCUMENT WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY. BECAUSE VOICES HAVE BEEN RAISED. INJUSTICES HAVE BEEN CHALLENGED. PEOPLE IN POWER HAVE BEEN HELD TO ACCOUNT. ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN. HOPE HAS BEEN STIRRED. RESISTORS HAVE BEEN BORN. THESE ACHIEVEMENTS MUSTN'T BE LOST, OVERSHADOWED BY THE DEVELOPMENTS OF CV-19.

WE LEARNED THAT ANOTHER WORLD REALLY IS POSSIBLE - IF WE HELP MAKE IT SO.

BUT THIS WORK IS FAR FROM OVER.

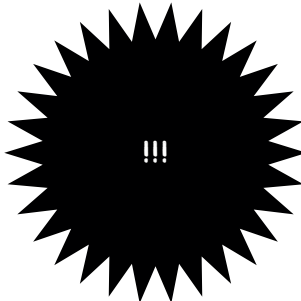
IN JANUARY 2020, WE SETTLED ON OUR NEW THEME FOR THE YEAR, TO HELP BUILD ON THE MOMENTUM:

I M A G I N E ...

WE HAD NO IDEA JUST HOW IMPORTANT A WORD THIS WOULD BE FOR THE MONTHS AHEAD.

ANOTHER WORLD HAS BEEN FORCED UPON US, FOR NOW. AND DESPITE (OR PERHAPS BECAUSE OF) ALL THE UNCERTAINTY AND ANXIETY, OUR IMAGINATIONS HAVE JUST BECOME

MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER...





All fancy pictures and big words by the Hot Chocolate family and friends.
Designed with love by Cameron Heenan, Charlie Kane, Mikaela Aktag, Quin Beattie,
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RES:ST.



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