



## LJM NEWSLETTER

Vol 1, Issue 2, January 2011

Happy New Year! Welcome to another exciting issue of the LJM Newsletter! The past few months have been incredibly busy so we've got plenty to tell you! Read on to find out all about the events, successes and celebrations that Love and Joy Ministries have enjoyed recently...



### Celebrating 30 Years in Liverpool

October was an extremely special month for Love and Joy Ministries, as we celebrated an incredible 30 years since our ministry began in Liverpool. We marked the occasion with a weekend full of exciting events, which included live music, worship, and a feast of cultural food...

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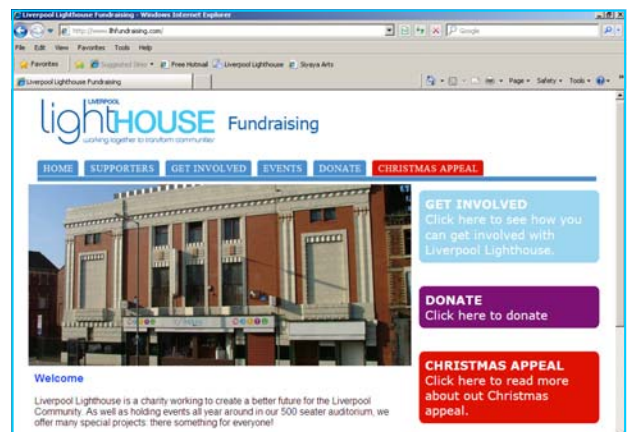
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Liverpool Lighthouse is the UK's first dedicated Urban Gospel Arts Centre. We are committed to offering the best entertainment around

## Fundraising

The mission statement of Liverpool Lighthouse is "working together to transform communities". While our various projects and activities continue to touch the lives of countless people throughout the local community, we are constantly striving to raise funds in order to allow these vital projects to keep going.

With this in mind, we were excited to launch our brand new fundraising website in December. Here, you can find information about all of the Liverpool Lighthouse projects, as well as testimonials from people whose lives have been changed by the work we do. You can also find information about upcoming fundraising events and ways in which you can get involved. Be sure to check out [www.llhfundraising.com](http://www.llhfundraising.com)!



Our new fundraising site is packed full of info

**Visit our websites**

**[www.liverpoolighthouse.com](http://www.liverpoolighthouse.com) [www.llhfundraising.com](http://www.llhfundraising.com)**

# Celebrating 30 Years Of Ministry In Liverpool

We began our weekend of celebration with Youth Connect Live starring Christian electro-rock group Golddigger. Following this was a performance of the gospel play "Love, Sax and all that Jazz". Written by MOBO-nominated artiste, Alan Charles, the play took a humorous look at love and relationships and featured an entertaining mix of live music, comedy and spoken word.

Finally, the main celebration itself was held on Sunday 10th October, with a service of thanksgiving and celebration. The service featured readings and musical performances by many special guests including children from the local community, Harmonize graduates and special guest preacher, Bishop James Jones. We were ecstatic to welcome not only members of our congregation, but staff from our various projects as well as people from the local community who all wanted to celebrate with us. Worship was led by our very own Love & Joy Gospel Choir who, as usual, filled Kings Hall with their uplifting, spiritual sounds.



During the service, we launched Liverpool Lighthouse's first ever appeal, which called for donations to help us continue with our various youth projects. *(For more information on fundraising, go to page 4)*

Following on from the service, we held our International Feast, which gave everyone the chance to have some fun and mingle, while enjoying a variety of dishes from different cultures.

We were also visited by a team from Liverpool Echo who produced a special video report on Liverpool Lighthouse's regeneration work. The report featured an interview with Bishop James Jones, who praised our work and described Liverpool Lighthouse as a "project which people across the city should support". *(to see this report in full, visit the News section of our website)*

Everyone had a wonderful time and we would like to thank all those who came to celebrate with us. Here's to another fantastic 30 years!

# LJM projects receive support from the BBC

## BBC Radio 4 Report

During BBC Radio 4's recent visit to Liverpool, the Today programme broadcast a special report on Liverpool Lighthouse. As part of an investigation into proposed spending cuts in the public sector, presenter Justin Webb visited Liverpool Lighthouse to find out more about the work we do and to discuss the effect of these cuts. Justin interviewed our CEO, Pastor Modupe Omideyi, who spoke about our various projects and the ways in which they've helped people in the local community. As well as interviewing Pastor Modupe, Justin and his team spoke with some of the Harmonize students, who talked about the impact the course has had on their lives. To listen to the feature in full, visit the news section of the Liverpool Lighthouse website.



*Justin Webb from the Today programme met the Harmonize staff and students.*

## Children In Need

We were excited to learn that the Youth Connect project was selected from amongst thousands of applicants to receive a grant from Children In Need. Youth Connect received just over £50,000 which will go towards running a range of diversionary activities, such as arts and sports workshops, for the hundreds of disadvantaged children and young people in the Anfield area.

Matt Moreton, Project Manager for Youth Connect, said

“As the only designated youth centre in the whole of Anfield, Youth Connect has become a vital resource for many young people here and it's helping them to turn their lives around. The grant from Children In Need will allow us to continue with our work and to reach even more youngsters.”

## Further praise from Merseyside Police.

You may remember that Matt Moreton and Sheila McCormack were commended by Merseyside Police back in May, and received awards for “Outstanding Support and Engagement with Young People”. Liverpool Lighthouse has always had a fantastic relationship with Merseyside Police and this was proved even further in October when Assistant Chief Constable Colin Matthews wrote an open letter praising our “tremendous” youth work. In the letter Mr Matthews writes;

“I would like to document my recognition of the valuable work of Liverpool Lighthouse in our local communities. This is particularly the case regarding your support for our programmes and the tremendous work that you do with vulnerable young people.”

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Matthews for his kind words. We hope to continue working in partnership with Merseyside Police for many years to come. (*To read the letter in full, visit the News section of our website*)

# Events

We held several fantastic events at Liverpool Lighthouse last year, here are some of the highlights;

Kicking off our Autumn season was The Classic Motown Show. Featuring performances by a talented cast from local Liverpool training programme, Positive Impact, the show was a vibrant musical feast that celebrated the glamorous era of Motown. With a line up of tribute acts, including The Jackson Five, Marvin Gaye and Diana Ross, The Classic Motown Show had everybody dancing in the aisles!

We celebrated Christmas in style with a variety of events and perhaps one of the most entertaining was our children's musical, The Heart of Christmas. The show, which was a part of Liverpool City Council's Year of Health and Wellbeing, was all about keeping your heart healthy and featured a variety of original songs which focused on the Council's "Five Ways To Wellbeing" such as "Be Active" and "Keep Learning". It starred a group of children from the local area who had been working with music and dance facilitators since September. The show took place on Friday 3rd December in Kings Hall, playing to a packed out audience of parents, friends and Lighthouse staff.

Talent at Christmas was an exciting "variety show" event which aimed to raise money for the Youth Connect programme. The night consisted of music, dance and drama and featured performers from North Liverpool Academy, Alsop High School, Youth Connect, Love and Joy Choir and a few of our very own Harmonize students. There were some truly tremendous talents on show, not least former Harmonize student Vadane, whose Usher song and beat boxing piece went down a storm. The comic highlight of the evening came from North Liverpool Academy and their drama piece 'Oh What a Lovely War' which had the audience in fits of giggles! The evening was as entertaining as promised and the audience thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

We would like to thank everybody who's taken part in our events over the past few months; whether you were performing on the stage or working behind the scenes, we couldn't have had such a successful season without each and every one of you!



The Heart of Christmas featured children from the local community



The cast of The Classic Motown Show, performing as "The Temptations"

For more information on any Liverpool Lighthouse projects or events, visit our website at

**[www.liverpoolighthouse.com](http://www.liverpoolighthouse.com) or call 0151 476 2342**