

Wrapping up 2012



When a year draws to a close, I like to cast my thoughts back to *this time a year ago*. It's interesting to reflect on what has happened unexpectedly and what expected things never came to pass. It's a time to marvel at God's guiding hand and provision.

For Streetworks, this time a year ago, we were grappling with how to strengthen and grow our leadership. We wanted Streetworks to be bigger than any one person that is a part of it. This time a year ago we were transitioning out from the umbrella of another community trust, drafting our trust deed and figuring out internal roles. Even now, writing this, I can't believe how much has happened in the space of 12 months. We've done dozens of projects, a clothes swap, lots of firewood chopping and gardening days. We've been donated a long awaited shipping container.

We've started learning about governance, created a trust board, core team, and administration role. We're seeing less of some old familiar faces and seeing new people step up to the plate. We've been challenged to think about and articulate who we are and why we exist. Streetworks is growing up!

Olivia recently described Streetworks as being a teenager - this is such an accurate description of the stage that Streetworks is in as an organisation. We're no longer the indefinable 'thing' that we used to be, but we're not quite all grown up yet. We've got a lot to figure out - what sort of adult do we want to be? There are a few awkward transitions, growth spurts and pimples to smooth out. As frustrating as they can sometimes be, teenage years are an amazing challenge. I'm excited to be part of

the team that gets to help Streetworks grow up. The possibilities and opportunities for the future are... well...endless really! I look forward to what happens in 2012 and beyond as we start to see Streetworks grow up more!

My apologies for not having a 'plan' for 2012 yet! I've spent the last month or so refocusing Streetworks. We want to be sure that we do what we do because it is needed and effective, not because it's just what we've always done. I've been having coffees and chats to make sure we are on track. The results of all this is still being processed! I hope that early in the New Year, after some time out and thinking, we'll know more about what 2012 will look like.

- Claire

A massive THANK YOU from the whole team at Streetworks for all your support during this year! We can't do what we do without people like you all who believe in us. Thanks, have a great Christmas and an amazing summer holiday!

**After MONTHS of hard work, our new website is finally up and running!
Andrew Beaven and Kay Tiddy were the talent behind this outstanding makeover, so the Streetworks Team would like to say a very big THANK YOU. Make sure you check it out!**

Farewell Olivia...

It's time to say goodbye... to something I tremendously believe in, have invested hundreds of hours and heart into, and am sorry to leave behind. This is the end of a chapter for me; as of the end of this year I will no longer be working for Streetworks.

I came on board the Streetworks team in August 2010 with no real expectation of what I could do – I just wanted to help! And so started the whirlwind, and what a ride it's been. In my short time, I've organised two Clothes Swaps, 1 mammoth Family Fun Day, helped run the first Cambridge Streetworks, coordinated the makeover of the website and undertook major renovation of the Administration of Streetworks.

But what have been the true highlights are the relationships I've formed along the way. Last year I had the huge privilege of hanging out with

Te Whanau Putahi, to learn about their community and how they love others. I've worked with some incredible people too; project leaders, my Family Day crew, Kay Tiddy and Andrew Beaven on the website, community heroes, the phenomenal (hard) core team and trust board, and the ever challenging, inspiring Claire Gray. I'm going to miss working with all of these people (and more), but am hugely thankful for all the experiences and lessons learnt.

So what to from here? Gateway Church is taking me on as their full time Office Manager – yeehah! It's an immensely exciting challenge, and somewhere I feel God's calling me to be in this age and stage.

So farewell Streetworks, and thanks for the incredible memories.

Love, *Olivia*

Staff and Trustee highlights of 2011

(the year that seems to be a bit of a blur for everyone!)

Seeing all the leaders full of passion and excitement about their projects heading up to and on the day of Spring Streetworks!

Did we have a hangi this year? (This whole year seems to be a blur!) If we did, the best thing was helping serve the hangi!

- Colin

Seeing a leadership team form! It has been great to watch people catch the vision of Streetworks, get passionate about it and commit their time and energy to it.

Also the feeling when the hangi in April came out of the ground cooked!

- Claire

My highlight was probably nailing the hangi... was that in April or November, I can't remember? The events tend to blur a bit in my memory!

My other highlight was our leaders meetings for the core team.

- Sam

My highlight would be feeling like we're well organised and more sustainable now with the Trust and Core Team working well, systems in place and a sweet new website.

- Stu

I LOVED the Clothes Swap; the models on the runway were a particular favourite moment - it definitely hit a hilarity note.

Also super proud of that amazing new website we have – it took forever, but it's worth it!

- Olivia