

A teal circle containing the text "east leads project" in white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

east
leads
project

Non- Executive Director Recruitment Pack

APRIL 2022

Hello!



WHAT MAKES GIPTON? BY ANDY ABBOTT
AT THE GIPTON GALA, 2019

We're the East Leeds Project, a visual arts organisation based in Gipton. We're seeking up to four new Non-Executive Directors, equivalent to Trustees of a registered charity, to join us in spring-summer 2022. We would love to hear from people who would like to join our small but growing and ambitious organisation.



KIOSK WORKSHOP AT THE OLD FIRE
STATION, GIPTON, DECEMBER 2021

Could you be one of our new non-exec directors?

Do you have skills or lived experience that could enrich our work, or just feel passionate about art, culture and community in East Leeds and beyond and would like to help make exciting things happen locally? Then we'd love to hear from you!

Read on to find out more about our work, the role and how to apply. Find out more at [our website](#).



SETTING UP FOR A KIOSK WORKSHOP AT
SLUNG LOW IN HOLBECK, FEBRUARY 2022

Our work and values

We are a small-scale visual arts organisation based in Gipton, East Leeds. We work with art as a social action, aiming to bring about real-world instances of progressive justice, community building and transformation*. Central to our work is being grounded in East Leeds, with our roots in Gipton and Harehills where our Directors have lived and worked for nearly 25 years, although we work further afield across the east of the city and beyond.

* Borrowed from Gregory Sholette and Chloë Bass, *Art as Social Action* (2019)



CLAIRE (LEFT) AND KERRY (RIGHT) WITH ARTIST EMMA HARDAKER ON A RESEARCH TRIP TO BLACKHORSE WORKSHOPS, WALTHAMSTOW, 2020

History

We were founded by Kerry Harker (Artistic Director) in 2017, joined by Claire Irving (Communities Director) in 2018. In January 2019 we became a registered Community Interest Company. We recently relocated to a disused squash court at Fearnville Leisure Centre in Gipton . It's unusual but has lots of space and potential!

We also have two Non-executive Directors, Aidan Moesby (artist, curator and writer) and Jason Hird (Institute of Crazy Dancing), both of whose term ends in May 2022. We want to thank Aidan and Jason for all their support and contributions over the last two years.

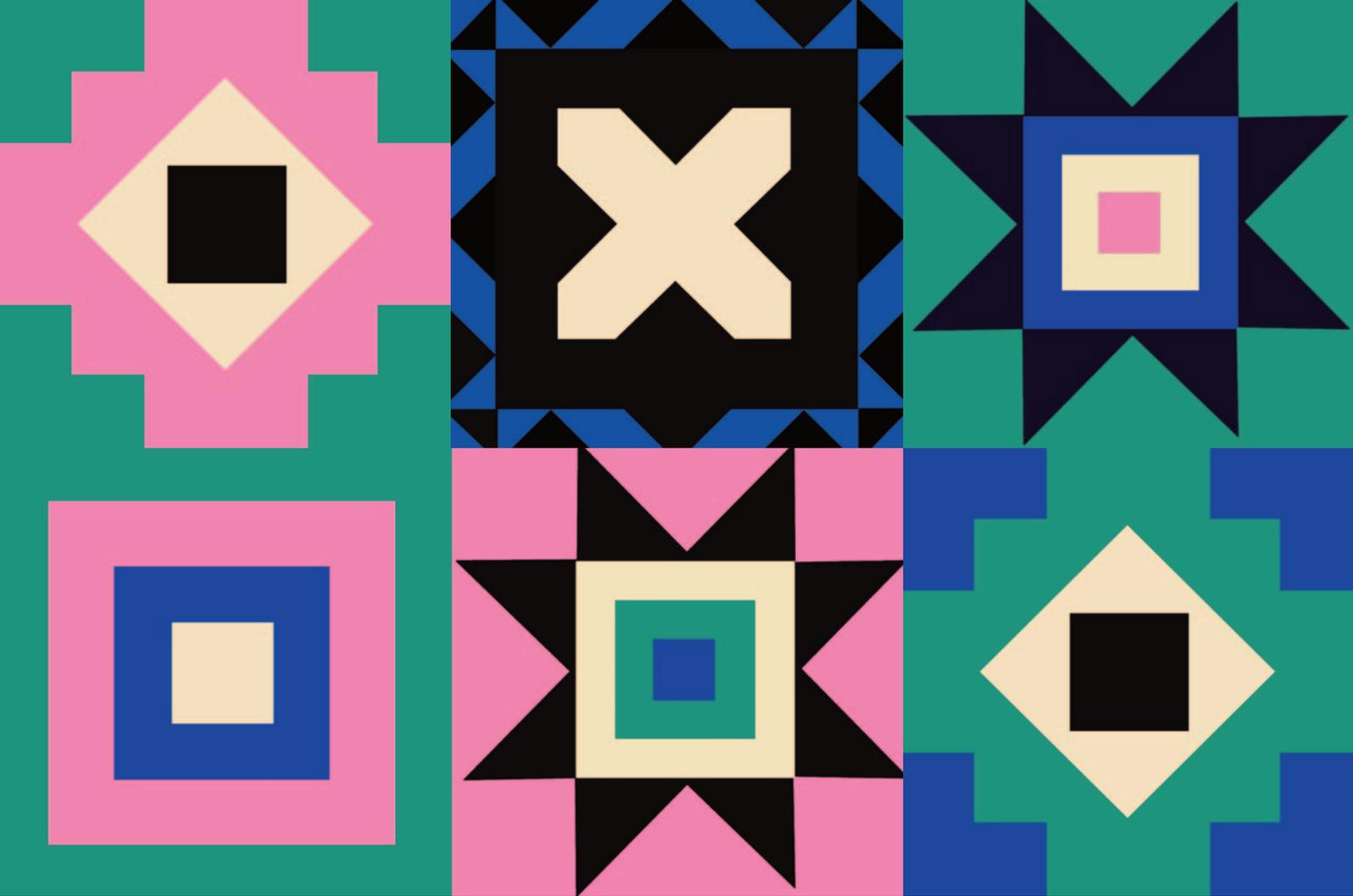
What we do

Our work is realised through dialogue and co-production with artists and local people, groups and organisations. We are a founding contributor to the Gipton Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership, alongside individuals, groups and organisations working locally. In addition we work closely with Chapel FM (Seacroft) and Space2 (Gipton) as the 'East Leeds Triangle'.

We are a member of Leeds Arts Health & Wellbeing Network [LAHWN] and Sustainable Arts in Leeds [SAIL]. We joined the Culture Declares movement in 2019. As a result, environmental sustainability is at the forefront of our work.

FILMING WE WILL BE PIONEERS ALONG THE WYKE
BECK VALLEY WITH DIRECTOR ASHLEY KARRELL
AND LOCAL RESIDENTS, FEBRUARY 2021





KIOSK DESIGNS BY EMMA HARDAKER

Major Projects

Our current programme comprises two major projects: KIOSK, a mobile makerspace that is touring venues across East Leeds, taking making directly to people in their own communities; and the East Leeds Pavilion, our bid to create the very first makerspace anywhere in the east of the city. You can watch a [short film](#) and read the [newspaper](#) we made about the project on our website.

We are in conversation with Leeds City Council about taking on a space within the new Fearnville Wellbeing Centre where the makerspace could become a reality. Non-Executive Directors joining us now will play a central role in helping us to achieve this ambition.

What is a Non-Executive Director and what is their role?

A Community Interest Company has Directors who lead the organisation. As a Non-Executive Director you will play a role similar to that of a Trustee in a charity.

You will be a company director and have legal responsibilities, but will not be active in the day-to-day running of the organisation.

The Companies Act (2006) states directors must act in accordance with the company's constitution; act in good faith; exercise independent judgement; exercise reasonable care, skill and diligence; and avoid conflicts of interest. This role is partly about good governance and accountability, making sure we work ethically and fulfil our legal responsibilities and duties of care to everyone we work with.

But for us it's also about good conversation, community-building, blue sky thinking, mutual support and friendship, and making connections that can strengthen and advance our work and priorities. We will commit to supporting you in your development during your time with us too.

Our Non-Executive Directors serve a fixed term of two years and we are looking for people to start with us from May/June 2022 onwards. If you join us, we will offer you a contract for services that sets out the terms of your relationship with us.



WYKE BECK VALLEY SCENES

Who are we looking for?

We are a women-led organisation, but we would like to open our work up to voices that better represent the diversity of East Leeds communities, particularly in relation to the 9 protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act (2010).**

We are looking for people who are passionate about art and community. You don't need to live in East Leeds but you might have lived experience of issues that are central to our work – perhaps as an artist or maker, an East Leeds resident or a member of an underrepresented community. And/or, you might have skills in a range of areas that are relevant to our key projects at this time – capital (buildings) development, business planning, finances, fundraising, the challenges of growing sustainably and ethically, or socially-engaged arts practice and community-building.

****The nine protected characteristics are: age; gender reassignment; being married or in a civil partnership; being pregnant or on maternity leave; race including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation.**

Do I need previous Board experience?

No. What is most important is a desire to be part of our conversation and to take an active interest and role in helping us on the next step of our journey. We are looking for a meaningful and authentic engagement that adds value to the lives and experiences of everyone in our organisation, including our stakeholders and of course you.



FIELD WORK WITH MA STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL OF DESIGN, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS, FEBRUARY 2022

Is this a paid role?

No, this is an unpaid role. We recognise that this means the roles will only be accessible to some people. Unlike a registered charity, there is no conflict if you're a freelancer who already works with us or might work with us in the future. You can still be a Non-Executive Director and be paid for contracted work. We can cover travel costs to attend Directors' meetings and we'll always have coffee and cake (Claire is an excellent baker)!

How much time will I need to commit?

The Directors meet four times a year – three regular meetings and one additional 'away day' where we focus on strategic development. Participation in meetings can be online or in person. There will be additional conversations as and when required, mainly over email or Zoom. The role will require a minimum commitment of 4-5 days per year.



KIOSK WORKSHOP AT
CHAPEL FM'S OPEN DAY,
SEACROFT, MARCH 2022

How can I apply?

Please read the information in this pack, take a look at our website and get in touch with any questions before applying.

We would like to make this process as accessible as possible so if you'd like to receive the information in another format, please let us know.

If you're interested in applying we'd be very happy to meet up in person for an informal chat or to arrange a phone call or Zoom meeting to talk things through.

Application

Once you're ready to apply, please send us a letter letting us know why you would like to join us as a Non-Executive Director. Include what you can bring to the role and details of any previous relevant experience. Also tell us what kind of support you think you would need from us to take up this position.

We can also accept applications by phone or Zoom call, in person, or by video or audio recording if you would prefer – get in touch and we can arrange a way to apply that works for you. Shortlisted applicants will be invited for an informal conversation.

The closing date for applications is Friday 20 May 2022.

The email address for all queries about applying, or to make an application is: info@eastleedsproject.org

**Thank you for your interest
and we look forward to
hearing from you!**



east
leeds
project

East Leeds Project
Fearnville Leisure Centre
Oakwood Lane, Leeds, LS8 3LF

www.eastleedsproject.org

Twitter	leeds_east
Instagram	eastleedsproject
Facebook	East Leeds Project

Registered company number 11746322