

ANNUAL REVIEW 2008/2009

ESTABLISHING A STRONG PLATFORM FOR STEPPING OUT

Highlights 2008/9

- Lunch clubs “bursting at the seams” with children
- Relaunching our school assemblies with a new team and a new format
- Running 3 holiday clubs
- Starting up “Milestones” - a new youth club - working in conjunction with Thakeham & Sullington Parish Churches
- Successfully establishing a new programme of community interactive Music Groups
- Establishing parent support groups and parenting training
- Making contact with local families through a range of events including a Family Fun Day and Fashion Show
- Helping several local churches launch their own “Messy Churches”

“A Christian charity working with children, young people & families in schools & at the heart of the local community”

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UK Charity Reg no:
1106290

This year we have continued our work with children, young people and their families in the rural area of central West Sussex, roughly bounded by Petworth, Billingshurst, Storrington and Steyning.

The objects of the Splash! trust are:

- to advance and support the Christian faith
- to advance and support education among children and young people in West Sussex.

The trustees are delighted to report that this has been accomplished in 2008/9 with a significant increase in the breadth, range and quality of projects and services offered to local schools, churches and village communities.

We began 2008 with a promise from God:

“Believe in the Lord your God and you shall be



established” (2 Chronicles 20:20). This has been more than fulfilled as we have seen the favour and blessing of God on all of our activities this year. We are also seeing real increase in opportunities to grow and develop the work further over the next 12 months.

A huge thank you to all of our partners, supporters, funders and volunteers, and also to an amazing God, without whom none of this would have been possible.

John Riddell
Chair of Trustees

FORGE HOUSE—SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

We continued to work with Storrington and Sullington Community Partnership to establish and develop the work at Forge House Community Hub during 2008 and 2009.

Alongside the drop-in information access point Forge House offers various regular services and activities including:

- Citizens Advice Bureau
- Debt & benefit advice
- Pension advice
- Baby clinics, ante & post natal support
- Family & parenting support
- Youth activities

- Domestic abuse support
- Police and social housing association drop-in's



Over this past year there has been an increase in the amount of parenting support being offered through the health services, charities and local groups. Splash's 'My Time' group for parents meets on

Monday mornings at Forge House. These are lively and busy sessions that are meeting real need.

Recently Forge House has offered “Silver Surfer” training classes providing an opportunity for the elderly to learn basic computing skills. These classes are making facilities such as email and internet accessible, in many cases for the first time.

The work at the Community Hub drop-in provides valuable links with local schools, families and relevant agencies, all of which support Splash's activities within local schools and the community.

SPLASH IN SCHOOLS

Teachers said

"Thank you very much for delivering well-prepared, exciting lessons. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the series"

"The children love the Splash assemblies and are looking forward to seeing you next term"

We have continued to develop relationships with local schools through our programme of assemblies, clubs, RE and PHSE lessons and music and drama workshops.



Over the past year we have run around 100 Christian assemblies in 16 local schools, bringing us into contact with almost 3000 children and teachers every half-term.

Our assemblies use puppets, drama, story telling, quizzes, music and video to tell children about the Christian faith in a fun and lively way. For many children this is one of the few opportunities they have to hear that the Christian faith is both real and relevant.



There is always a real buzz in the school hall when the children see that Splash! are there to do the assembly. The

excited whispers, nudges and children waving "hello" bring a real sense of fulfillment to the Splash assembly team.

In schools we also ran weekly lunch clubs and Christian after-school clubs, providing enrichment activities and games in a supportive environment which builds confidence, social skills and self-esteem.

During the year we ran several courses of RE lessons including our "All we know about Jesus" series for Year 5 and Old Testament Bible stories for KS1.

We were delighted to once again base our summer holiday club at Storrington First School, allowing us to build stronger relationships with staff and governors.

NEW WAYS OF REACHING THE COMMUNITY

During 2009 we received external funding to begin two new family outreach projects.

With funding from "Awards for All" we have established "MyTime" - a support group for parents and carers of preschoolers who are not yet linked into the school support networks. A particular feature within rural communities is increasing isolation caused by family break-up. Many single parents feel isolated and vulnerable, receiving minimal practical and emotional support from a partner in the process of bringing up their children. The "MyTime" team of Karlene, Tracy, Michelle and Sarah are befriending, mentoring and building trust while providing direct support to individuals and families. "MyTime" provides a network for help and advice as well as practical skills development to improve the quality of parenting and family life.



Our second outreach project supports parents and carers in using music to foster their children's development. Funded by Youth Music, the UK's largest children's music charity, we have launched "Humming Birds" interactive music groups. Run in conjunction with Pulborough Children's and Family Centre and Trinity Methodist Church, Storrington, these provide music making opportunities in a supportive environment.

The groups are run by experienced local music leaders, including a trained music therapist. This makes them particularly beneficial for children who need extra time and individual attention. Families helped during the year include those with children with Downs Syndrome, children with global development delay as well as communication difficulties, including autistic spectrum disorder.

An additional grant from Hall & Woodehouse Community Chest Awards has allowed us to purchase extra musical instruments for the Humming Birds project, providing an extensive resource available for other groups in the local community.



Parents said

"Humming Birds is absolutely brilliant. My son was enthused and encouraged by Nikki. Lovely friendly welcome too. This will really benefit lots of families. Thank you very much"

"Thank you for a great day. It's really nice to bring the kids somewhere where they can have fun and I don't have to worry about the cost"

SERVING LOCAL FAMILIES

Splash, in conjunction with Family Foundations Trust and Children Worldwide, hosted a free family fun day at the Dalesdown Centre, near Horsham, in June. Volunteers manned a bouncy castle, gladiator joust, balloon typhoon, adventure trail, go-karts, football, basketball, arts

and crafts, and a variety of stalls and activities. With very positive feedback from families, the day reminded us that the best way to build sustainable relationships in the community can often be to come together and have fun!



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES - CHILDREN'S CLUBS & CAMPS

Our weekly kid's clubs continue to thrive and have been boosted this year by a grant of £500 from the Sussex Police Property Act Fund to provide outings and activities for children from the Storrington and Sullington area.

This enabled us to arrange a visit from Horsham's "Mobile Ark" - a fun and informative



evening where children learnt how to care for small animals. The children were introduced to tortoises, rabbits, guinea pigs, rats, gerbils, baby ducklings and a pygmy hedgehog.

The grant also allowed us to take local children to Flying Fortress family entertainment centre at Ford, near Arundel, in West Sussex.

The grant also funded an outing to the roller disco at Billingshurst leisure centre.

This year we also continued our sponsorship of local children enabling them to attend weekend and residential Christian summer camps at the Dalesdown Centre near Dial Post, Horsham.

Many of the families we work with would love to be able to provide these activities for their children but they are simply beyond their reach. Kids clubs and camps allow us to bring the gospel right into the heart of the local community while building relationships with local families and meeting real needs.



Parents said

My son really benefited from the fellowship of other Christian young people, particularly meeting the young person from Morocco. He made good friends with him and they are still in touch on MSN and Facebook. The fellowship and bible study really enriched his time at summer camp"

HOLIDAY CLUBS

The theme of our holiday clubs this year was "WasteWatchers" aiming to teach the children some "fun stuff" about God while learning about protecting the environment. We ran three holiday clubs through the year, two of which were in support of local churches. In all our holiday clubs we try to ensure that kids have great fun while hearing the Christian message communicated clearly and unequivocally.

Splash's

summer holiday club finished with a full scale "It's a Knockout". With parents working hard as judges, teams of children competed in water games and physical challenges. Helpers and children were both wet and exhausted at the end, an excellent basis for building new relationships and friendships in

the community! Holiday club draws on over 50 volunteers from different churches, providing a great training and development opportunity for local young people. They learn new skills while working in a team which supports and encourages them as they reach out to others.



"Thank you for making my son's week with you so much fun. He has been full of stories and has come home with amazing things he has made. The staff all seem professional and genuinely care for the children. He will definitely be back next year. The best club he has ever been to ... in his own words."

SUPPORTING CHURCHES

We have continued to develop our partnership with churches, gaining additional helpers (now around 100 local volunteers) and practical and financial assistance for project work. At the end of our financial year we had four part-time paid workers, financed by partnerships with churches and local families.

During the year we provided significant practical support to local churches in running holiday club programmes.

These included the Weald Community Church's holiday club at St Peter's CE Primary School in Cowfold, and St Peter

and Paul CE Church who ran "WasteWatchers" as an Easter holiday club at Ashington CE First School.



During the year we also hosted a Messy Church training day in April aimed at training, equipping and mobilizing several local churches to begin their own programme. As a result, churches in Fittleworth, Storrington and Billingshurst are now launching Messy Church in their local communities.

Volunteers said

"Holiday club has been absolutely fantastic. I never imagined how much I would learn. I can't express how much I have appreciated being part of the team this week"

Key People

Trustees

John Riddell—Chair
Liz Burt
Peter Jenkins
Michelle Leach
Graham Martin
Dave Smith



The Team

Caroline McGill

Project Manager

Karlene van Nes

Schools & Community Development
Worker

Emma Sneller

Schools & Community Youth Worker

Liz Burston

Children's & Schools Worker

Ed Wyeth

Children's & Schools Worker

Ray Driscoll*

Community & Youth Development
Manager

*joining the team mid-November

**For more information
about the work of Splash!
and how you can support
us, please contact us at:**

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**Splash! is a Registered
Charity UK Reg. no 1106290**

PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS & VOLUNTEERS

Relationships with local churches, schools, agencies, voluntary organizations and community groups remain central to the work of Splash!

During 2008/9 we received financial and practical support from the following local churches and trusts:

Storrington Community Church
Trinity Methodist, Storrington
Petworth Community Church
St Peter & Paul CE Church, Ashington
Washington CE Parish Church
St Mary's, Storrington
Fittleworth Evangelical Church
Weald Community Church, Cowfold
Billingshurst United Reformed Church
The Barber Trust
The Karima Trust
The Lyndhurst Christian Trust

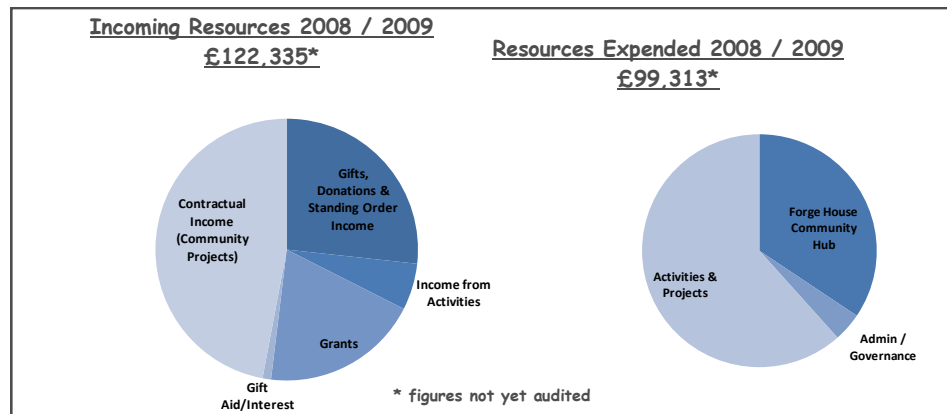
Our on-going relationship with the Storrington & Sullington Community Partnership has provided a key strategic opportunity to work together to resource and develop the Forge House Community Hub Project in Storrington.

We continue to receive significant support in prayer and finances from individuals, as well as practical help from those who come and volunteer to help with assemblies, lunch clubs, after-school clubs and holiday clubs.



"Leaders" challenge at "WasteWatchers" Summer Holiday Club, Storrington First School, August 2009

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND FUTURE PLANS



Splash's activities are supported financially by gifts and donations from local churches and individuals as well as through grants and contracts. During 2008/9 we provided resources to operate Forge House Community Hub on behalf of Storrington and Sullington Community Partnership. This contract, funded by a grant from West Sussex County Council Children & Young People's Service, is due to be completed in March 2010. In addition we have a number of other grantfunded projects currently running including funding from Awards for All and Youth Music.

Total income for the year ending August 2009 was £122,335, an increase of 192% over the previous year. The accounts (prepared on a receipts/payments basis and not yet audited) show a surplus for the year of £23,022. However the income for 2008/9 included advance payments for staffing for projects due to be undertaken from September 2009 onwards. Taking this into account, the true surplus is £6,990.

Future Plans

The additional funding received last year has allowed us to step out and appoint a new Community and Youth Development Manager who will join the team during November. We have long been aware of the need to have a focal point for community based youth work within our area, and we are excited at the opportunities that this post will bring to support local young people and their families.

We are also aware that there are more opportunities available to work within local schools than we can currently resource. Splash is well positioned to expand our work in schools work including developing more after-school clubs, lunch clubs and providing mentoring and pastoral support within schools. We are aiming to broaden and developing our sources of funding to allow us to bring an additional Schools Worker into the team to develop our work in these areas.