

Annual Review 2008/2009

oayp oxfordshire association
for young people

REGISTERED CHARITY 1015127

Chair's Report 2009

“I am pleased to report that these measures have ensured that by the close of the financial year our total funds and assets carried forward (i.e. restricted and unrestricted) were £96,244”

It is over a year since the government's Children's Plan was launched, with its aspiration to make England the best place in the world for children to grow up. However, economic conditions have changed considerably since its publication and its aim is in real danger if the government is not able to provide continued public spending on children and young people's services.

Like many organisations in the third sector, 2008/9 has been a real test for us and we have had to make some very tough decisions to ensure our very survival. In taking a long hard look at the balance sheet we recognised that there were a number of factors causing us to be spending more than we were earning - namely unprofitable contracts and spiralling overheads.

We recognised that we had committed to delivering contracts that, in truth, were outside the core remit of the charity and that were costing us more to deliver than the income they generated. These factors together with an ailing double-decker bus meant that our reserves were diminishing at an alarming rate.

In January 2009, we made 3 difficult decisions. Firstly we decided to terminate a number of unprofitable contracts. Secondly, we regretfully decided to make a number of our staff redundant. Thirdly we decided to sell the bus and rely on our other vehicles to support the mobile provision of our services.

Our only contract not to have a significant deficit was the Club Support contract with Oxfordshire County Council. A lot of effort was now directed to putting in Trust Fund applications and obtaining new contracts that fell into our core remit.

I am pleased to report that these measures have ensured that by the close of the financial year our total funds and assets carried forward (i.e. restricted and unrestricted) were £96,244.

We realised that our move to Upper Heyford had been, for some of our funders, a move too far! We were at the very top of the county and that, along with the name change, meant that we had disappeared from the forefront of some organisations' consciousness. We therefore decided to relocate closer to the heart of the county, settling for the less expensive outskirts of the City.

We are extremely grateful to the Jennings organisation. We are now based on their business park in Garsington where we have been made very welcome.

We reflected using the trading name of ActiveTEN20 coupled with the move out of the city most likely contributed to our profile reduction. Therefore, in April of this year, we decided to revert back to our charitable name of the Oxfordshire Association for Young People.



2nd Annual Oxfordshire Youth Awards

Funding from Barclays and Oxfordshire County Council meant that we hosted the 2nd Annual Oxfordshire Youth Awards. With over 300 people in attendance it was a great success and our thanks go to Messy Jam and Street Stage for providing the evening's entertainment.

OAYP's other areas of work included a Peer Education project. The project's objective was to educate thirty 14–15 year olds around the issues of drugs and alcohol. These young people would then deliver sessions to 11- 12 year olds. Incredibly, over 1000 young people were reached as part of this project. Following this outstanding success, we will shortly be starting a new Peer Education project to tackle the issues around sexual health education and teen pregnancies.

An exciting addition to our services that is being delivered to the affiliated clubs was the creation of the TADA! project. The project is a Travelling Arts and Drama Activities scheme that brings exciting and engaging activities direct to communities. Over 100 young people have already participated in this exciting new scheme.

I would like to express my thanks to the OAYP staff, particularly Paul Lawrence who joined us at a time when we found ourselves in a state of flux. He has performed superbly in turning around the fortunes of the charity.

The other people who deserve a special mention are my board of trustees. John Polgreen, Miles Tuely, Jim Duthie, Mike Watkinson, Geoff Stock, Dave Hutchinson, Emma Gilmour, Manu Shah and Dr Stephen Bizley. They offer their time, support and expertise voluntarily - making the Charity's continuation possible.

We are one of the oldest charities in Oxfordshire, we have a rich history and continue to enjoy the support of His Grace the Duke of Marlborough and his daughter, Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill.

I am in no doubt that the need for our services to the young people of our county will continue unabated, and that our ability to offer tailored support in a variety of areas, will mean we have a positive future ahead of us.

Liz Harris
Chair 2008 / 2009

County Director's Report

Over the past twelve months OAYP has been through some significant changes. Many of the changes have been forced upon us due to the current financial climate but the most significant changes were strategic.

Since joining OAYP in August 2008, I felt that it was important for us to have a clear focus as to who we are and what we do. Our uniqueness as an organisation is that we provide support to the youth clubs and youth groups around the County. The support to those clubs is vital in ensuring that they are continuing to meet the needs of young people. Our Club Support staff work with the affiliated youth groups to ensure that they are providing a safe and welcoming environment for young people. As part of the support programme we are continuing to develop new resources that will provide additional services to affiliated clubs, such as our new club leaders' guide that will be published in the autumn 2009.

Funding from County and District Councils has enabled OAYP to reach more young people than ever before. Our Drugs and Alcohol Peer Education Project worked with over 1000 young people in just under eight months. Following the success of this project we have recently developed a new Peer Education scheme to tackle the issues around sexual health education and teenage pregnancies. We are extremely grateful to Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust and Oxfordshire County Council for funding this work.

Like all charities, finding significant amounts of funding to support our work is proving as difficult at this time as it has ever been. Oxfordshire does seem to miss out on many of the large scale funding rounds that are available through government sources such as Sport England and the Department for Children, Schools and Families. The cause of this is unknown; perhaps one reason could be the perception that Oxfordshire is a largely affluent county and there isn't any real need. There are pockets of affluence within the county, but this is no different from all the other counties in the UK.



Similarly, the issues that young people are facing in Oxfordshire are no different to that in other places but the county does seem to miss out. This often means that more pressure is falling on organisations such as ours and other voluntary sector organisations to deliver work without significant financial investment. As highlighted in the Treasurers' Report, the challenge to OAYP over the next twelve months is to continue to raise funds to support our work with young people. Several major fundraising events are being organised which should give us some unrestricted income that will be put towards our vital work with youth clubs and young people.

Finally, I would like to pass on my thanks to all the paid and unpaid workers who give up so much of their time to support their communities and the young people who attend the many youth clubs and youth groups. Without their hard work and dedication, the youth clubs would not be able to open their doors and give young people somewhere to meet, with their friends, in a safe and secure environment.

Paul Lawrence
County Director

Treasurer's Report

The financial strength of OAYP lies in its ability to attract funding for various pieces of work. This happens because funders know they will get value for money and that the objectives of that work will be met. This was again demonstrated during the year to 31st March 2009. However that quality came at a price and for the year ending the 31st March 2009, our income totalled over £335,000 but expenditure almost matched it at £326,000.

The Association's salary bill was over 50% of its total costs, but not out of proportion to meet funders needs. In addition the Association provided an excellent platform for its staff to develop their skills and to then move on to new challenges.

The main part of the Associations' financial affairs are shown on the Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet – pages 8 & 9 of the 2008 / 2009 audited accounts, which are available upon request. For the past few years accounts have had to be in line with Charity Commission recommendations –called SORP 'statement of recommended practice' – it's a good practice but it does make it difficult to identify how much was spent or indeed received on specific items, but you may find this in the myriad of notes accompanying the accounts.

2008/9 will be the last year, at least for some time, when such income and expenditure sums are frequent. It was recognised that

the previous years accounts contained a fair amount of work that was not financially viable – therefore 31st March 2009 saw a number of contracts terminated and more regrettably a number of staff made redundant. The outcome is a much leaner but more sustainable OAYP, an OAYP more capable of seeing through any difficult times that may be ahead of us.

One area of funding that does need addressing is donations. During the period covered donations of £12,850 were received. Donations represent unrestricted funding i.e. we don't have to spend it on anything specific. Finding support for core expenditure such as the County Director's salary or admin is always difficult as funders want more for their money and demand most of their support be spent directly on face to face work. This area should be focussed on over the coming year to improve the mount of unrestricted funding available to the Association thus providing a stable platform from which to launch it's work with young people and it's support for the club membership.

We are as always indebted to our many supporters for their faith in our work, whether they are national or local government departments, charitable trusts or indeed individuals we thank you for your past support and look forward to your continuing faith in the future.

Mike Watkinson MBE, Treasurer

People to Thank

We would like to express our thanks to the following people and organisations who have supported us over the past twelve months:

His Grace The Duke of Marlborough DL
Lady Henrietta Spencer – Churchill
Col T A Hall
Oxfordshire County Council
Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust
Oxford City Council
South Oxfordshire District Council
Vale of White Horse District Council
West Oxfordshire District Council
Cherwell District Council
OCVA
OYAP
OCVYS
Clubs for Young People
Oxfordshire Sports Partnership
The Environment Agency
Oxfordshire Rural Community Council
Jennings
Barclays Bank
Symm and Co Ltd
The Dragon School
Exeter College
St Johns College
Doris Field Charitable Trust
The Azima Foundation
The Trusthouse Charitable Trust
The Ammco Charitable Trust
PF Charitable Trust
The Peter Ward Charitable Trust

Please accept our apologies if we have missed anyone from the list

Youth Club Support

With the support from Oxfordshire County Council, OAYP have continued to assist over 45 youth clubs and youth groups throughout the County. In excess of 2000 young people attend these clubs on a regular basis, which has seen an 11% rise since 2007/2008. The young people that attend the youth clubs are being supported by over 600 volunteers and workers who give up so much of their time to make sure that young people have something to do in their community.

OAYP receive calls on a regular basis from District and Parish Councils asking us to assist them with setting up a youth club or some sort of youth provision within their area. In the past twelve months, four new youth clubs and youth groups have started with several more soon to be opening their doors to young people.

Youth Clubs work because they are in the heart of the community. Youth Clubs give young people the opportunity to have fun, meet friends and learn through a whole range of activities in a safe and structured environment, supported by committed staff and volunteers. For many young people these clubs are fundamental in helping them through the transition to adulthood.

Club Focus: Wolvercote Young People's Club

Wolvercote Young People's Club has been a dedicated youth centre for many years and will be celebrating its seventieth anniversary in 2009. Previously known as Wolvercote Boys Club, the Club has a long standing affiliation with Clubs for Young People and of course OAYP.

This club has seen many changes over the years and people who have now grown up fondly talk about, "when they attended" and "back in the day" at the annual club reunion.



The club is based in the centre of the community in the north west of Oxford and is attended by over 30 young people on a weekly basis. The facilities have been upgraded over the years and now boast a fully kitted out I.T. room with internet access, and a 52" LCD screen for the young people. Other activities available include use of the dedicated art room which includes a kiln and potters wheels and a flood-lit 5-a-side football court.

The club is open for two evenings a week, however due to demand from the young people in the area we are exploring the possibility of opening on a third night offering this session to the younger age group.



The club is managed by a dedicated committee, who give up a lot of their time on a voluntary basis to support the youth clubs work. Without their years of dedication and support, Wolvercote Young Peoples Club would not have been as successful as it has been. We are also grateful to the support which OAYP gives us. The extra activities that they provide to the young people of the club are outstanding and a real benefit to us in what we can offer the young people of our community.

**Afzal Gill,
Club Leader
Wolvercote Young Peoples Club**

Sport & Activities

Our mobile sports and activity programme has continued to be popular with the youth clubs and young people throughout the county. One of the main reasons youth clubs affiliate to OAYP is for its sports and activities programme. The main objective of the project is for us to address the rural isolation issues that many young people face. The mobile sports and activities team brings exciting opportunities direct to young people. Activities that have been delivered to young people include 5 a side football, dodge ball, kwik cricket and circus skills. Over 1100 young people have taken part in a visit from our mobile sports and activities project over the past twelve months.



A new weekend activities programme is being introduced simply to give young people something to do. These activities will be offered at little or no cost to the young people the idea being it will bring clubs and young people together from all over the county to take part in fun and exciting activities.

Funding has recently been received from Sports Leaders UK that will enable us to train more young people in becoming sports leaders within their local communities. This is expected to have a positive impact on the number of young people who are active within their local community.

Angling Development Project

The Angling Development Project is a joint venture between OAYP, Oxford City Council and the Environment Agency.



The aims are to make angling available to 10–19 year olds within the Oxford area and to promote the health and recreational aspects of the sport and to increase their awareness of associated environmental issues. During the first 18 months over 400 young people took part in the project.

Within the age range, the target groups are vulnerable and disadvantaged youngsters, those who have been excluded from mainstream education, local youth groups and organisations for the disabled.

The involvement would normally start with a classroom session to establish the ability of the participants and to teach some basic skills. This would then be followed up with visits to local

waters to put these skills in to practice. Subsequent sessions will develop the skills further and participants will be encouraged to join local clubs and organisations where they can fish independently from the project and become involved with the clubs and their activities.

Currently funded by Oxford Safer Communities Partnership and the Environment Agency, the project works closely with other organisations such as Positive Futures and Clubs for Young People.



Travelling Arts & Drama Activities
OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

TADA! provides a unique service of taking Art and Drama workshops and projects direct to young people, inspiring them to explore and develop their creativity. We offer all our affiliated youth clubs the opportunity to have a one to two hour taster drama or art session at their club.

This project enables young people to explore their creative potential and broaden their artistic horizons. These fun and interactive workshops will be taken direct to their doorstep removing barriers to attendance which often affects young people in rural areas. Benefits of creative work for young people include learning new skills, team work, confidence, spontaneity, self expression and self esteem.

“ This project enables young people to explore their creative potential and broaden their artistic horizons ”

So far we have run several drama workshops, which have included drama games, improvisation and short plays. The workshops received really positive feedback and the young people really threw themselves into it.

Peer Education Report

During 2008 and 2009 OAYP ran a Drug and Alcohol Peer Education Project in three schools in Oxfordshire. The project was funded by Oxfordshire County Council with support from the Youth Opportunity Fund. The aim of the Peer Education Project was to provide young people with the skills, knowledge, confidence and understanding to deliver education to their peers on issues relating to drugs, alcohol and volatile substances.

Twenty eight peer educators were trained in total, ten from The Marlborough School in Woodstock, nine from Lord Williams School in Thame and nine from The Cherwell School in Oxford.



The peer educators received training sessions on drugs and alcohol, including the effects of drugs, why young people take drugs and the different categories of drugs. As well as these sessions, they completed a Sports Leaders Level 1 qualification which helped them develop

the skills needed to work with their peers, such as leadership, communication and planning.

Once their training was completed, the peer educators went on to plan and deliver their own sessions on drugs and alcohol to Year 7 and 8 pupils. They used interesting and diverse methods that included quizzes, PowerPoint presentations and forum theatre. At The Marlborough School, the peer educators created a forum theatre play about drinking and peer pressure which was performed to the whole of Year 8 over the course of one day as part of the schools Drugs Awareness Day. The play was again performed to the whole of Year 7 as part of their PHSE lesson. The Cherwell School peer educators created a forum show about cannabis and peer pressure. The shows at both schools were very well received and prompted lots of good discussion about the issues raised. The plays were performed to a total of 620 pupils and additional 540 11 – 13 year olds received drugs and alcohol sessions planned and delivered by the Peer Educators.

The Peer Education Project received extremely positive feedback from the peer educators themselves, the young people they ran sessions with and staff within the school.



Young Person's Case Study

I became involved with OAYP through the Drugs and Alcohol Peer Education Project. Debbie Egan, the project worker, came to our school and explained to our year group what a peer education project was. We were told that 10 of us would be chosen to go on a weekend residential and from there we would be taught how to present a drugs and alcohol presentation to younger people. I don't know what made me want to take part in this project because at the time I didn't like speaking in front of people I didn't know!

The weekend away really made a difference. I understood how to present in front of people and learnt more facts about drugs and alcohol than I could imagine. The weekend made us really strong as a group and the team bonding exercises were great!

To present something in front of a lot of younger people was something I found difficult before, but now I love it! We had to put on a drama performance to our school's year 7 and 8 and from the feedback we received from the pupils and teachers it obviously made a huge impact on them and they learnt a lot. The pupils told us they really appreciated us doing it and thought people around our age taught it better to them. We then went on to present a topic on drugs or alcohol, in pairs, to around 30 younger people and I loved it! I felt really passionate for the topic and felt a responsibility to teach the year 7's as well as I could.

As the project drew to a close I didn't want it to stop! I wanted to still be involved as much as possible and I was invited to host the Peer Education Project Celebration Event, presenting to all the people who took part in the project.

The project came to a close but I still wanted to be part of OAYP. I was invited to compare the Oxfordshire Youth Awards held at Oxford Town Hall. The event was attended by over 300 people. This was a very different experience from presenting topics on drugs and alcohol to thirty year seven's! It gave me so much confidence and I enjoyed all of it!

I really appreciate, as do all the people in my group, the time and effort the OAYP staff spent on the Peer Education Project and feel it's made a big impact on my life. I hope to continue helping OAYP as long as I can.

Daniel McCall
OAYP Youth Activities Committee Member



“ I really appreciate, as do all the people in my group, the time and effort the OAYP staff spent on the Peer Education Project and feel it's made a big impact on my life. I hope to continue helping OAYP as long as I can. ”

The Oxfordshire Youth Awards 2009

Oxfordshire Association for Young People hosted the second annual Oxfordshire Youth Awards at Oxford Town Hall. The Awards were an opportunity to recognise and reward the many positive and inspiring contributions young people aged 13 -18 make to the County.



There were 5 different award categories; Outstanding Individual Achievement, Individual Bravery, Community, Sport and Arts and this year we created the Special Recognition Award, for the most inspiring and impressive entry over all.

Over 75 young people were nominated and everyone received certificates of recognition on the night and those in 3rd, 2nd and 1st place received Awards. All the young people who were nominated received an invitation to the Awards and were invited to bring their families and friends. The Sheriff of Oxford and the Deputy Lord Lieutenant attended the Ceremony and presented Awards.

The entertainment was provided by hip hop dance troupe 'Messy Jam' and break-dancers 'Flaw R Tists' featuring Street Stage. A prize draw was held mid way through proceedings which included a haircut at Mahogany Hair Salon, a plane ride at Weston on The Green, tickets to see a play at The Oxford Playhouse, tickets to Silverstone Race Circuit, and tickets to the Oxford Bowlplex & Cotswold Wildlife Park.

There was a very special moment when the winner of the Special Recognition Award was announced. Sadly, Jake Spicer who won the Award for his extraordinary bravery and courage passed away a few days before the Ceremony but over thirty members of his family were in attendance. Jake's aunt and four year old sister received the Special Recognition Award on Jake's behalf. To honour Jake the Special Recognition Award, in future, will be known as 'The Jake Spicer Special Recognition Award.'



The event was kindly supported with funding by Barclays Bank, the Youth Opportunities Fund and the Chill Out Fund.

The Winners & Runners Up:

SPORTS AWARD

1. Mitchell Roberts
2. Imogen Shayler
3. James Wright

OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

1. Becky Newman
2. Harriet Owen
3. Karim Khan

COMMUNITY AWARD

1. Cherwell School Peer Educators
2. Natalie Austin
3. Charlie Leach

ARTS AWARD

1. Gemma Pearce
2. Street Stage
3. Frankie Williams

INDIVIDUAL BRAVERY

1. Matthew Holder – Wooloff
2. Harriet Ralph
3. Tiffany Williams

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

(to be known in the future as the Jake Spicer Special Recognition Award)

WINNER – Jake Spicer

Vice Presidents, Trustees & Staff

Patron:

His Grace the Duke of Marlborough DL

President:

Lady Henrietta Spencer – Churchill

Vice Presidents:

The Hon C E Cecil; Mr M Cochrane;
Mr C Farrell; Mr A Fielden;
Dr Graeme Garden; Lady Celia Goodhart;
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Brigadier Mogg; Mr H D H Pimm;
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Sir Frank Williams;
The Lord Mayor of Oxford
The Vice Chancellor of Oxford University;
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Accountant: Elliot Collins

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County Director:

Paul Lawrence

Administrator:

Deborah Hunt

TADA! Coordinator:

Debbie Egan

Sports and Activities Officer:

Jamie Hazeldine

Angling Development Officer:

Ian Horrocks

Affiliated Youth Club List

Abingdon Damascus Youth Project
Abingdon Town Amateur Boxing Club
Ardley Youth Club
Asylum Welcome
Benson Youth Club
Berinsfield Amateur Boxing Club
Blewbury Youth Club
Cafe Java
Chinnor Youth Club
Cuddesdon & Denton Youth Club
Deddington & District Youth Club
East Hendred Youth Club
Farmoor & Cumnor Youth Club
Fringford Youth Club
Fritwell Youth Club
Hanwell Fields Youth Centre

Henley Youth Centre
Jericho Youth Club
Kennington Youth Club
Marsh Baldon Youth Club
Minster Lovell Youth Club
Over Norton Youth Club
OX13+ Appleton Youth Club
Oxford Talent School
Oxford Boxing Academy
Phoenix Youth Club
Radley Youth Club
South Newington Youth Club
Stanton Harcourt Youth Club
Steeple Aston Youth Club
The Barn Project
The Net Youth Centre

The Parasol Project
The Sweatbox
TRAX - The Oxfordshire Motor Project
Upper Heyford Youth Club
VOX Inc
Wallingford Youth Centre
Watlington Youth Club
Wendlebury Youth Club
West Hendred and Ginge Youth Club
Windrush Valley ABC
Wolvercote Young People's Club
Woodcote Youth Club
Woodstock Youth Club
Wychwood Youth Club
Young Carers Project