



*The Charity Helping The Local Community*

# Annual Report

## 2010/11





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## Chairman's Report



2010 was a year of celebration for the Trust as it reached its 20th year. The Gala dinner that started the celebrations truly reflected the spirit of the year. Business members both founding and new came together to hear the remarkable stories of people who had been helped by the Trust over the last 20 years.

Financially the Trust like all charities has had a difficult year, with some loss of membership; however Streets Chartered Accountants new to the town in August became patron members and provided a much needed financial boost. We have also reviewed our spending and looked at getting best value for the grants by negotiating discounts and building partnerships with other agencies.

Over the year applications for emergency grants has increased reflecting the difficult times we are facing and the Trust has been pleased to respond quickly and effectively to avoid continued hardship.

Our 20th Birthday was an opportunity to thank all those businesses that have supported us throughout the years many have been with the Trust since its inception in 1990 and we could not continue to provide much needed support to the community without your help.

2011 promises to be another challenging year and I look forward to you continuing to support the local community and voluntary sector through the Trust.

*Ken Fullert.*

## Manager's Report

What an eventful year – from the gala evening in April to the Celebrity Lunch in December it's been non stop. With the help of local company RLF the quiz night changed venues to the Cromwell and took on a whole new personality in the form of Vince the quiz master. If you haven't been along to this event you are really missing out on a fun night and successful fundraiser which is set to become an annual event. This year for the celebrity lunch we partnered with Stevenage Arts and Leisure and included pantomime tickets as part of the package.

Many companies have helped us with time, expertise and meeting rooms and we are grateful for all the support we have received through the year.

It's been a difficult year for Grants with an increase in grants to individuals and a downturn in applications from organisations but we have been working hard to promote our grant giving and hope to see an up turn in next years figures.

Once again the staff team would like to thank the Trustees for all their support during the year and we are looking forward to 2011/12 and with your help continuing to support the voluntary and community sector in Stevenage.

*J. G. G. G.*

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# Grants

## Chells Community Association

Almost 50 children at the Chells Children's Centre benefited from a £1,500 grant from the Trust. The children had limited play opportunities as their outside play area was very dangerous due to its uneven surface, particularly in the wet weather. The Trust helped to fund the cost of levelling the playground, and paid for rubber matting to be laid so that the area could be used all year round.

## National Childbirth Trust – Herts North Branch

Every year the NCT provide support to thousands of people through pregnancy, birth and early parenthood. Thanks to a grant from the Trust of £553, they were able to employ a local provider specialising in infant first aid and offer a half day training course to 16 parents at the Bedwell Children's Centre. These parents were referred by the Centre Manager as vulnerable parents who would most benefit from a course of this nature. The course covered basic CPR as well as providing an overview of the symptoms of the most serious childhood illnesses and the appropriate action to take.

## Barnwell Specific Learning Disabilities Base

The Trust was delighted to work in conjunction with Cllr John Lloyd to match fund a grant of £2,000 for Barnwell

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Specific Learning Disabilities for much needed furniture, sofas, bean bags and floor cushions. These items helped to create an area for dyslexia students that was safe, friendly and comfortable, allowing the students to relax and enjoy reading. Jane Gadenne, Base Leader wrote “Our ‘chilled out reading zone’ is up and running very successfully. The students pop in and out freely at lunchtime and really seem to appreciate the area, even taking their shoes off so they don’t leave any dirt on the new rug!”

### Stevenage Live Music Café

Stevenage Music Cafe received £850 from the Trust to purchase much needed equipment. The Cafe is run by a Steering Committee of young people aged 13-19 years old working along side Youth Connexions at Bowes Lyon Centre. The cafe offers young musicians and performers the opportunity to meet with their peers to practice their art and gain experience through performing for their peers and other cafe users.

### Hardship Cases

The Trust received more urgent grant requests than usual on behalf of individuals in need.

#### CASE ONE

We were approached to help a gentleman who suffers from Angina and is regularly in and out of hospital as a result. He had been living at the Haven until local accommodation became available. Lack of funds meant the gentleman could

not afford to purchase essential household items. The Trust was happy to help and purchased a much needed cooker and freezer for him.

#### CASE TWO

A local PCSO from Stevenage Police contacted the Trust to convey her concerns about a young boy from a low income family. She was concerned for his well being and stability as he had very low self esteem and very basic facilities at home. The Trust awarded £150 to purchase a bike and helmet for him so that he could gain independence and improve his mobility around Stevenage.

#### CASE THREE

The Stevenage CAB approached us on behalf of a single mother of 3 children who was unable to work due to severe breathing difficulties. The CAB tried to improve the family’s financial situation with a range of benefit applications; however these things took time to resolve. The youngest child could only eat soya products due to Eczema. The Trust awarded £200 in food vouchers to help alleviate the pressure on the family

# Grants awarded this year....

- Barnwell Specific Learning Disabilities Base
- Chells Community Association
- Crossroads Care
- Friends of Albert Street & Southend Close Sheltered Housing
- Harmony Coaching & Mentoring Avenues
- Hertford Road Community Association
- K Entertainers
- National Childbirth Trust
- Phoenix Rangers (Girl Guiding UK)
- Pin Green Community Association
- Poplars Scout Group
- React
- Remap
- Recovery Insight
- Stevenage Credit Union
- Stevenage Live Music Café
- The Shephall Centre
- Tracks
- YMCA Stevenage
- 12 x hardship grants

## Sports Grants

- Mario Santos-Costa
- Neil McLellan
- Gobi Ranganathan
- Ivan Bulyha

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# Fundraising

## 20th Birthday

On 23rd April 2010, Stevenage Community Trust celebrated its 20th birthday and raised over £4,000 from various fundraising activities across the town.

The celebrations began with a Gala dinner sponsored by MBDA (UK) Ltd and The Wine Society. Guests included members and supporters of the Trust as well as representatives of grant beneficiaries. Items kindly donated by Stevenage Football Club, Stevenage Borough Council and Ken Follett were auctioned or raffled.

A cake sale at local solicitors HilliersHRW, coffee mornings at Douglas Drive, Stevenage Borough Council and the Follett Office, and a Nearest the Pin competition at Stevenage Golf Course were just some of the events which raised money for the Trust. Supporters also held dinner parties asking guests to make a contribution in aid of the Trust.

In the town centre the Mayor, Cllr Sue Myson, was the first customer at the Trust's fundraising café sponsored by Eat Lunch. Customers were able to enjoy a massage by Lavender Touch and the day culminated in a balloon launch by the Trust's Chair Ken Follett.



## Fundraising cont'd

### Charity Golf Day

Our Charity Golf Day raised in excess of £1,800 for the Trust. We were pleased to welcome 40 golfers from local businesses who took part in the annual event at Stevenage Golf and Conference Centre. iThink Media were the winners on the day and were presented with a trophy by Stevenage Mayor Cllr Michael Downing and Alan Fuller from main sponsor MBDA (UK) Ltd.



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The final scores were:

1st	iThinkMedia	126
2nd	Stevenage Leisure Ltd (1)	124
3rd	RHG	121
4th	Paradigm Secure Communications	116
5th	MBDA (1)	116
6th	Fujitsu	113
7th	MBDA (2)	112
8th	Ewart Price	111
9th	Stevenage Leisure Ltd (2)	104
10th	Brignalls Balderston Warren	100

Nearest the Pin Winner – Pat Winston (Stevenage Leisure Ltd)

Longest Drive Winner – Paul Beasley (RHG)

Putting Competition Winner – David Martin (Fujitsu)

### Celebrity Lunch

This annual event was held at the Stevenage Arts & Leisure Centre and attended by over 220 guests who enjoyed a 3 course lunch followed by a very successful auction and raffle hosted by BBC Radio 5 Live presenter, David Croft. Guests were then entertained by Steve Smith-Eccles who shared some experiences from his days as a National Hunt jockey. Thanks to the generosity of local businesses and individual supporters the event raised over £7,200 for the Trust. We would like to thank

all those who came along and helped to raise such a fantastic amount of money.

### RLF Quiz Night

Local construction and property consultants, Robinson Low Francis (RLF), hosted a quiz night at the Ramada Cromwell Hotel in aid of Stevenage Community Trust. The event was a fantastic success and raised almost £1,500 for the Trust. The evening of questions, challenges and games was compered by Vince in a series of flamboyant costumes and was enjoyed by over 150 people from local businesses and organisations. We are extremely grateful to the staff at RLF who made the experience such great fun, and to all those who supported the evening.

### Stevenage Day

Staff and volunteers from the Trust joined in the fun at Stevenage Day by painting the faces of almost 100 children. The hot and sunny weather meant the event was well attended which was great news for all the local charities and community groups who had worked so hard to make the day a success. The Trusts stall proved to be extremely popular with children of all ages, and resulted in over £200 being taken on the day.



## Staff Volunteering Days

**RLF** approached the Trust looking for volunteering opportunities. Working with Stevenage Volunteer Centre we were able to connect them with community groups in Stevenage. RLF were celebrating their 125 year anniversary and wanted to give 125 days of volunteering across all of their offices. The staff at Stevenage worked on three projects; two in the Stevenage area. RLF provided Stevenage Amateur Boxing Club with a DDA assessment and a group of staff spent a day clearing the ground outside the club to enable work to start on providing a disabled toilet and access. The Haven had been given permission to build a new unit in their grounds which would provide more accommodation for homeless people and RLF gave pro bono professional advice on the tending process allowing them to feed much needed funds into the building.

**The work with RLF** is typical of the kind of requests we are receiving, in part because of the project work done last year by Dawn Jordan and also because in this difficult time, companies don't always have the finances but still want to offer support to the community. Projects like this help local groups and provide an opportunity for staff to have a fun day working together.

If you would like further information on how the Trust can assist with your staff volunteering schemes, please call 01438 525390 or email [info@sct.uk.net](mailto:info@sct.uk.net)

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Continuing its work to facilitate the **GlaxoSmithKline** 'Orange Days', the Trust identified and helped to organise a volunteering day for GSK staff at Almond Hill School in Stevenage. The project began with all pupils taking part in a challenge to design the allotment and suggest ideas for planting. On the day, over 40 volunteers from GSK & the Trust arrived early and completely transformed an area in the school grounds into a fantastic allotment. With help from Buildbase, whose staff kindly gave up their time to prepare the raw materials, the team erected raised flower beds, formed a gravelled path and gave some much needed TLC to an existing fence.

Head Teacher Mrs Lovelock said, 'What a fantastic achievement in just one day. The children will benefit so much from this community project and can't wait to get their hands dirty by planting their vegetables. It is this sort of project that shows how well schools and businesses can work together. We are very grateful to all the parties involved.'



# Testimonials...

## **Pam Shaw, St Nicholas Community Centre**

"The fitters were great and did a fantastic job and as you can see from the photograph the children were delighted. As these tops, without fitting charges are over £400, everyone on the Community Centre management committee was extremely pleased with the service provided. The children made a card to say thank you to everyone concerned."

## **Sharon Day, Albert Street/Southend Close Sheltered Housing Scheme**

"Southend Close & Albert Street residents would like to thank the Community Trust for the grant, which enabled us to bring together 54 of our residents to celebrate the Royal Wedding in a street party style. We transformed our hall into a sea of Red, White and Blue with bunting and table decorations giving us the patriotic feel for the day. Residents enjoyed a fantastic afternoon of entertainment incorporating a traditional Fish & Chip lunch. Entertainment was provided by Musical Ties who sang all the old London Songs and many more favourites for everyone to join in. Some of the residents who joined in the afternoon, find it difficult to join in social outings and activities, due to mobility issues but for this day due to the location and being a safe environment they were able to join in with neighbours and old friends and reminisce about previous Royal weddings and street party's.

## **Joe McCallion, React**

"I would like to say a big thank you to Stevenage Community Trust for acknowledging React's community work that we do towards helping people who require a wheelchair transport service, help with disability and benefits and much more. Your donation of £1,000 towards our mini bus will go a long way towards stopping social exclusion."

## **Pam Minhas, Crossroads Care**

"On behalf of the Trustees, staff and volunteers of Crossroads Care, we would like to thank you once again for your recent generous grant of £200. Your commitment to helping our charity is appreciated by those who benefit from our services. Your support made it possible to purchase gifts and food for our much needed carers."

## **B Baker, K Entertainers**

"We wish to thank you very much for the grant. It was a lovely surprise and helped us out tremendously. We had an excellent response from the audience, plenty of singing, and most of all, the thing that makes it so worthwhile for us is also plenty of smiles on their faces.

On behalf of K Entertainers we wish you every success for the New Year and once again thank Stevenage Community Trust from the bottom of our hearts for your support."

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# Financials

Year ended 31st March 2011

## INCOMING RESOURCES

Donations	
Partnership funding	
Activities to further the charity's objects: Membership	
Activities to generate funds: General fund raising	
Investment income and interest	

### Total Incoming Resources

## RESOURCES EXPENDED

Direct charitable expenditure	
Cost of generating funds: Fund raising and publicity costs	
Management and administration	

### Total resources expended

## NET INCOMING RESOURCES

## GAINS AND LOSSES ON REVALUATION AND ON INVESTMENT ASSET DISPOSALS

Realised gains/(losses)	
Unrealised gains/(losses)	

## NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

### FUND BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD

### FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD

#### And represented by:

Fixed assets	
Net current assets	

	2011 GENERAL	2011 RESTRICTED	2011 TOTAL	2010 TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
	7,262	–	7,262	53,127
	–	–	–	–
	33,697	–	33,697	32,324
	26,635	–	26,635	30,633
	13,283	–	13,283	14,711
	<b>80,877</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>80,877</b>	<b>130,795</b>
	55,547	7,940	63,487	87,871
	4,261	–	4,261	11,124
	19,305	–	19,305	19,280
	<b>79,113</b>	<b>7,940</b>	<b>87,053</b>	<b>118,275</b>
	1,764	(7,940)	(6,176)	12,520
	2,977	–	2,977	7,497
	11,827	–	11,827	97,016
	14,804	–	14,804	104,513
	16,568	(7,940)	8,628	117,033
	487,638	12,007	499,645	382,612
	504,206	4,067	508,273	499,645
			447,432	434,752
			60,841	64,893
			<b>508,273</b>	<b>499,645</b>

The summary financial information above has been extracted from the full statutory accounts, which were approved and which have been submitted to the Charity Commission and Registrar of Companies. The full statutory accounts have been audited and received an unqualified report from the auditors, Wagstaffs Chartered Accountants, who have also confirmed to the Trustees that the summary financial information is consistent with the full statutory accounts.

A copy of the full statutory accounts, together with the trustees' and auditors' reports thereon, can be obtained from the registered office.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by:

**K Follett**



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## Donations

For 20 years, the work of the Trust has only been possible through the support of local groups and businesses. One of the ways in which we are supported is through donations; both financially and in kind.

Tesco at Broadwater in Stevenage celebrated its re-launch with a £1,000 donation to Stevenage Community Trust. Staff at the newly refurbished store had chosen the Trust to receive the gift which was a wonderful surprise and most welcomed by the Trusts staff and Trustees.

The North Herts Scooter Collective was started 5 years ago by people with an interest in scooters, mainly Lambretta's and Vespa's. These range from really old 1950's, 1960's and 1970's scooters up to the present day scooters. In January 2011, the group celebrated their 5th anniversary and held a late Christmas fancy dress party to start off this special year. Both a fancy dress competition and a raffle on the night helped to raise £125 for charity. The Trust was extremely grateful to be chosen to receive the donation.

During 2009/10 Stevenage Community Trust was delighted to be chosen as one of the Mayor, Cllr Sue Myson's charities. The fundraising activities, including the Mayor's Charity Concert, meant that the Trust received a £1,300 donation and much needed publicity. We would like to thank Sue for her support and we have worked with new Mayor Cllr



Michael Downing alongside Peace Child International and Mind in Mid Herts.

### Donations In Kind

A big thank you to the following businesses and individuals who provided in-kind donations to the Trust during 2010-11;

Delbanco Meyer, Fujitsu, John Lewis, Stevenage Packaging Ltd, Ken Follett, Waste Not Want Not, MBDA (UK) Ltd, Manor Of Groves, The Tilbury, BBW Solicitors, HilliersHRW Solicitors, Toppers Print & Design, The Wine Society, Sainsburys, Stevenage Leisure Ltd, Robinson Low Francis, MITIE, Paradigm Secure Communications, David Croft, Eat Lunch, Lavender Touch, Richmond House Group, Stevenage Football Club, Richard Bacon, Alex Geoman, Wagstaffs Chartered Accountants, Astrium Ltd.

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# Acknowledgements..

## Thank you for the continued support of our members....

Alex Lang  
 Anglia Battery Services  
 Anita Parsley  
 Aston Caterers  
 Astrium Ltd  
 Baker Watkin  
 Brignalls Balderston & Warren  
 Brown & Lee  
 Campbell Collins  
 Chambers Coaches  
 Cineworld UK  
 Conamar Building Services  
 Crossroads in Hertfordshire  
 Graham Clark  
 Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
 HilliersHRW  
 Home-Stevenage  
 Hermit of Redcoats

Hertford Road Community Association  
 Hilda Lawrence  
 HR Initiatives  
 HSBC Bank  
 I M Lines & A J Lines  
 Ken Brown Motors  
 Latif & Co  
 Lytton Enterprises  
 MBDA (UK) Ltd  
 M H Goldsmith & Sons  
 Mitie  
 MKG Motor Group  
 North Hertfordshire College  
 Novotel Hotel  
 RHG  
 Shephall Community Association  
 St Andrew & St George Church  
 St Nicholas Community Association  
 Stevenage Borough Council

Stevenage CVS  
 Stevenage Glass Company  
 Stevenage Leisure Ltd  
 Stevenage Packaging Ltd  
 Stevenage Rotary Club  
 The Comet Newspaper  
 The Follett Trust  
 The Management Practice  
 The Wine Society  
 Veale Associates  
 W Austin & Sons  
 Westgate Shopping Centre

## We are pleased to welcome the following new members...

Bhavna Joshi  
 Eat Lunch  
 Jeannette Thomas  
 Holiday Inn (Stevenage)  
 Lavender Touch  
 Stevenage Caribbean and African Association

Stevenage Town Centre Management  
 Streets Chartered Accountants  
 Toppers Print and Design  
 Weldability sif

## We are sorry to say goodbye to the following members and thank them for their support in recent years:

Aeroflex  
 Chantry Vellacott DKF  
 Delbanco Meyer  
 KJS Property Maintenance Ltd  
 Osbourne Appointments  
 Ronald Cerner & Co  
 Stevenage Knitting Company

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# Trustees

Ken Follett – Chair  
 Robert Stewart – Vice Chair  
 Martin Addrison – Secretary  
 Sherma Batson  
 Ian Campbell  
 Graham Clark  
 Janis Daniel  
 Fintan Donohue  
 Alan Fuller  
 Richard Henry  
 Maurice Hennessey  
 Darren Isted  
 Bhavna Joshi  
 Alan Juggins  
 Charanjit Kang  
 Alex Lang  
 Ian Morton  
 Mike Phoenix  
 Jeannette Thomas

Paul Tutin  
 President – Barry Norman  
 Patron – Lord Cobbold  
 Honorary Member – Hilda Lawrence  
 Manager – June Oldroyd  
 Grants Administrator – Roseleen Alderton  
 Fundraising and Publicity Coordinator – Caroline Haskins  
 Registered Auditors – Wagstaffs Chartered Accountants, Walkern Road, Stevenage SG1 3QP  
 Investment Managers – Rathbone Investment Management Ltd, 159 Bond Street, London W1Y 9PA  
 Bankers – HSBC, Danestrete, Stevenage SG1 1BY

## Fundraising and Management Committee

Ken Follett (Chair)  
 Martin Addrison  
 Alan Fuller  
 Maurice Hennessey  
 Ian Morton  
 Robert Stewart  
 Jeannette Thomas

## Grants Committee

Alan Fuller (Chair)  
 Martin Addrison  
 Graham Clark  
 Maurice Hennessey  
 Mark Holgate  
 Marian Hurle  
 Darren Isted  
 Ann Jansz  
 Bhavna Joshi  
 John Pye  
 Jeannette Thomas  
 Chris Tye



*The Charity Helping The Local Community*

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Charity No. 1000762

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