

ANNUAL REPORT 2011 - 2012



Artwork provided by Leah, Willow class, age 10, Harwood Park C.P School, Heywood

TRANSPORT FOR SICK CHILDREN

A volunteer driver scheme helping to transport children
to hospital and clinic appointments



Transport For Sick Children Limited
Registered Charity No. 1110618 Registered Company No. 5454582

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Treasurer John Adams
Company Secretary John Adams
Gaynor Kershaw
Pauline Cope
Eric Houghton

Staff

Transport Organisers
Judith Oxley
Jo Senior
Jacqui Meadows

Administrator
Anna Burns

Volunteer Support Worker
George Stenson

Chairman's Report



- This year has proved to be a very difficult one for the Charity
- John Laing organised a Golf Day and successfully bid for the Group's Christmas Charity donation raising in all £6,000.
- The challenge for 2012/13 is to increase funding from the PCTs to at least maintain the service at the 2008/9 level.

This year has proved to be a very difficult one for the Charity. The concentration of children's services on the New Royal Manchester Children's Hospital with some specialised services at North Manchester General and Wythenshawe Hospitals has resulted in an increase in the demand for transport from the most deprived areas of our community. The changes to the NHS have led to significant reductions in the financial support given to the Charity by most of the ten PCTs in the Greater Manchester Area. This has meant that the "quota" system introduced towards the end of last year has had to be continued, refined and applied most rigorously. Thanks to the efforts of the staff the monthly "mileage" costs had been brought within budget by the end of the year.

Despite the financial problems the Charity's drivers have driven over 86,000 miles to take 1,000 children to some 2,500 health appointments. Our drivers continue to help families attend appointments at Alder Hey, Birmingham Children's Hospital, Bradford Cochlea Implant Clinic, St. James Hospital, Leeds, Sheffield Hospitals, Newcastle General Hospital as well as the Greater Manchester Hospitals and Health Centres.

The Charity continues to be involved with the implementation of "Making it Better" having representatives serving on the NHS Public Partnership Board and the Greater Manchester, East Cheshire and High Peak Children, Young People and Families network.

Last year I saw the main challenges for this year as:-

Finding affordable and suitable office space and obtaining sufficient funding to continue our work.

Unfortunately we have not been as successful in regards to obtaining funding from the PCTs we serve as we were in finding accommodation. We have benefited from a number of donations:- the staff at the Salford Office of John Laing organised a Golf Day and successfully bid for the Group's Christmas Charity donation raising in all £6,000. Heywood Charities Fete Committee once again gave us £500 bringing their support over the years to some £6,000. A number of individual donations boosted income by £2000. Together these turned what would have been an excess of expenditure over income from the PCTs into a surplus.

The challenge for 2012/2013 is to increase funding from the PCTs to at least maintain the service at the 2008/9 level.

The dedicated support of all our volunteer drivers and office staff is essential to the charity continuing to contribute as it does to the well being of so many children and their families. Thank you to them and to the Directors who give their time and expertise to keep the charity working so well.

We look forward to another challenging year with the implementation of the NHS restructuring programme and the continuance of the cost reduction programme both of which will impact on the charity. I am confident that the team will successfully meet the challenge.

John Sagar – Chairman

Why we do what we do



Just one of the many families we help to reach vital medical appointments and treatment for their children at The Royal Manchester Children's Hospital.

"Your service has been invaluable for a few of our patients who would have really struggled to get to the children's hospital and wheelchair centre."

Diane Love, Team Leader, Paediatric Physiotherapy, Royal Oldham Hospital

"Transport For Sick Children have provided invaluable support for children and families attending outpatient appointments and ward admissions at North Manchester General in 2011-2012. Families who we refer to this service have very little funds and are sometimes too unwell to use multiple public transport services."

Katie Rowson, Specialist Nurse, North Manchester General Hospital

"Without your invaluable service a lot of our patients would have difficulty in attending hospital appointments. Keep up the good work."

"Transport for Sick Children have assisted children within our team greatly. Many of our families within the area have complex medical needs and do not have their own transport. The children have several appointments and waiting for hospital transport often proves to be time consuming for the children and their families. This time is very precious in order to maintain a normal life style. The families and children all have positive feedback and value greatly this service. The service has aided comfort for the children and they all appreciate the continuity of the drivers."

Children's Community Nursing Team, Kingsway Clinic, Rochdale

"Your service made the hospital trip for the family I work with less stressful, as travelling on public transport is extremely traumatic for them and obviously taxi's are very expensive. As always the drivers are prompt, polite and courteous - thank you."

Karen Murphy, Family Worker, Derby Street Children's Centre, Heywood

"Excellent service: Responsive, reliable and accommodating. Needs continuing support to maintain the service."

Cleft Lip & Palate Unit, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

"Thank you so much – your service has been prompt and helpful, it is good to know you are there. Many thanks once again."

Kathryn Yellop, Portage Home Visitor, Starting Life Well Inclusion Team, Salford



Why we do what we do

"This service is absolutely essential for a lot of the families that I work with who either have no transport or cannot afford public transport costs. In addition to this, some of our young people with complex health needs could not access public transport due to the equipment that they need with them at all times. The service provided by Transport for Sick Children makes a significant difference to these families in particular, and without this service they would possibly miss some of their appointments which could have an impact on their health conditions."

**Claire Rutherford, Record Co-ordinator / Parent Information & Support
Disabled Children's Services, Castle Hill Centre, Bolton**

"I cannot praise this service highly enough. They help out families that are struggling to attend appointments with our service and they are organised and attend on time and are always helpful with any correspondence. If only everyone was as helpful as they are!!"

Victoria Smerdon, Highly Specialised Orthoptist, Royal Bolton Hospital

"The service has enabled parents and their sick children the opportunity to attend clinical appointments. Ensuring continuity of care for their child can be very stressful for families who do not have their own transport or struggle financially. Many families have commented to the Children's Community Nursing Team how brilliant the service is and how helpful the drivers are. As a team we all agree it is an invaluable resource."

Team Leader, Children's Community Nursing Team, Oldham

"The service has greatly assisted a family who have a disabled child and baby and were struggling to regularly attend important health appointments for both children. The service enables them to have secure access to transport to ensure their health needs are met."

**Sophie Smith-Rudge, Student Social Worker, Pioneer Street Children's Centre,
Clayton, Manchester**



"I started volunteering a few years ago because I had retired from my job and really wanted to do something different. I saw the advert in the paper for Transport For Sick Children and thought "that should keep me busy!". I enjoy volunteering - it gets me out and about. We've all used the National Health Service and I wanted to give something back - especially to those less able than me."

**Colin Bradburn - Volunteer Driver,
Transport for Sick Children**

Treasurer's Report



- There was an increase of income of about £2,000.
- PCT'S received a service in line with the funding provided
- Expenditure has also been managed well

Incoming resources totalled £100,456 (last year £98,050) in the twelve months to 31st March 2012. The sources of income were as follows::

	%	
	2012	2011
PCT's	89.2	92.5
Donations/Fundraising	9.2	4.4
Bank Interest	1.3	2.9
Miscellaneous	0.2	0.2
	100.0	100.0

There was an increase of income of about £2,000. Income from the PCT's is tending downwards with the NHS centrally driven cost reduction programme operating. A substantial donation from John Laing (North West) PLC (£6,000) assisted the charity to avoid a loss.

With the determination to prevent any further loss a quota system, where each of the ten PCT'S received a service in line with the funding provided, was introduced. This has been controlled well by all those involved and is a key factor in keeping the costs of the charity down. The quota system has had a massive impact on the volunteer driver workload and morale.

Expenditure has also been managed well. A substantial reduction in Driver's Mileage cost, of 33 per cent, is because of the operation of the quota system that matched activity to income.

The charity has therefore made a surplus of £5,790 compared with a loss last year of £17,095 which included £ 2,306 spent on the enforced move of the office.

The charity helped 1,052 children in the year carrying out 4,707 trips and travelled 86,244 miles.

The number of children helped and trips made are a consequence of the quota system operated throughout the year.

The PCT funding budgeted for 2012/2013 is held at the same level of last year (£89,000). The charity will continue to operate within the limits of the funding provided. Any further funding reduction must be matched by a cut in the service to match the cut in funding.

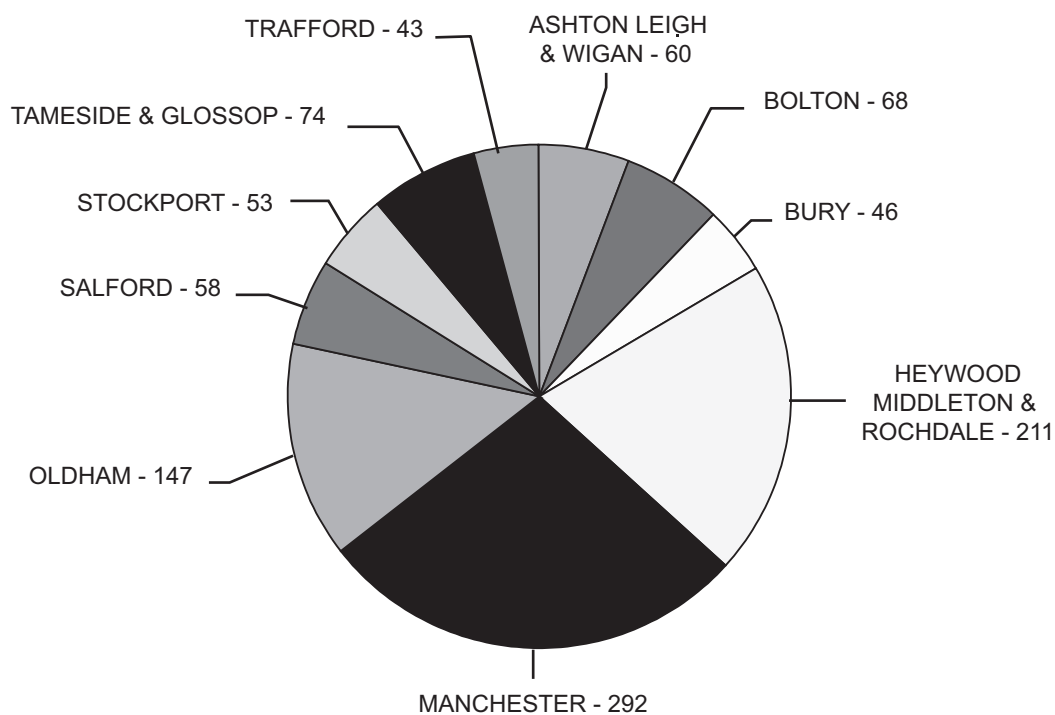
The implementation of the "Making It Better "strategy for Greater Manchester, will be completed in 2012 and any final consequences of that strategy should have worked their way into our operations during 2012. The Royal Children's Hospital is having a substantial effect on the trips we are making. A large percentage of trips made now are to this hospital.

Liaison meetings with Health Visitors continued throughout the year. A Health Visitor survey carried out in the Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale PCT area gave very positive feed back of the charity's activities.

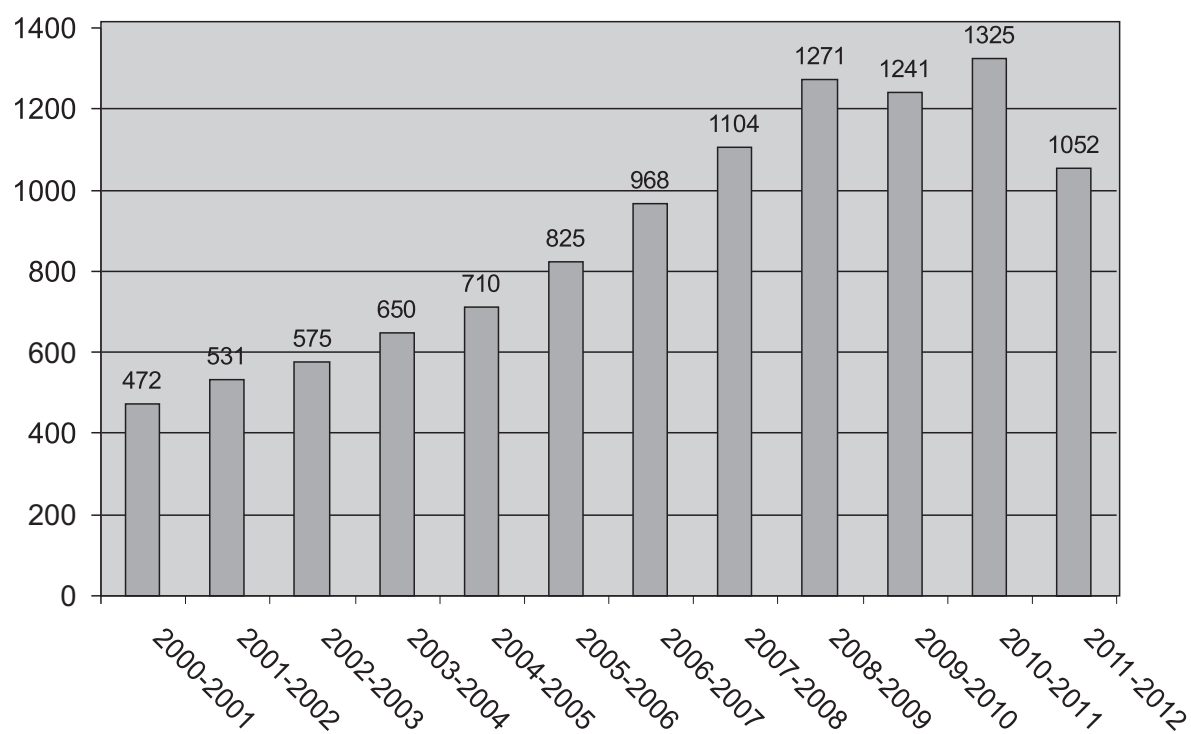
John Adams - Treasurer

Activity Statistics

Number of Children Helped by NHS Primary Care Trust

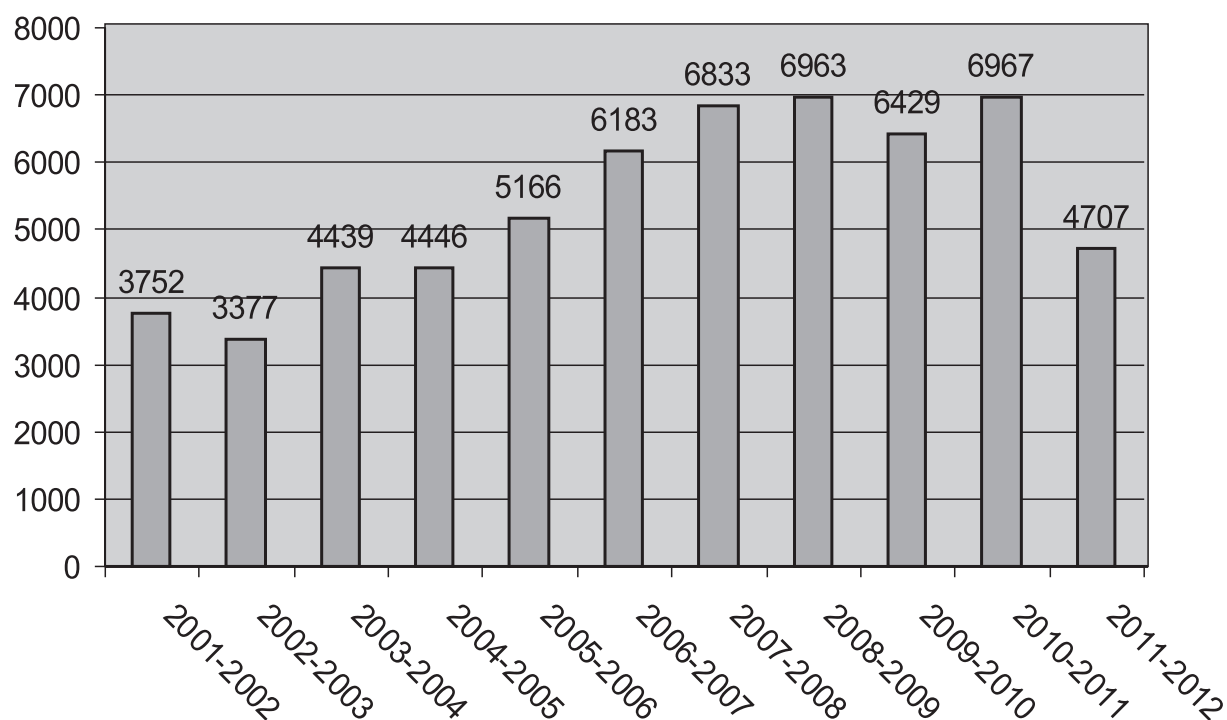


Number of Children Helped

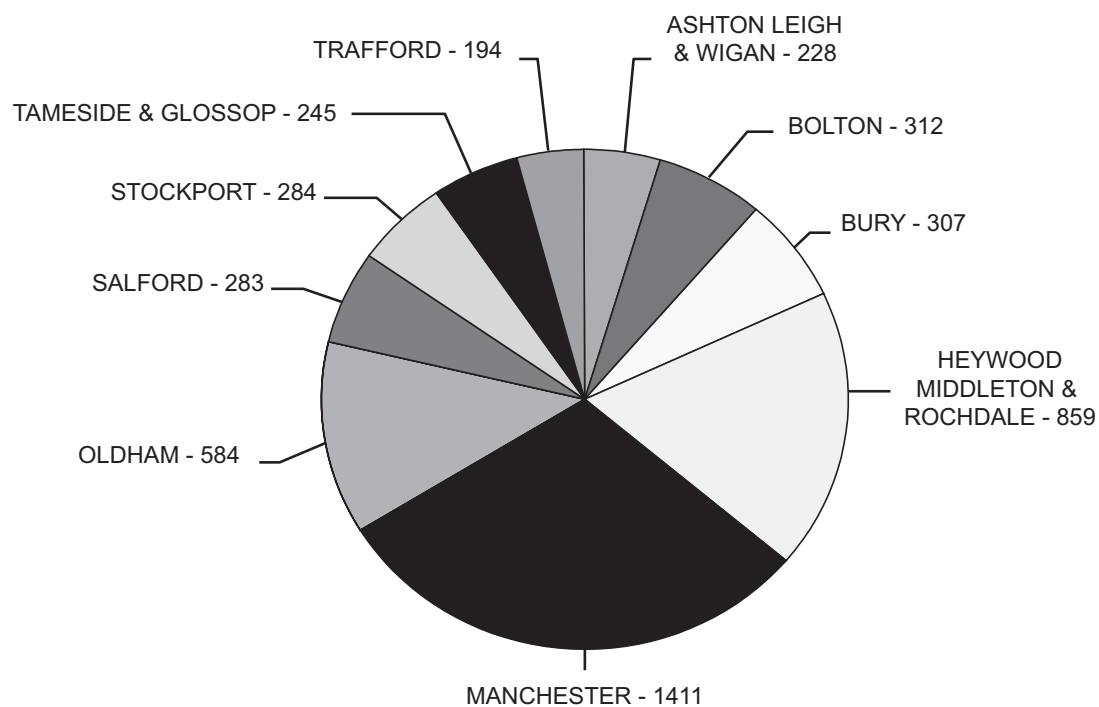


Activity Statistics cont.

Number of Trips

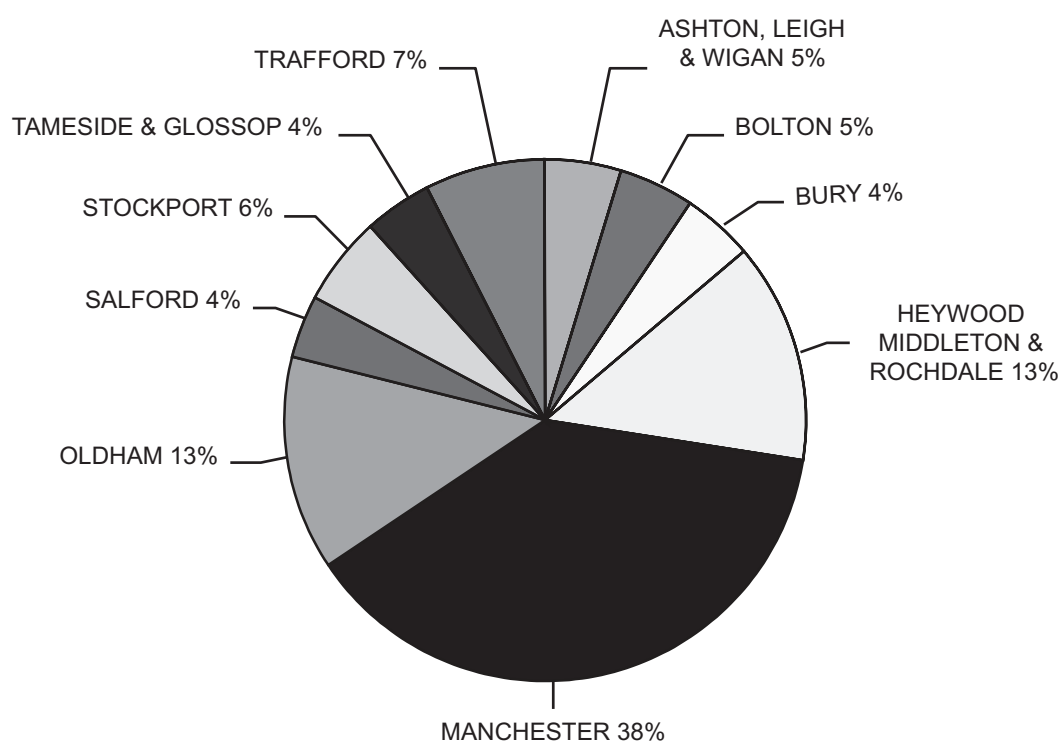


Number of Trips by NHS Primary Care Trust

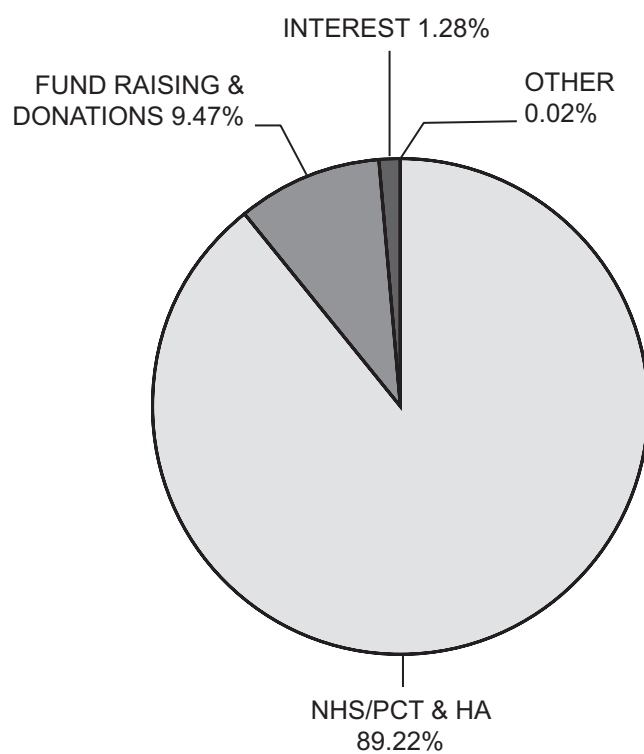


Activity Statistics cont.

Income by NHS PCT



Income %



Our Thanks To

Volunteer Drivers

Stewart Bale

Sean Bell

Alan Berry

Tom Bevan

Colin Bradburn

John Capstick

Denis Edgar

Bernard Fawley

Tony Gregory

David Hardwick

David Haworth

Eric Houghton

David Kelly

Wayne Kelsey

Keith Lear

David Lees

Stuart Lodge

Tony Loftus

Victor Longden

Geoff Lucas

William Mitchell

Tony Munday

David Naylor

Ronnie Newbiggin

Norman Robinson

Irene Sagar

John Sagar

Bernard Ward

Sheila Whitworth

Trustee Volunteers:

John Adams

John Sagar

Gaynor Kershaw

John Whittaker

Pauline Cope

Eric Houghton

Other Volunteer:

Brian Ridgway

Donors:

John Laing Charitable Trust

Emma Porter

Heywood Charities Fete

Delta Legal Solicitors

Rochdale District Installed

Masons

Ronnie Newbiggin

Mrs M Kissack

John Sagar

Rochdale Infirmary

Appointments Booking Staff

Rochdale Special

Educational Needs Service

Mrs A Jones

Ronnie Newbiggin

John Adams

Richard Armitage Transport

Electro-Test (PAT) Services LTD

NW IT Solutions

Green Reaper Recycling

Quality Save

Gaynor Kershaw

Sally Carroll

Carol Bagnall

Pat Brunt

Sarah Drake

Bernard Ward

Barbara Schickhoff-Brown

Tony Loftus

Stewart Bale

Alan Berry

Tony Gregory

Transport For Sick Children Awards 2011-2012



Sally Sweeney Carroll MBE

In 1977, Sally Sweeney Carroll was persuaded by a former colleague to transport a local family in distress for daily therapy to hospital. With the help of close family members she succeeded. From these small beginnings a highly successful registered charity has grown that now, over 30 years later, transports 1100 children a year to over 7000 (2010-2011) healthcare appointments throughout Greater Manchester. Sally's abilities, energy and contribution to services for children were recognised with the award of an MBE in the Queen's birthday honours. Everybody connected with the charity is delighted for Sally, an honour well deserved.

John Sagar has a long history of serving others. This is evident in the number of years and organisations that he has worked for during most of his adult life. John felt the need to improve the life of others and make his local community a better place to live. The organisations John has served in:

- Lions Clubs International
- The Scout Association
- Citizens Advice Bureau
- Mersey Basin Trust
- National Library for the Blind

John is currently chairman of the charity and both he and his wife Irene are volunteer drivers. The Badge of the Order of Mercy is in recognition of his charitable works. 2010,



John Sagar receiving The Badge of the Order of Mercy from Lord Lingfield

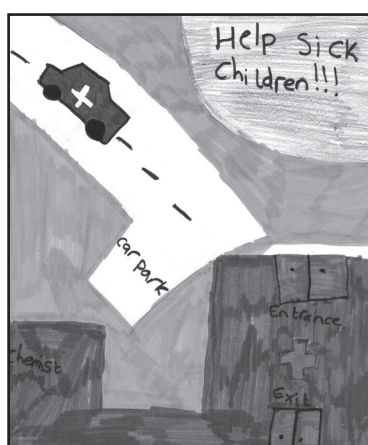
Volunteer Awards

2010	Norman Robinson - Stockport Volunteer of the Year	2010	Sarah Drake - Order of Mercy, League of Mercy
2010	Pat Brunt - Order of Mercy, League of Mercy	2008	Barbara Donaghue - Rochdale Volunteer of the year
2009	John Capstick - Salford Volunteer of the Year	2007	Winners of the Manchester Community Award

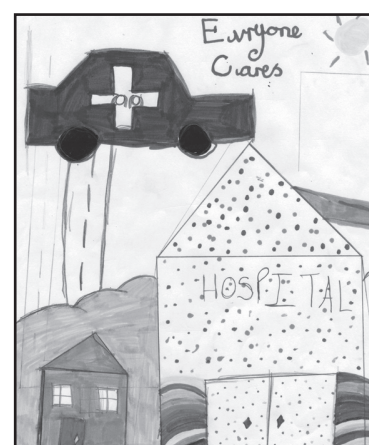
Artwork for the front cover this year was provided by Harwood Park C.P School in Heywood. The charity was delighted with the quality and enthusiasm shown in the drawings. Some of their work is shown below.



Taylor, Maple Class, aged 11



Courtney, Elm class, aged 9



Shauna, Willow class, aged 9

Thanks to just some of our supporters

