



# Christian CARE Association



# Annual Report 2009 - 10



**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2009**

This is an extract from the full accounts available at the Annual General Meeting on 14 October 2010 or by application to the Chair or Honorary Secretary.

	2010	2009		2010	2009
	£	£		£	£
<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>			<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Income			Tangible Assets	320	440
External Grants	6,350	2,000	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Donations	5,719	5,796	Gift Aid	-	536
Fund-Raising Appeals	778	1,549	Cash at Bank and in hand	15,453	14,439
Interest Received	11	319		15,453	14,975
Gift Aid/Tax Rebates on Covenants	1,659	536			
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>14,517</b>	<b>10,200</b>			
	=====	=====	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Expenditure			Sundry Creditors	-	(1,250)
Fund Raising	-	(709)		15,453	13,725
Direct Charitable Expenditure	(6,066)	(5,054)		15,453	14,165
Management and Administration	(3,724)	(3,226)		=====	=====
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>(9,790)</b>	<b>(8,989)</b>			
	=====	=====	<b>FUNDS</b>		
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>			General Fund	15,773	14,165
Income				-----	-----
External Grants	3,700	5,095		15,773	14,165
Donations	585	3,651		=====	=====
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>(7,404)</b>	<b>(8,328)</b>			
	-----	-----			
Net Incoming Resources	(3,119)	418			
	=====	=====			

At 31 March 2010, the cash position of the charity was £15,773, an improvement on last year's figure of £14,439. Being uncertain about the extent to which the continued economic downturn would lead to increased demands on our funds, we have been cautious in the amount we have allocated to pay for food parcels but keep this and all other items of expenditure under review at each meeting of the Executive Committee.

**Contact us at:**  
**Christian CARE Association**

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**UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS**

Net (Outgoing)/Incoming Resources	1,608	1,629
Total Funds brought forward	14,165	12,536
	-----	-----
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>	<b>15,773</b>	<b>14,165</b>
	=====	=====

**BERT HYDE**  
1920-2010

**“One of God’s diamonds’**

*The Revd Gavin Murray speaking at AGM 2009*

Volunteers and families pay tribute to Bert:

“He was such a wonderful man, fully committed to the task he felt God had called him to do. There are so many people who have benefited from his commitment.”

“He was such a gentle and caring man. He has been an amazing strength in all the years of Christian Care’s existence and a valued friend to all committee members.”

“A man always willing and able to help those in need

A man who would never disappoint or let someone down

A man you could expect great things from

And would attempt great things for God and many families ...

“Mr Never Tired.”

“Bert was often my inspiration for tackling situations which seemed to be well-nigh impossible from a human point of view.”

“What made Bert special was his love of life and people. He had a glint in his eye. He remembered people’s names, and the names of their children. This made those he helped feel so special. He was constantly smiling, delighting in the humanity of those he served.”

“He epitomised the true Christian – a life lived constantly in love of God and neighbour.”

**Cover photographs**

*clockwise from top left: Bert at a Citizenship Ceremony, at the Office opening, attending a Downing Street reception, at a wedding, with a child, with volunteers in training, at home with a family, at the 40th Anniversary Service centre: speaking at the 30th Anniversary Dinner and on an early Littlehampton outing.*

**ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

Although we were unable to find a replacement leader for teenage activities in this year we were determined to organise at least one outing for each age group. Looking at what we had done the previous year (visits to the London Dungeon and to the cinema for the older group and to the theatre and bowling for the younger group), we decided to go to Wimbledon Theatre in October with the 16 to 19 year olds to see the musical *Never Forget* based on the songs of the group Take That, and a meal at Nando’s restaurant. This was a very popular outing and everybody had a good time, joining in the singing and even getting up and dancing at the show. All the youngsters were very pleased to see “Mr Bert” as many of them called him; some of them had known him for most of their lives.

Bert and his wife Gwen were able to join the outing for the 12 to 15 year olds the following month to see AFC Wimbledon play York City at their ground in Kingston. We met behind Merton Civic Centre and went by coach to the ground where we had burgers and chips before the kick off. The club arranged good seats in the stand for us and it was a friendly atmosphere with a vociferous crowd of supporters for both sides. The first half was very close and we thought Wimbledon might achieve a win or a draw but unfortunately this was not to be and York City emerged the winners. But despite the final score and the damp day all those attending seemed to enjoy themselves.

To organise and supervise such outings we need volunteers and I am most grateful to Carol Pringle, Lily Campbell and James Potter for helping on these occasions. Other people willingly drive families to the New Year Party or from outlying locations to join the Littlehampton coach or take youngsters to Halls Green for the summer camps or families to Butlins. We thank them all most warmly and especially Gloria Ball who coordinates the drivers. We express our appreciation to the Charles Skey Charitable Trust and to individuals for financial support for the outings and camps.

**Pat Spencer**  
**Honorary Secretary**



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT  
31 MARCH 2010**

Gillian Thick  
Pat Spencer  
Ann Thimont  
Sylvia Baxter  
The Revd Geoff Coyne  
John Golden  
Dr Ann Phillips  
Gwen Wildman

Acting Chair  
Hon Secretary  
Hon Treasurer

**IN 2009-1010 WE SUPPORTED 100 FAMILIES**

- 43** families were befriended long and short term by volunteers
- 35** households were aided by the Furniture Project
- 24** families received food parcels and grants
- 103** parents and children were invited to the New Year Party
- 31** children went on the outing to Littlehampton
- 38** 12-19 year olds went on teenage outings
- 14** young people went to Falcon Camps
- 1** family went for a holiday at Butlins in Bognor Regis

**LETTER FROM THE ACTING CHAIR**

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter at the end of August there is still an overwhelming sense of sadness and loss among volunteers and families at the passing of our Founder Chairman Bert Hyde on 9 January 2010. The Thanksgiving Service for his life at Merton Park Baptist Church was attended by almost 300 people. Tributes were paid to his selfless caring that had touched and transformed the lives of hundreds of needy families in Merton over 43 years. We are so grateful to Bert's wife Gwen and the family for choosing Christian Care to receive the memorial gifts and these will form the basis of a Bert Hyde Memorial Fund.

The New Year Party, coming so soon after the funeral, was a time for families who had lost "the most important person in their lives" to share together. Yet we knew that Bert would have wanted us to celebrate; all the volunteers, including a large group of Wimbledon High School students, worked hard to make it a memorable occasion.

Some of the children at the party had been among those enjoying the sun, the fun and the freedom on the outing to Littlehampton the previous summer. Bert was up early that day to meet the coach and collect the children as he always did. A week later, on a balmy evening, he was so happy and relaxed as he mingled with volunteers at the annual Social Evening, and thanked everyone for all the hard work of the past year. In retrospect, how appropriate it was that, at the autumn AGM, the Revd Richard Sewell praised faith groups for their unconditional caring, and the Revd Gavin Murray, chairing the meeting, paid tribute to the very special contribution Bert had made through Christian Care. Bert's last official engagement was

to attend the toy service at St Barnabas, a church that has really taken Christian Care to its heart since Bert moved the office to their Community Centre from his home in 2006. Then, looking to the future, he had said, "I will not always be with you".

Bert frequently asserted that befriending was at the heart of Christian Care and he continued to visit homes until the week he was taken ill. We have seen many families in deep trouble this year, often in need of the basic necessities of life. Twelve volunteers, including a new Committee member Sylvia Baxter, have been involved in regular befriending and shopping, some working with more than one family. The Furniture Project, funded for a second year by the Grassroots Grant, has kept busy; it is not unusual to receive a plea for help from a family with nothing but a mattress on the floor. John Golden, the Co-ordinator, was co-opted onto the Executive Committee in February when the Sub-Committee was put into abeyance.

We thank John Hutchinson, who retired from the Sub-Committee in September 2009 due to poor health, for his good-humoured and efficient support as Secretary over 4 years. We remember with gratitude the life of former Secretary of the Executive Committee David Honour; his professional and eye-catching designs are still a feature of our publicity material.

May Bert's vision and his example of Christian service continue to inspire us all.

Yours sincerely,

**Gillian Thick**