

Chairperson's Report by Gordon McCrae

Achievements and Performance.

Once again I have the pleasure of reporting another very busy and successful year for Hyndland After School Club. Over the past years we have concentrated on developing the interior of the building to provide a mezzanine that afforded us space for our computers, a quiet corner/ reading area and toilets. The new upstairs office accommodation and cloakroom area were created last year, and this year we have concentrated on the exterior of the building and carried out repairs to all the supporting piers that the building rests on and, added new signage. We are also arranging painting and repairs to the guttering. We have also started work on creating a more accessible garden area that will provide us with the opportunity to develop both educational and recreational activities in this area.

Fiona, Ross and all the staff have once again worked extremely hard this year, ensuring that the service our club provides continues to be of a high standard, meeting all requirements and standards set by the Scottish Social Services Council and the Care Commission. (Copies of our last inspection report are available; please speak to Fiona who will arrange a copy for you).

I would also thank my fellow Board members for their time and commitment to the After School Club over the past year and in particular express my gratitude to the three retiring members for all their hard work, I hope the experience was not too painful and that you enjoyed your time with us.

I feel confident that the Board and Staff will continue to develop and lead Hyndland After School Club effectively and embrace new opportunities over the coming year.

Gordon McCrae
Chairperson



Manager's Report by Fiona Ansdell

General

Despite the current financial climate and the unfortunate consequences some parents are experiencing our numbers have not dropped significantly. Our latest daily average is around 90 children, with the Breakfast Club, Holiday Club and pick-up service from Notre Dame all showing steady numbers. However, we do have places available, both regular and drop-in. Our Summer Holiday Club was well attended (up slightly on last year, averaging 36 per day) with many of the activities and outings proving popular, including the Titan Crane at Clydebank, visit from the Dogs Trust (with dog!) and several visits to country parks and beaches including Calderglen and Troon.

The Building

One parent quote from 2007, which appears on our web site, says – 'always striving to improve – never making do'. This year is no exception. We didn't have major works going on as we had in 07-08 but were still busy doing the less obvious maintenance jobs that improve the look of, and lengthen the life of our building. We had the beams which support the building cleaned and recovered, the floor sanded and our windows made easier to open. We've added a sign to the gable end so everyone can see that we are here! We also had curtains made which helped to keep the sun out during the summer and I know will help keep the heat in during the winter. We're still on our 'maintenance mission' – plans include getting the guttering fixed and the outside of the building repainted. One of the few disadvantages of the mezzanine levels has been the temperature – both during the winter when the heat rises from the heating system, and in the summer when the sun beats in. It has become intolerable on occasion. So, despite the new curtains and the ceiling fans, we have had to install air conditioning units. I'm sure they will resolve this issue. As you've probably seen the garden has been transformed over the last few weeks. Thanks to the Coach House Trust, the garden is now safer, more accessible and more user friendly. Our next purchase (carried over from last year) will be a greenhouse which will open up further opportunities for activities for children both during school and after.



Lastly we are hoping to purchase a shed which will be situated near the front door – the ground is already prepared. This will provide us with much needed accessible storage.

Our Staff

Thankfully, we still have most of our core staff with us, a committed team who never cease to meet the demands of the club by ensuring versatile and fun activities for the children whilst ensuring their safety. However, turn-over can be high due to staff moving to full time work, further studies or to try something else. Recruitment will become more challenging as the Scottish Social Services Council's (SSSC) deadlines approach for all childcare workers to be registered and hold a suitable qualification. This will change things for our Club as we have always had a rich mix of staff – many of them students - with diverse skills and qualities which have enhanced the service we offer to children and parents. Approximately half of our staff have childcare qualifications at the moment with a new round of training coming soon. The requirement for childcare managers to hold a degree by 2011 does not, at present, apply to out of school care. However, when the BA Childhood Practice degree became available at the University of Glasgow I thought I would take the plunge and apply. Encouraged by the Chair and supported by all the Board members I am now almost half way through.

We were inspected in January this year by the Care Commission. This was our first inspection under the new grading scheme – 6 (excellent) being the highest grade. We were pleased to be awarded an overall 4 (good) Of the 8 statements within each theme (Quality of Care & Support, of the Environment, of Staffing and of Management & Leadership) we received four at grade 5 (very good) and four at grade 4. Of the 30 questionnaires handed out to parents 23 were returned to the Care Commission. All were positive and comments from parents were very complimentary of our work and much appreciated. The following comment in particular helped make staff feel valued and recognised for the worthwhile job they do.

"HASC has provided excellent care and facilities for my child. I feel that my child is being well cared for in an inclusive and stimulating environment with a wide range of activities run by people who genuinely care about children. HASC is well run as a care provider and I feel that it is helping me as a parent not just to look after my child between school and work finishing but to raise a confident and well rounded individual. My child loves going to the Aftly".

The inspection report is available from the Care Commission at www.carecommission.com or from the Club website.

Finally

My thanks to the staff who meet all the challenges of running a busy service with dedication and enthusiasm. They are the ones responsible for the continued success of the Club, for providing new and exciting activities for the children and for keeping them safe and happy. Also the Club would not run smoothly without our bookkeeper and cleaner. Particular thanks to the Board of Directors for once again giving up valuable time to support, govern, advise and maintain the safe management of the Club. We are sorry to lose three Directors this year – so if you like what we do here and are interested in getting involved, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I would also like to mention our continued good relationship with all the school staff and in particular the Parent Council. We have been working together on the garden and sharing skills and resources for the benefit of all.



Treasurer's Report by Charlotte Bryant

This year the number of children in our care was on average per day 95 after school (including 18 children from Notre Dame) and

21 during the breakfast club. During the holidays/in-service days the average was 34.

HASC accounts are audited annually by chartered accountants (since 2006 by Alexander Sloan) to provide external validation and confidence in the financial status and management of HASC finances. The 2008/09 audit summary will be reported at the AGM. HASC's finances are carefully managed through excellent record keeping by Irene Smith (HASC book keeper), good management practice by Fiona and Ross and support and advice from the Board. The budget projection model developed by Board Member Laurence Williams continues to help to provide realistic financial forecasts. The general climate of financial uncertainty has had some effect on HASC, e.g. reduced interest rates and higher day to day costs. Staff wages were reviewed this year in order to ensure that staff were being paid reasonably and in line with the childcare sector in the Glasgow area. In order to further strengthen the security and organisation of HASC's finances the comprehensive accounting software package SAGE was introduced this year, along with staff training. These sound financial practices enable us to keep the fee increases reasonable, while continuing to provide high quality childcare and supportive employment.

Plans for the coming year include:

- Securing external funding (grants) for the next stage of buildings work.
- Developing a 3 year HASC business plan

Fees (£) July - June		
	08-09	09-10
Registration	30.00 per family	No change
Daily after school	8.50	9.00
Notre Dame	10.30	11.50
Holiday/in-service day	18.00/ 11.50 ½ day	20.00/ 12.50 ½ day
Breakfast	2.20	2.50
12-3 Club	11.00/11.50 (50p disc with asc)	11.50/12.00 (50p disc with asc)
12 to 3 from Notre dame	11.00(with asc) 13.30(12 to 3)only	11.50(with asc) 14.50(12 to 3)only
Late Fees	6.50 to 6pm 18.00 to 6.30pm	7.00 to 6pm 18.50 to 6.30pm

Hyndland After School Club



Annual Report 2008-2009

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