



25

YEARS



**Carroll Centre**

Charity No: 1007973  
Working With Children, Young People and their Families

**Our current leadership team** are good custodians of the original vision and the same values are at the core of what we do today and continues to drive us to inspire and empower people. It is an honour for me to lead this team of skilled and dedicated staff and to play a part in improving and enriching people's lives.

*Joel Keller-Dixon*  
2017

**Head of Centre**



## 25 years of the Carroll Centre

This year is a very special one for the Carroll Centre. We are celebrating 25 years of the realisation of an inspiring vision that was shared by members of the community. Their vision was to provide a safe and enriching meeting space for young people in the local area that could be sustained for at least 25 years.

## Thirty years ago, following a Community Worker's report, a Steering Committee was set up to raise the funds to build a Centre in Stanmore. A needs-led, vision-driven project, for young people and the community.

Over the past 25 years the centre has grown in answer to those needs, Poppins after school, Poppins Nursery, Youth Clubs, Holiday Clubs, plus many other very innovative projects ... to improve the lives of all age groups.

***“For the Carroll Centre is, today, twenty five years on, fulfilling all the expectations of those early days and moving on with great confidence to the future.”***

whom nothing is possible, to the fundraisers who give of their time and talents, a heartfelt thank you. To the many members of staff, those just passing through and those who stayed, who have all helped build the success. To the Directors and Trustees who have so wisely managed the Charitable Company, its aims and objectives, and overseen the finances and fabric of the building.

### **Dorothy Flynn MBE**

*Dorothy Flynn's project leadership, fundraising and enthusiasm played a vital part in the creation of the Carroll Centre. In 1996, after the project's completion, she was awarded an MBE, which she was pleased to accept in recognition of what had been achieved by everyone in the locality.*

Since the Carroll Centre opened it has welcomed thousands of young people and children, young mums and their toddlers, forged links between young and old, and provided **wonderful experiences and opportunities for all.**

However, to grow, an organisation has to move on, reinvent itself from time to time and face the challenges of the day.

The Carroll Centre has undertaken this with great courage; those of us involved all those years ago are proud and humbled by what has been achieved. To the donors, without





# Trustees Report

The Carroll Centre offers activities for the whole community, with clubs for the elderly, a parent and tots group, a new community shed, gardening projects, dance and drama activities and a children's library. Groups are set up to offer **fun ways of learning life skills** including healthy cooking, parenting skills, sexual health, and computing. The staff at the Carroll also supervise volunteers from the community, with the focus on helping them **gain greater self-esteem and autonomy**, and sometimes a path back into employment or training. It is largely for this work that the Hampshire Chronicle and the University of Winchester last year awarded the Carroll's head of centre, Jool Heller-Dixon, their **prestigious Community Star award**.

The area surrounding the Carroll Centre experiences considerable social and economic deprivation and the problems facing the families coming to the Centre for help are complex and often acute, requiring immediate help. The Carroll works closely with Social Services and the police and is often able to help in ways they can't. The Youth workers at the Centre are **trusted by the local community**. A child will often tell them about another child who is in trouble, allowing them to intervene before the situation escalates and the child's chances in life are spoiled. **No two days are alike at the Centre**; there are always family crises to be handled and problems of child safety and well-being to be tackled. But whatever the current situation, the staff at the Carroll are **passionately committed** to helping give every single child who needs their support the best possible chance to thrive.

*“What really makes the Carroll so special – and why it is difficult to explain exactly what the Centre does – is that the staff are working constantly with individual children and families, where every problem is unique and the struggle to help find a solution always a new one.”*

**Rebecca Horsfall**

on behalf of the board of trustees, The Carroll Centre

# Our Services

All our core services are not-for-profit; some of them are able to help fund our other community initiatives. Unlike commercial facilities, the staff at the Carroll Centre are able to involve themselves with the individual needs of our service users, following up safeguarding concerns, working with whole families and providing supplementary family and community activities.

**Our core services for children & young people are:**  
**Nursery** with 32 places for children 24 months to 4 years  
**After-school Care** with 30 spaces for 4 - 11 year olds  
**Youth Engagement Services** for 11- 25 year olds

## Nursery

We recently extended our nursery to provide a two year old room and offer 15 hour fully funded places for vulnerable two-year-olds and affordable places for working parents. Our staff work intensively with the children in partnership with their parents and carers to develop a good level of communication and social skills before they move up to our pre-school room.

## Youth

This year we started a Youth Mentoring Scheme to provide one-to-one and group sessions for young people with a range of emotional problems. Many of which would be at risk of harming themselves or others without sufficient support. Referrals come from local agencies as there is great demand for increased mental health support for young people.

## After-School

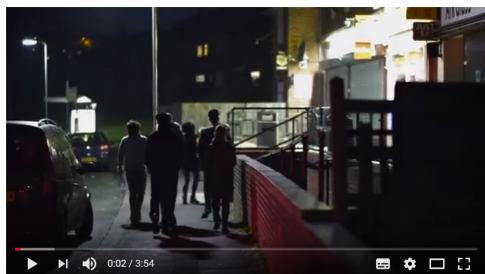
Our service is thriving, with an excellent reputation and now has a waiting list! Children are getting involved in a range of activities from tennis to drama.

*"Staff are always cheerful and welcoming, providing a really pleasant environment for the children after a hard day at school"*

Poppins Parent, September '17



## The Youth Team tally up views on YouTube



What Do You See?

790 views

LIKE DISLIKE SHARE ...



Mayor's Reception for Youth Organisations  
Can you spot the Carroll Team?



Wimbledon watch out, our **Poppins After-School** kids are coming!



Trick or treat in the Nursery!



Ground breaking moves  
for the **Community Shed** build!





Staff know how to accessorise at Party in the Park



Senior Sunday Lunch  
FirstBite rustle up an autumn feast



Community Star Award  
With a star-studded cast!



Budding Community Garden  
Opened by the Deputy Mayor



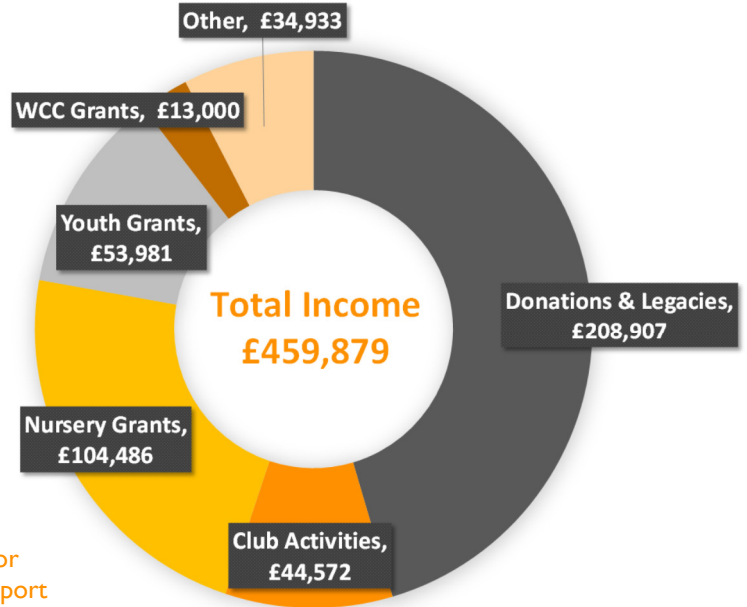
Edible Garden  
Alive and sprouting!

# Finance Report 2016/17

The financial information for 2016/17 has been extracted from our Annual Accounts. A full copy is available on our website or from the Centre.

Our income for the year was **£459,879**. This included a legacy of **£203,000** from a former trustee who wished to remain anonymous. Excluding this legacy, our income has increased by **9%** due to grant funding for youth work and the continued growth of our Nursery.

Legacy funding has been set aside for the future of the Centre, including a much needed replacement minibus and urgent repairs to our boiler and heating system. We are very grateful for this legacy which ensures that the Centre will continue to support families and young people in Stanmore and surrounding areas.



Depreciation, £58,720

Activities & Resources, £24,012

Administration, £7,645

Building Costs, £19,232

## Total Expenditure

Our expenditure has remained at the same level as previous years. Our wages and salaries have increased by £12,000 as our wonderful Nursery team continues to expand. We have managed to reduce other costs and overheads by maintaining strict control over our expenditure and will continue to do so.

Salaries, £205,424





# OUR SUPPORTERS

*“Following on from our very successful (and very fun) 3rd Birthday celebrations back in November, and in conjunction with a successful grant application in collaboration with St James’s Place Wealth Management, 3Women were delighted to present The Carroll Centre in Stanmore with a cheque for £1,450.*

*Huge thanks must go to our many wonderful 3Women supporters, who helped make our final event for 2016 such a success.”*

## Grants

- Hampshire County Council
- People’s Health Trust
- Winchester City Council

## Fundraising Events

- Bike Ride – Peter Richards
- Bridge Afternoon – Edwina Curtis-Hayward & Di Peisley
- 3Women

## Donations

- Winchester Cathedral
- St James Wealth Management Fund
- CF & IV Rotary Club – Bob Merritt

- Roger Brooks Trust
- Paul Curtis Hayward
- St Lukes and St Peters Church
- Sainsburys
- Lunn-Rockliffe Trust
- Winchester University
- Mr Craig
- Edwina Curtis-Hayward
- Rosemary Dunhill
- Dorothy Flynn
- Mr and Miss Hassell
- Miss Hughes
- Bob Merritt
- Miss Caroline Ward
- Colin Smith

**Our centre leadership team supports a busy staff of employees, apprentices, volunteers and students. Working to develop people both professionally and personally. Providing a stepping stone for local people who want to build their self-esteem and improve employability.**

**Paige Childcare Apprentice** Paige first attended Jemima's Nursery here herself fifteen years ago, and later became a regular at our Friday evening youth club. All her brothers and sisters have come to the Carroll Centre - her nephew was the first ever child to be registered for the new nursery in 2015! Paige joined us as an apprentice in September 2017 and is now starting her Level 3 childcare training.

*“It's busy working here; you grow up a bit. It's a great start; you learn from other staff. Everyone is so inclusive and you don't get that everywhere. I've settled in so quick. It feels practically like family.”*

**Amanda Nursery Assistant** After years as a stay-at-home mum, and with a history of being bullied at school, lots of school moves Amanda was anxious and depressed and was losing hope. As she came here each day to drop her child off at nursery we roped her in to do some work

*“Now I'm just happy. I love coming in to work; I love my job. My skills and knowledge have increased hugely. Every single member of staff has been supportive; they're always there to help me when I need it. They know I'm learning. I've changed; even my social life has improved because my confidence has increased so much.”*

experience. That was last May. Since then she has joined our staff; she has passed her Level 1 childcare training with flying colours and is working toward Level 3!





**Frank Young person (age 19)** While having a tough time at school, Frank came to after-school youth sessions at the Carroll Centre from the age of ten onwards.

*“I came every Thursday to get stuff off my mind, talk about problems. Drugs was a big topic: I could explain to the staff why I took them and get advice. When I was kicked out of school with no qualifications they helped me form an idea of how to move forward. I could talk to them about my paranoia and anxiety and suicidal feelings; it was one-to-one support.”*

Frank is now completing a four-year apprenticeship and qualification in the building industry. He has done voluntary repair and maintenance work for the Carroll on his days off and these days he is so skilled we pay him to do jobs for us!

*“It was like a massive therapy session. I could be on my deathbed or messed up in the head without some of the things I was told here.”*

**Jane Volunteer** A valued volunteer for almost five years, Jane first came to the Carroll Centre through Prospect, an organisation supporting people with learning difficulties. She helps us in many areas, and has completed both Food Hygiene and Level 1 childcare training with us.

*“I like working with children, watching them grow up from small to bigger and bigger.”*

Since starting here as a volunteer Jane feels she has become more independent. She is now living in her own flat and co-chairs a Local Implementation Group for people with support needs.

# How you can support us

The Carroll Centre is **funded** by grant applications; however, there are always five uses for every penny we receive and we rely on **donations** and legacies from the community.

## Donations

You can donate in cash at the centre, or you can visit our local giving page to donate online:

<https://localgiving.org/charity/carrollcentre/>

## Volunteering

We have a range of opportunities across our centre and we would be happy to hear from you if you would like to get involved. Visit our website or give us a call for more info

## Our Details

☎ 01962 840022

🌐 [www.carrollcentre.org](http://www.carrollcentre.org) | [www.yetwinchester.org](http://www.yetwinchester.org)

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