

Annual Report 2015

Between September 2014 and August 2015 Friends of Downs View School and Link College has held three events for the children and young people, eight events / fundraising activities, had six different sponsored fundraising events undertaken by other people, met over 400 people at different events, and raised over £23,000. All with a very small team at monthly meetings giving their time and energy and skills for free.

People's generosity is astonishing. The donations we have received this year have totalled £8584, up 26% from last year. Among them we received a £5,000 donation from Investec specifically for Eye Gaze software, which the school now has and is using. The donations are varied, from collection pots in shops and homes, to

Woodingdean Bowling Club which donated a staggering £920. Our running costs are as low as we can get them, so every single penny counts, and we are truly grateful.

We have now raised the £30,000 needed for the new soft play area. We are now on to our next target: two new minibuses, one for School and one for the Link College. For this we need £34,000 and we have raised £11,000



Receiving the Cheque from Shirley, the Ladies Club Captain at the Woodingdean Bowling Club: Susanne Crosby (right) and Andy Crosby (School Governor, left)

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towards it already. The plans for the soft play area are currently being compiled and agreed.



People raise money from sponsorship in a variety of fantastic and inventive ways. Five people ran the Brighton Marathon and one ran the London marathon which is amazing. We also had a sponsored pledge to write a PhD, and one person asking friends and family to donate to Downs View instead of birthday presents, which by itself raised over £5,600. You are incredible people and we salute you all.

The events that Friends usually puts on each year for the children and young people are the annual Fabulous Fun Day, the Christmas Disco, and the Prom for Link College students. These are not intended to make money but to be lovely events for them to attend. This year was no exception, they were wonderful. For the second year running both the Christmas disco and the prom covered their own costs, which is amazing. For the Fabulous Fun Day, we bought two gas barbecues which will last us for years: these are also available to hire for parents and staff, at very reasonable rates!



Fabulous Fun Day, July 2015

We held a number of fundraising events this year, with the dual objective of raising money and having something nice for families and friends to go to. Among these were the French Soiree - the evening of the Metronomes from France and Unified Rhythm



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from College. It was a beautiful evening with the music spilling out into the school grounds while the sun set. The idea for this came from outside the committee and we are so grateful to people coming in and saying "hey, I've got an idea" and then we can set things up together. We always listen to ideas and will always work with people to make things happen - it's the best way to embrace the new and unusual and fundraise for the School and College and have fun. We also did a number of things we have done before which we know are good fundraisers as well as events for all sorts of people who know us: a



Lisa Burgess and Steve Darvill - two of the people selling drinks at the French Evening

Quiz evening, a jumble sale, and a Mediumship & Psychic night. We also ran a cafe at Woodingdean Carnival in June which was hectic and tiring but also great fun.



(L to R): Steve Darvill, Vicky Darvill, Nickie Poulton, and Susanne Crosby - running the Friends Cafe, Woodingdean Carnival

Thank you, heartfelt and huge thank you - to everyone who has been involved this year, all the staff support at school, all the parents and carers and friends, all those who contributed to an event, all those who supported the School and Link College with time or skills or money. Without you we

would not have had such a fantastic year, deserved by such amazing children and young people. Let's hope this time next year we are celebrating our two new minibuses - nothing is impossible when we all work together.

Susanne Crosby, Chair

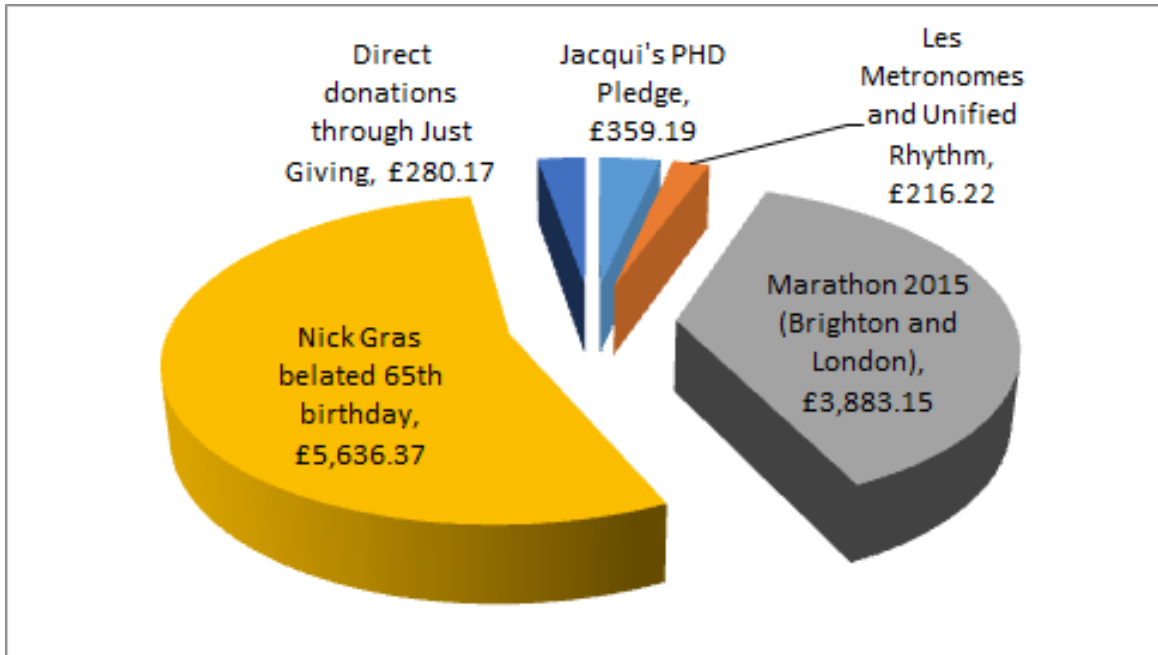
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Accounts: 1 September 2014 - 31 August 2015

Income	£ 23,202.69	
Expenditure	£ 7,414.93	
Net		£ 15,787.76

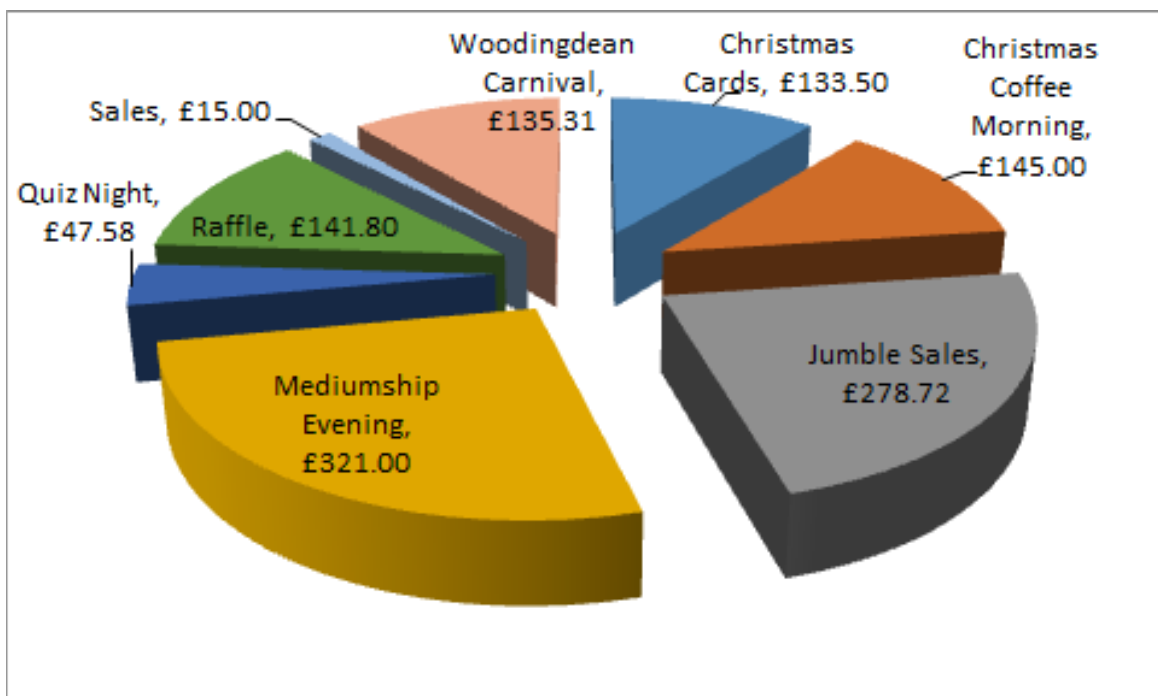
Fundraising Income

Fig 1: Inspired by Others



Fundraising Income

Fig 2: Organised by those on Friends



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Donations:

Best one collection tin	£ 67.58
D Hildick-Smith	£ 100.00
Donation from Investec for Eye Gaze Software	£ 5,000.00
Everyclick	£ 19.30
Gary Burgess - from Secret Santa	£ 10.00
In Memorium	£ 470.00
Laura Huxstable	£ 39.40
Lily Freeland	£ 5.00
Loose change at Christmas Disco	£ 6.50
Loose change jar at school for Easter	£ 65.40
Miscellaneous donations	£ 9.30
Neil Hams Beneficiary Association	£ 1,000.00
Patcham Trefoil Guild	£ 63.55
Shahram Moalemi	£ 600.00
Studio Craft Jewellers	£ 108.67
Woodingdean Bowling Club	£ 920.00
Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation	£ 100.00

Events for School and Link College			
	Income	Expenditure	Net
BBQ & Fun Day 2015	£ 659.95	£ 915.58	£ 255.63
Christmas Disco	£ 339.28	£ 253.99	£ 85.29
Prom 2015	£ 253.00		£ 253.00
Refreshments purchased for future events		£ 302.61	£ 302.61
SUB TOTAL: Events for School and Link College	£ 1,252.23	£ 1,472.18	£ 219.95

Committee 2014 - 2015:

Chair: Susanne Crosby, Treasurer: Steve Darvill, Secretary: Lisa Burgess

President: Dickie Nobbs

Committee: Adrian Carver, Will Taylor, Nickie Poulton, Vicky Darvill, Sarah Luxford, Peter Mapledoram, Keely Lewis, Denise Savage, Stuart Savage, Shirley Harris

Charity no: 1013621



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