

# The Hollow Lane Club



C/o Ellen Tinkham School  
Hollow Lane, Exeter EX1 3RW  
Tel: 01392 463823



## Annual Report 2005

Out of school activities for children with special needs

The Hollow Lane Club is dedicated to enhancing the lives of children and young people with special needs and their families, by providing fun and involving out-of-school activities for the children and their siblings, after school, at weekends and in the school holidays, at several central locations

With thanks to our funders in 2005

**BBC Children in Need**

Local Network Fund



Hele's Trust

Ashworth Trust

Norman Family Charitable Trust

Farringdon Trust





## Index

- Introduction by the Chair
- Evaluation
- Summer Club
- Saturday Club
- After School Club
- Okehampton Branch
- Future Plans
- Financial Information

## The Hollow Lane Club



### From the Chairman

2005 has been a very successful year for The Hollow Lane Club. Although it is only in its second year and, therefore, still in its infancy, many more families have benefited from the club's activities.

I became chairman in February this year and am both honoured and proud to be involved with such a valuable and valued charity.

We hear of major national charities, operating in broadly the same arena, declare themselves in crisis, requiring millions of pounds for administration before any service is provided for those who need it, or, worse still, withdrawing front-line services that many people have relied upon.

In contrast, The Hollow Lane Club focuses its' funding on providing services: out-of-school activities for those who are unable to participate in mainstream clubs, with their siblings. This, in turn, brings a benefit of some welcome respite for their parents and/or carers, who often have very tiring and difficult lives.

The Summer Club this year was a particular success, with very positive feedback from the families of participants. The vibrant exhibition of examples of the activities is a lasting reminder of the fun that was had.

As we look forward to 2006, we plan further expansion – with additional Saturday clubs and a development in North Devon.

My fellow trustees and I are very grateful to our funding supporters who allow us to enhance the lives of these very deserving young people. We look forward to growing from strength to strength, to extend our ability to bring fun and pleasure to many more families.

Nicki Christmas

December 2005



## Evaluation

We believe that it is important to consider how to effectively evaluate our provision and we are constantly updating our methods of collection. There are quantitative outcomes that can be easily measured through the collection of data on numbers of children and young people accessing the provision and, how many parents and/or siblings may be affected and, understandably, there are limits to the extent in which we can progress these areas, within our existing clubs.

For us, the most interesting and informing are the qualitative outcomes and of course, these are the most difficult to measure. One of the most effective ways to measure our success is via the different evaluations we ask parents/guardians, children, staff and other agency link people to complete. It is only through these evaluations that we can begin to understand the impact our provision is having.

We consider The Hollow Lane Club to be a preventative service and certainly the funding for the Okehampton Club, from Devon Children's Fund came with that label. It is clear from the evaluations and the messages of resounding support we have received, that we are providing such a service to our community.

With support from the Children's Fund and from The Big Lottery, we came up with a list of qualitative outcomes. They are listed below along with comments from parents, play workers, children and other agency professionals to show that we are being successful in our mission.

- a) Children and young people with disabilities will have an improved social life with their peers.

*'It provides the children and young people with invaluable opportunities to engage in social experiences with their peers, and promotes their personal development across a range of areas.'*

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, EXETER JAT

- b) Family relationships will improve through the provision of increased support.

*'N was happy in herself which meant she was more co-operative at home, I could also do things with the other children which I can't normally do.'*

PARENT N

---



- c) Improved mental health of individual members of families, including siblings.

*'Would not cope without it. We were happy to have break from constant care and supervision of C – C was happier to have routine and activities with her group, which made coping with long summer holidays bearable. Many, many, many thanks for running summer school.'*

PARENT C

- d) Improved education and personal development opportunities for young people with disabilities.

*'Boys seemed to progress with their social skills and came out of themselves more.'*

PARENT T and P

- e) Children with disabilities and their families/carers will experience reduced isolation through improved social networks.

*'Enabled us to go out to lunch with our daughter. Enabled us to feel less guilty about not providing lots of stimuli for I. ourselves – Good to share the responsibility!'*

PARENT I

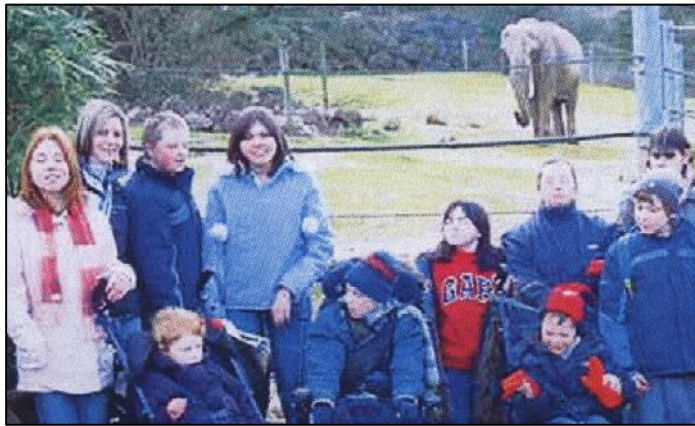
---



## Saturday Club, Exeter

One Saturday a month, for 12 - 15 children and young people

The team plan and run a variety of thematic days on and off site. Sessions are held between 10 am and 4 pm. There are 30 on the roll and 15 places available on each Saturday. In 2005 there were nine Saturday Club sessions.



Outings included trips to the Devon County Show and Paignton Zoo (pictured left).

The evaluations and suggestions from the children and young people contribute to all future planning. The circus workshops (pictured below) are a regular feature.

This club complements the alternative provision available in Exeter and surrounding areas.

Club manager: Mary Roche  
Play workers: Sarah Coggins, Caroline Higman,  
Tony Maidment, Claire Middleton  
and Emma Winter





## Summer Club

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> August 2005  
10 am – 4 pm

A fully inclusive summer playscheme, for children and young people, with special educational needs, and their brothers and sisters.

The Summer Club was running for the fifth year in 2005. The experience of the core staff shines through in the preparation, staff training – all staff participated in three days' training (Introduction to Play, Child Protection and Manual Handling), activity programmes, communications with children and families and in the day to day running of the club. We have reached a level of quality and professionalism that we want and need to maintain.



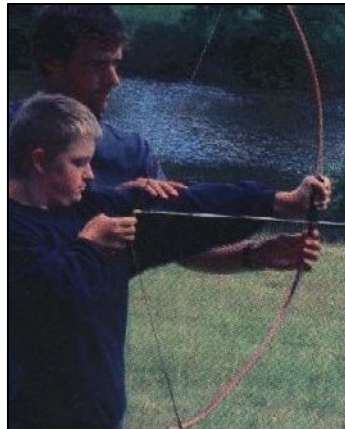
85 families benefited this year with their children attending for between 2 and 12 days. There were two distinct groupings – juniors and seniors - and the programmes were designed with their assistance. The junior focus was creative arts and physical activities. The senior focus was outdoor pursuits and environmental play.

The Summer Club was supported by The Big Lottery, BBC Children in Need, 0-14 plus, Lloyds TSB foundation, Local Network Fund, Hele's Trust, Farringdon Trust and the Ashworth Trust.

Club manager: Mary Roche  
Deputy managers: Sarah Coggins, Sandra Reed, Emma Winter, Ellie Brooks  
Play Workers: Tanya Andrew, Kayleigh Apps, Hayley Boyles, Ellie Brooks, Marie Brown, Claire Burton, Rosie Charman, Clair Charman, Nicola Coleman, Sean Crossman, Amanda Drake, Laura Druwce, Adam Edgecombe, Linda Evans, John Garnsworthy, Heather Greenslade, James Hardy, Gail Harris, Pam Harris, Chris Heard, Caroline Higman, Marie Higman, Claire Honour,



Jackie Houghton, Alison Hunt, Claire Lake, Christine Langdon, Rachel Leech, Selina Lingley, Tony Maidment, Holly Munn, Anna Not, Kathleen Pallett, Nicola Parnell, Pippa Pearce, Di Phillips, Claire Roddis, Faye Smith, Sharon Snelling, Jane Towill, Cathy Tuckett, Alexandra Tulji, Kelly Webber, Claire Wheeler, Hayley Whitehead and Emma Whittock





## Summer Club

### Evaluation Summary from Parents/Guardians (43 replies with 2 sets of siblings)

1. More days next year?

Yes: 37                      No: 0                      Same: 6

2. Enough information beforehand?

Yes: 42                      No: 1

3. Were you able to talk to the staff?

Yes: 39                      No: 4 (children came by taxi or bus)

4. Do you think your child enjoyed the club?

Yes: 45                      No: 0

How did you know?

They told us: 11

Happy to attend, happy when collected: 24

Usually cries at this sort of thing but clearly loved it.

Kept trying to timetable club with PECS when it wasn't on!

Feedback from staff helped: 4

Kept saying more

Liked routine: 2

5. Pleased with overall service?

Yes: 42                      No:

Reasons?

Range of activities was amazing

Progress with social skills and came out of themselves more.

Respite/transport issue: 3

6. Did club impact on your family life at home?

Yes: 40                      Not really: 1                      No: 1

Reasons:

Gave us a break. Valuable and necessary: 15

She/He was exhausted: 2

Much more relaxing time for all of us

Spend quality time with other children: 17

Child happier at home: 8

Difference between coping or not coping

Enabled parent to work: 4

Difficulty with start and finish times as parent worked 9-5

---



## Selected comments

### Overall service

'Excellent!! Best summer club so far – excellent group of staff – understood children needed to be occupied at different activities outdoors and indoors for short spaces of time as concentration poor.'

Parent of C

### Impact

'I'd like to say a big thank you to all the staff. They were all so enthusiastic and committed to the playscheme. With their skills, G was able to keep some routine and structure through the long six week holiday. Something that is much needed for all special needs children. We used to dread the holidays but now with the playscheme we can look forward to it and plan the time.'

Parent of G

'The staff could not have been more helpful and welcoming, particularly as we weren't familiar with THLC. The range of activities was amazing!'

Parent of D

'The Play scheme helped me to have free time to myself while E. was in good hands. I do appreciate that help and the peace of mind I have when he goes to summer club. May the Lord bless you all.'

Parent of E

---



## Evaluation Summary by Playworkers (12 returns)

### 1. Would you be interested in working at the Summer Club again next year?

Yes: 12

### 2. What went really well?

Everything:	1
Training:	4
Trips/outdoor activities:	9
Deputies role/leading sessions:	3
Resourcing:	2
Staff welfare/team work:	6
Parent/staff Communication:	1
Outdoor play:	3
Swimming:	2
Facilities:	1
Magician:	2

### 3. What could be improved?

Not much:	2
Parent/staff communication:	2
More toys for free play:	3
Shorter activity sessions:	1
More linking with other groups:	2
Makaton info/training:	2
Visiting artists:	4

---



## After School Club, Exeter

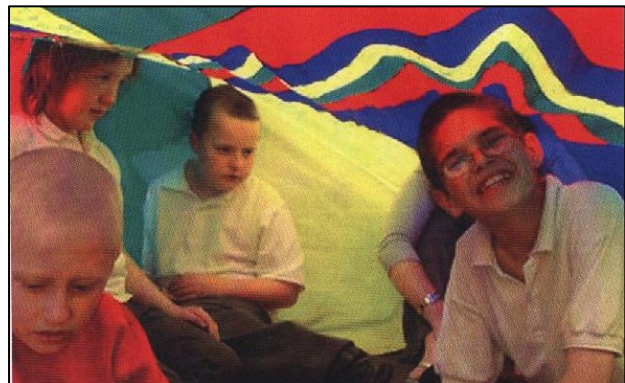
Mondays during term time. 3.30 – 6.30 pm at Ellen Tinkham School.  
15 children each week.

A simple formula of after school activities, socialising and tea. Students can choose to participate. Initially requested by a group of parents as a supporting provision for working parents.



We have considered increasing the number of days and asked parents if they would utilise extra provision. The response was minimal.

We have had initial discussions with Surestart regarding future funding opportunities and will continue discussions in 2006 when they become clearer about their own future.



Club Manager: Mary Roche  
Playworkers: Sarah Coggins, Caroline Higman, Tony Maidment, Claire Middleton, Emma Winter



## Okehampton Branch

The Devon Children's Fund enabled The Hollow Lane Club to open the Okehampton Branch in May 2004 with a grant of £11,321. It opened with five children and their families attending an open morning. Now there are 19 children and young people attending over two Saturdays a month and 10 children a day for 12 days during the August school holiday.



The club underwent a successful Ofsted inspection and has completed its action plan.

Our Children's Fund Annual Review meeting was very positive and the following strengths and achievements were cited:

- Positive partnership working with other agencies.
  - Good strategic links and positioning to influence strategic planning for children with special needs and their families.
- 
- A committed management committee.
  - Good consultation/involvement of children and young people at individually tailored level, in day to day planning and development of club.
  - Child centred approach and well developed play skills and understanding of the importance of play across the staff team, as opposed to parent or agency centred.



Year Two funding from the Devon Children's Fund, for this branch, comes to an end in March 2006. There has been a great deal of discussion at the Children's Fund CSN Steering Group Meeting about future funding streams but no clear ideas about replacing part or all of the Children's Fund money.



We are committed to the children and families of the Okehampton Club and we do not consider closure an option. The Big Lottery will support the staff for the next two years and The Hollow Lane Club will be liable for rent, transport and general resources.

Club manager: Pam Long

Play workers: Robert Fitzpatrick, Heather Greenslade, Amy Taylor and Victoria Watkins





## Future Plans

The future plans and programme for The Hollow Lane Club for 2005 - 2006 can be listed under three main headings -

### Club Activities

- the programme of activities over this coming year will be broadly similar to last year's, allowing for a period of consolidation
- the Festive and Easter Clubs will continue so that they become a regular and permanent element of the provision
- we will assimilate and learn from the feedback from all Evaluation Forms to ensure that Clubs run even more smoothly and successfully this year
- we will begin negotiations with Pathfields School in Barnstaple with a view to their out of school hours activities coming under The Hollow Lane Club banner

### Funding

- we will undertake fundraising research and submit applications to new funding sources
- we will develop and maintain our relationships with existing funding partners
- we will continue negotiations regarding the statutory funding for out of school hours provision

### Profile

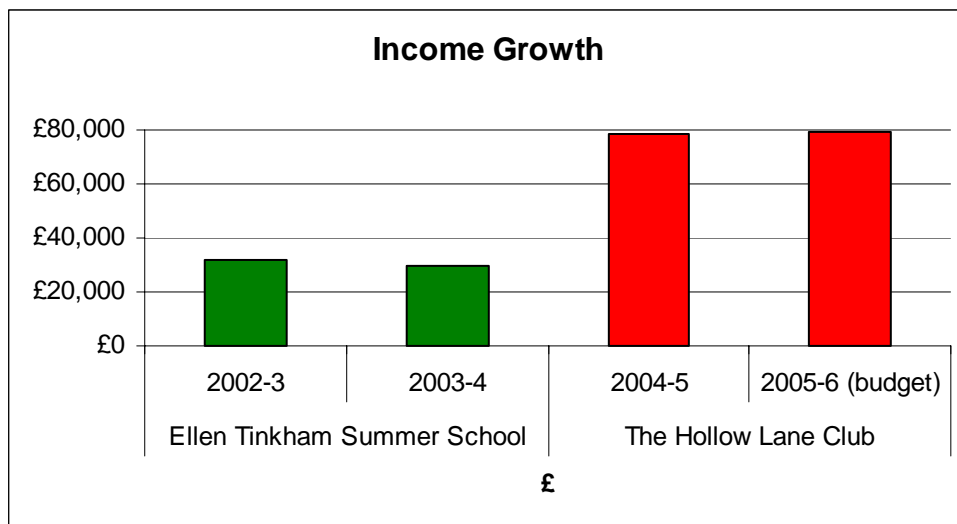
We aim to raise the profile of The Hollow Lane Club through -

- the launch of a new dedicated Hollow Lane Club website
  - the development of specific mailing lists to enable regular updates to be sent out to key partners
  - the dissemination of this new, improved Annual Report to relevant people, organisations and agencies
  - targeted press releases
-

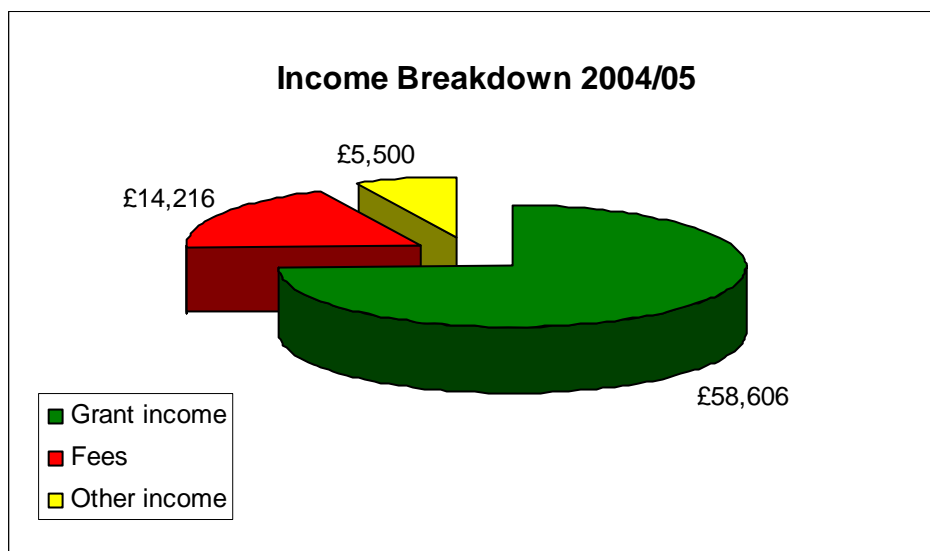


## Financial Information

This first graph shows how the income of The Hollow Lane Club has grown in recent years from £32,000 in the financial year 2002 – 2003 to nearly £80,000 in 2004-2005.



This second graph demonstrates the main sources of The Hollow Lane Club's income. Three quarters comes from fundraising, through grants and trusts. 18% is earned through fees and a further 7% comes from other sources, such as donations and earned interest.



## The Hollow Lane Club

Management reports for the year ended 31 October 2005

### Income and expenditure account

	Summer School		Saturday Club Okehampton		Saturday Club Exeter		After School Club		General		Total	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>												
Grants												
Ashworth Trust												
Big Lottery Fund												
BBC Children in Need												
Devon Children's Fund												
Farringdon Trust												
Hele's Educational Trust												
Local Network Fund												
Lloyds TSB Foundation												
Norman Family Charitable Trust												
Zero14plus		19551		15525		3448		6514		13568		58606
Fees		5574		1123		1187		2842		3490		14216
Misc		572								4928		5500
<b>Total income</b>		<u>25697</u>		<u>16648</u>		<u>4635</u>		<u>9356</u>		<u>21986</u>		<u>78322</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>												
Wages	30704		9733		2015		3439		934			46825
Recruitment expenses									525			525
Rent & premises	329		1400		360		480					2569
Pool hire	972											972
Trips & outings	2276		354		382		13					3025
Vehicle insurance	216		216		216		216					864
Other motor			92				4					96
Travelling			33		50		199					282
Professional fees			1300						1440			2740
Accountancy	55		55		55		55		-20			200
Insurance									564			564
Training	180								564			744
Subscriptions			94						121			215
Refreshments	71		136				414		42			663
Stationery & books			14						503			517
Telephone			5									5
Advertising			31									31
Misc purchases	25		134		18				67			244
Misc expenses	74		136		50		36		125			421
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>34902</u>		<u>13733</u>		<u>3146</u>		<u>4856</u>		<u>4865</u>		<u>61502</u>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>		<u>-9205</u>		<u>2915</u>		<u>1489</u>		<u>4500</u>		<u>17121</u>		<u>16820</u>