



OXFORDSHIRE PLAY
ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REPORT
2020

For the Period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020

OPA is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Registered Charity Number 1160320

OPA's Vision is to improve lives through play

OPA's mission is to champion and to support the rights of all Children and Young People to have access to high quality, inclusive Play opportunities to improve their Physical, Mental and Spiritual Wellbeing

OPA ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS

OPA TRUSTEES

Chair = Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor

Treasurer = Meryl Smith

Trustees = Anne Bissell and Megan Douthwaite

OPA STAFF

Manager = Martin Gillett

Training Officer (Part Time) = Wendy Boone

Finance Officer = Jade Jarvis

Oxford Therapeutic Playwork Staff = Jane Gallagher

Sessional Playworkers = Tracy Rampton and Sharon Derbe

BANKERS

CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19
4JQ

ACCOUNTANTS / AUDITORS

SPX Oxford, Peace House, 19 Paradise Street, Oxford. OX1 1LD

OPA FINANCE – 2019/20

Income	£130,235
Expenditure	£121,859
Surplus	£8,376
Reserves	£50,800

(A full copy of our Independently Examined

Accounts are available on request)

Trustees Annual Financial Report

The OPA Accounts for Financial Year 2019/20 continue to build on the difficult decisions we made in 2018 to secure the long term sustainability and financial viability of the organisation.

It is worth noting that these Annual Accounts are not materially affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic as the majority of our services and projects continued to operate until mid-March 2020.

Our Accounts for Financial Year 2020/21 will bear the full brunt of the devastating impact this Virus has had on many sectors and Charities across the Globe. However it is because of the difficult decisions we made in 2018, alongside the excellent packages provided by the Government in terms of support such as the Job Retention Scheme and the availability of Emergency Covid Funding Support that OPA will survive the devastating economic impact of this Pandemic.

If any good is to come of this Global Crisis then it is the realisation that the Physical and Mental Wellbeing of our Children and Young People should be paramount in all of our minds and OPA is well placed to deliver Projects and Services that meet this aim.

The OPA Trustees and OPA Manager are pleased to see that the difficult but very necessary decisions we made in 2018 have resulted in OPA achieving another surplus this year, which will further help replenish our unrestricted funds, which had previously suffered worrying reductions in previous years.

Financial highlights this year are as follows;

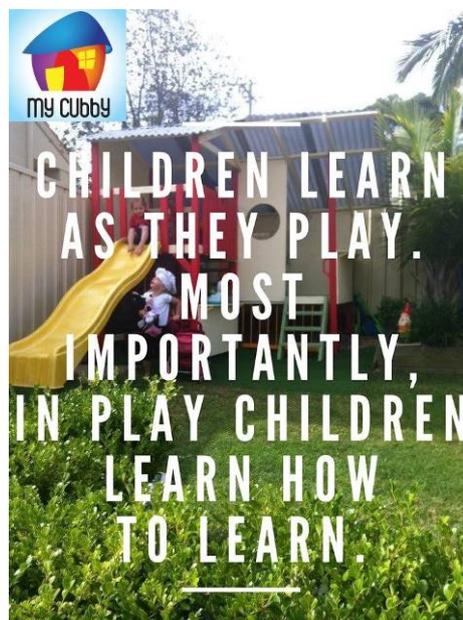
- Annual Surplus of £8,376 was the highest for 5 Years
- Expenditure of £121,859 was at its lowest level for 10 years since financial year 2008/09
- Unrestricted Reserves increased to £50,800
- Our core Organisational Operational Costs (including unfunded salary costs) were £28,306. This continues our focus on driving down these costs which were £55,260 in Financial Year 2017/18 and £40,740 in Financial Year 2018/19 (this represents a reduction over the 2 year period of almost 50%)

- Our total wage bill also continues to reduce as we focus on key project work and operate more flexible working arrangements, these reduced to £55,634 in the last financial year, down from £85,327 in Financial Year 2017/18 and £74,750 in Financial Year 2018/19.

The Trustees are grateful to the OPA Manager and other remaining staff for their sterling work to enable the organisation to continue to provide quality services in response to local need in as a financially sustainable way as possible.

OPA STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT

OPA and its Trustees confirm that they have complied with the Statutory Duty in Section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to Public Benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. We work on a fully inclusive basis across Oxfordshire taking into account all relevant legislation and guidelines.



Do you share our belief that PLAY is vital for the lives of Children and Young People?

Help us to make Oxfordshire the most play-friendly county in England.

Become a 'Friend of OPA' – and support us to continue our work across Oxfordshire.



play 4 life



Did you realise that the biggest 4% of UK Charities receive 80% of all the donations whilst the remaining 96%, some 159,169 local organisations receive only 20%!

What does OPA do? We:

- ❖ Help play providers to offer high quality play opportunities for all
- ❖ Run user-friendly training on all kinds of play-related topics
- ❖ Campaign for national and local play-friendly policies and decisions

We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Registered Charity Number 1160320) and have been working with, and for the Families and Communities of Oxfordshire since 1974.

For just £1 per month you can ensure that this work continues into the future by becoming a friend of OPA. **Come and play with us!**
Contact us now to see how you can make a difference!

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>OXFORD THERAPEUTIC PLAYWORK</u>
FUNDED AND SUPPORTED BY	<p>Supported by</p>  <p>© BBC 2007 Reg. charity England & Wales no. 802052 and Scotland no. SC039557</p>
PROJECT DETAILS	<p>To support Children & Young People faced with challenges to increase their resilience, develop a positive sense of self and improve their self confidence</p> <p>Developed in partnership with the late, Internationally renowned Playwork Theorist Gordon Sturrock</p>

OPA has received 3 year funding from BBC Children In Need to deliver this project across 3 schools in Oxfordshire, Our Year 1 delivery took place at Rose Hill Primary School in Oxford

- We worked with 4 Cohorts of 6 x Children to deliver 10 x 1 hour Therapeutic Play sessions within School Hours, each over 1 Full term
- 24 Children in total – 12 from Key Stage 1 and 12 from Key Stage 2
- The Therapeutic Play sessions were delivered by 2 Therapeutic Playwork specialists from OPA with extensive experience of working in this environment
- The Therapeutic Playwork sessions offered a safe and secure, Child led Play Environment with an empathetic approach to Play that centred around clear and consistent boundaries to enable Children to express and act out emotions in a safe way

KEY AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1) Children and Young People are Emotionally Well – They can Play through and express their emotions in a safe, non-judgemental way
- 2) Children and Young People are Empowered through Child Centred and Child Led activities / sessions
- 3) Children & Young People enjoy Positive Relationships with their Peers and Adults



WHO

- We worked with Children with additional needs who currently fall below the Oxfordshire County Council 'Threshold of Need' (those at Level 2 / early Level 3 on the County Council 'windscreen')
- The project was not designed for those Children with multiple / complex needs
- Children suffering Lack of Confidence, Social Skills etc

Following a meeting with key staff at the school the Children were chosen and referred by the school

The sessions were delivered to Key Stage 1 on a Wednesday – 'Wednesday Club' and Key Stage 2 on a Thursday – 'Thursday Club'



Year 2 of the project is currently being delivered at Thameside Primary School in Abingdon

PROJECT	<u>South Northamptonshire Youth Engagement (SNYE)</u>
FUNDED AND SUPPORTED BY	
PROJECT DETAILS	Supporting Infrastructure, Projects and Services for Children & Young People across the District of South Northamptonshire

Working with our partners at South Northants Council, Northamptonshire Association of Young People, Towcester Town Council, Brackley Town Council and other local Stakeholders we have launched South Northants Youth Engagement (SNYE) which was officially registered with the Charity Commission in 2019 as Registered Charity Number 1181573.

SNYE is the strategic lead for work across South Northants and has 7 Trustees.

In addition to SNYE there are 2 working groups tasked with delivering projects and services across the District, Brackley Youth Engagement (BYE) and Towcester Youth Engagement (TYE).



South Northants
Youth Engagement



Brackley
Youth Engagement



Towcester
Youth Engagement

Numerous funding applications have been submitted during 2019 and 2020 to deliver on the core aims of the SNYE Business and Operational Plan and some of these funds are now coming online which means that in the next financial year we can start to deliver our work through staffed provision with Youth Co-Ordinators and Youth Workers in post.

We also plan to create a new working group to cover the larger Villages across South Northamptonshire

PROJECT	<u>Cherwell District Council – Play Infrastructure</u>
FUNDED AND SUPPORTED BY	
PROJECT DETAILS	Supporting Play Infrastructure, Projects and Services across the Cherwell District Council Area

Within Cherwell District Council we co-Chair the Cherwell Young People, Play and Wellbeing Group and are also involved with the ‘Grimsbury Network’ working in the ‘Brighter Futures’ areas of Banbury.

This work also includes attending Outreach events (such as Winter & New Year Wishes) which looks to consult with local residents as well as working with other partners in the District to plan and deliver large scale Community events.

This work has been expanded in 2019/20 to also incorporate ‘All About YOUth’, the initiative designed to disrupt County Lines drug gangs and ‘OX5 Better Together’ which will introduce a ‘Healthy Town’ approach to the whole Community in Kidlington and surrounding areas.

All of this work involves large numbers of local stakeholders and act as a focus point to co-ordinate service delivery, reduce duplication and share best practice as well as increasing delivery capacity across the whole district.

Our work in these areas will link into the main themes of the Cherwell Play Strategy which include;

Increased Participation / To Improve Play Spaces / Community Cohesion / Inclusivity / Develop Play in both Urban & Rural Areas / Promote Managed, Risky Play / To Introduce more Play into, and out of School



Better together

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>Armed Forces Support Project</u>	
FUNDED BY	 HM Treasury	
PROJECT DETAILS	Deliver project work at both RAF Benson and Dalton Barracks to include; Weekly Stay & Play sessions at each location Bi-weekly Saturdays sessions at each location A Community Play and Activity Day event at each location	

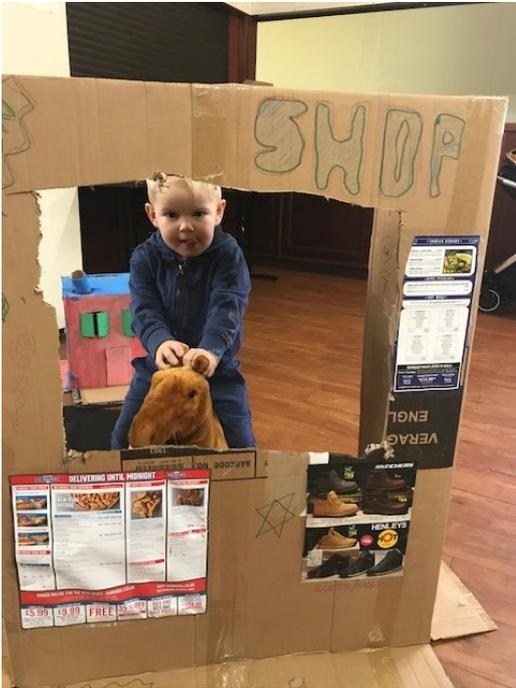
Oxfordshire County Council was the first local authority in England to sign up to the Community Covenant and through its network of Childrens Centres delivered Outreach services to all of the Armed Forces bases across Oxfordshire.

However due to budget cuts Oxfordshire County Council has reduced many of its services across Oxfordshire and its Children & Young People directorate will now only work with Young People in the most need.

All of the County Council run Childrens Centres were closed in April 2017. They no longer deliver any 'Universal Services'. This means that there were no outreach services being delivered by any 3rd party provider at either RAF Benson or Dalton Barracks.

Our project works with Armed Forces Children & their Families to not only provide Open Access, Play based sessions but to also provide guidance and services across the local area so that they are able to participate fully in local activities.

To provide a varied and interesting range of sessions our funding also allows us to bring in trusted 3rd party activity providers and the last year has seen our wonderful local Play Partners such as Orinoco Scrapstore, Earth Trust, Oxford Museum of Natural History and Sarah's Adventures in Science join us to enhance the Childrens Play experience.



PROJECT

OPA Play and Activity Days / Playdays 2019



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Vale of White Horse



WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cherwell

DISTRICT COUNCIL NORTH OXFORDSHIRE



Banbury Town Council



BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL



WITNEY TOWN HALL CHARITY



SPARK FUNDING



Grant & Stone



Elizabeth Jane Foundation / Holton Parish Council

Wheatley Parish Council / Selwani Limited



Turner Properties

PROJECT DETAILS	Deliver a series of Community Events across Oxfordshire and South Northants using the ethos of National Playday. All events will offer both FREE Entrance and FREE Activities to ensure an inclusion for ALL
-----------------	--

In 2019 we delivered 18 large scale, Community Play & Activity days across Oxfordshire.

This means that in the last 8 years (2012 to 2019 inclusive) we have project managed across Oxfordshire a total of 96 events which have been attended by 120,900 'guests' at an average of 1,272 per event

ALL of these events offered both **FREE** Entrance and **FREE** Activities to ensure an inclusion for **ALL**

Wednesday 10 th April 2019	Brackley (Brackley Park)
Tuesday 16 th April 2019	Towcester
Saturday 22 nd June 2019	Didcot / Vauxhall Barracks
Saturday 29 th June 2019	Blackbird Leys
Friday 5 th July 2019	Wood Farm
Saturday 6 th July 2019	Wheatley & Holton
Saturday 13 th July 2019	South Abingdon
Saturday 20 th July 2019	Rose Hill
Thursday 25 th July 2019	Banbury (Peoples Park)
Friday 26 th July 2019	Eynsham
Saturday 27 th July 2019	Dalton Barracks
Thursday 1 st August 2019	Witney
Friday 2 nd August 2019	Faringdon
Tuesday 20 th August 2019	Banbury (Princess Diana Park)
Wednesday 28 th August 2019	Bicester (St Edburgs)
Saturday 31 st August 2019	RAF Benson
Tuesday 29 th October 2019	Banbury (Grimsbury)
Wednesday 30 th October 2019	Brackley (Leisure Centre)

An individual event report and evaluation is available for each separate event upon request





OPA PLAY AND ACTIVITY DAYS 2019

KEY AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

For Children & Young People

- 1) Promote Positive Behaviours & Activities (reduce Anti-Social behaviour)
- 2) Promote Increased Levels of Physical Activity
- 3) Promote Healthy Weight Management (reduce obesity)

For Parents / Carers

- 1) Provide an Event offering both **FREE** Entrance & **FREE** Activities to Ensure an Inclusion for **ALL**
- 2) Demonstrate how Play can be achieved on a Zero / Minimal Budget using Natural & Recycled materials
- 3) Provide information on services and activities available in the local and wider area

For Communities

- 1) Encourage a greater sense of belonging to promote Active & Engaged Communities – ‘Love Where You Live’
- 2) Promote local clubs, groups and societies
- 3) Involve local groups, communities and Children & Young People in the planning and delivery of each event



Friends of OPA are now able to support the Charity via 3 of the local Council Lotteries in South Oxfordshire, Cherwell and Oxford City



WE'VE LAUNCHED OUR LOTTERY PAGE

Buy Your Tickets From Our Page - We Get 50%

- We now have a Oxford Lottery page!
- Support local causes and win prizes of up to £25,000!
- 50% of all tickets sold from our page go to us!
- PLUS 10% goes to other local good causes!
- Tickets only cost £1 per week!
- Support us and win prizes - WIN WIN!

To Start Supporting, Visit:
www.OxfordLottery.org
And Search For:
Play Association



Supporters must be 16 years of age or older



WE'VE LAUNCHED OUR LOTTERY PAGE

Buy Your Tickets From Our Page - We Get 50%

- We now have a Cherwell Lottery page!
- Support local causes and win prizes of up to £25,000!
- 50% of all tickets sold from our page go to us!
- PLUS 10% goes to other local good causes!
- Tickets only cost £1 per week!
- Support us and win prizes - WIN WIN!

To Start Supporting, Visit:
www.CherwellLottery.co.uk
And Search For:
OPA



Supporters must be 16 years of age or older



WE'VE LAUNCHED OUR LOTTERY PAGE

Buy Your Tickets From Our Page - We Get 50%

- We now have a SO Charitable Lottery page!
- Support local causes and win prizes of up to £25,000!
- 50% of all tickets sold from our page go to us!
- PLUS 10% goes to other good causes in South Oxfordshire!
- Tickets only cost £1 per week!
- Support us and win prizes - WIN WIN!

To Start Supporting, Visit:
www.SoCharitable.co.uk
And Search For:
OPA



Supporters must be 16 years of age or older



OXFORDSHIRE PLAY ASSOCIATION

☎ 01865 779474

🖱 www.oxonplay.org.uk

🖱 enquiries@oxonplay.org.uk

💻 Facebook = Oxfordshire Play Association – OPA

💻 Twitter = @oxonplay

Oxfordshire Play Association
Suite A, First Floor
Meridian House, East Point Business Park
Sandy Lane West,
Littlemore
Oxford. OX4 6LB

