

**Home
Start**

Support and friendship
For Families

Renfrewshire Annual Report 2014-15

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Home-Start Renfrewshire is a company limited by guarantee. Our Scottish Charity Number is SC032231. Registered in Scotland Company No: SC280860.

JANUARY



A BIG THANK YOU!

Home- Start Renfrewshire depends on the support and goodwill of many individuals and agencies in order to be able to continue to provide services across Renfrewshire. Our thanks go to all those who have supported us over the past year.

PARTICULAR THANKS TO:

Our principal funder -
Renfrewshire Council

MOST important of all - our volunteers and trustees without whose time and compassion we could not run our service.

Home-Start Renfrewshire Board 2015

Trustees

Evan Williams - Chairperson
Allison McAuslane - Vice Chairperson
Bob Dick - Secretary
Ronnie McKechnan - Treasurer
Lorraine Cameron
Graham Milne
Nancy Shaw



STAFF

Allison Guthrie
Janis Anderson
Lisa Carberry
Paula Gibson
Julie Goldie
Gayneeth Tyeson



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2016



Renfrewshire
Council

FEBRUARY



OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering with Home-Start Renfrewshire has given me the opportunity to help families who, for whatever reason, don't have the support network that I was fortunate enough to have when my children were small. Developing a relationship with a family, seeing them progress and knowing that I have played a part in that is incredibly rewarding.

- A volunteer

"Offering friendship and support to a family is great and valuable experience. To know that just a few hours a week can make such a difference is a positive thing for all concerned."

In 2014/15 there were 4 new volunteer training courses held with 35 new home-visiting volunteers recruited.



2016



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MARCH



SENIOR CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT ALISON GUTHRIE

This is my 8th year with the scheme and it has been one that saw the scheme change dramatically in size - we started the year with a small team of 3 and by the end of it we had doubled in size to 6 - quite a jump! It has been a year of new challenges which certainly kept me on my toes! Many months of networking and profile raising culminated in the start of our partnership with Families First Renfrewshire. Our parent organisation Home-Start UK also appointed a new CEO, Rob Parkinson, who we were delighted to have address our AGM in November 2014. He spoke passionately about Home-Start and we received much attention on the back of this. Many of our Linwood Family Group parents attended that AGM and even now speak with fondness of that day. We continued also to build our social media presence which is now a keystone of our work - recruiting volunteers, bringing attention to the work of Home-Start, building relationships. Through using it we were successful in being awarded the 2014 Bank of Scotland Community Fund Award for Paisley. This and much else made up the year. Thanks to all who supported me - colleagues, trustees, volunteers and funders.



2016



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APRIL



FAMILIES FIRST PARTNERSHIP

In early 2014 we were invited to be the third sector partner with Families First Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire Council's new locality-based early years family support service working with families with children aged 0 to 8 years. The approach is to empower families, working alongside them, to help them take control of their circumstances and improve experiences for the whole family. This funding allowed us to set up our Family Group in Linwood, led by Gwyneth who had experience of running groups with Home-Start, aiming to increase self-confidence through friendship, peer support and activities in a safe and confidential environment. Additionally we created a new Coordinator post in Fergussie Park to raise the profile of Home-Start and the offer of home-visiting volunteer support. Lisa was recruited to head this up, bringing to the role valuable experience of working in that area.



familiesfirst
RENFREWSHIRE

2016



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MAY



OUR STAFF TEAM

Without the volunteers, running Home-Start Renfrewshire would be impossible. However the staff are equally invaluable. It is very important to acknowledge the work which visibly goes on but also the work that tirelessly goes on behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of the scheme.

Alison, Janis, Lisa, Paula, Julie and Gwyneth all work well together supporting one another within their roles to help the wider community understand the support offered.



It is essential as a staff team they keep up-to-date with training. Some of the many events attended over the year include; the Renfrewshire Child Protection Conference, the Early Years Collaborative, the Renfrewshire Adult Protection Conference, the Scottish Book Trust Annual Conference and the Integrated Children's Services Early Years Forum.



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2016



JUNE



OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are volunteers who sit on the Trustee Board, which has overall responsibility for the governance of the scheme – that it delivers to its aims and objectives and meets its legal and financial requirements. Trustees come from varied backgrounds and bring a wide range of skills and knowledge to their role – and crucially all of them have a passion for the work of Home-Start.

"Being a Trustee with Home-Start has provided me with the opportunity to continue using my business skills and experiences in a really rewarding way without sacrificing any of the new lifestyle pleasures that retirement has brought."

"Even if you think you have nothing to offer you'll be surprised how much you can contribute as a Trustee. If you have a good supply of common sense and a concern for the well-being of families, then there is a role for you. You will learn a lot, too!"



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2016



JULY



BALANCE SHEET FOR YEAR END 31 MARCH 2015 (DRAFT)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2014/15	Total Funds 2013/14
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible assets	1,462	628	2,090	-
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	2,468	-	2,468	10,089
Cash at bank & in hand	20,990	22,038	43,028	13,310
	23,458	22,038	45,496	23,399
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due in yr	14,925	-	14,925	3,951
NET CURRENT ASSETS	8,533	22,038	30,571	19,448
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	9,995	22,666	32,661	19,448
NET ASSETS	9,995	22,666	32,661	19,448
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds			14,828	19,448
Restricted funds			17,833	-
TOTAL FUNDS			32,661	19,488



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2016



AUGUST



OUR SUMMER TRIP

Home-Start Renfrewshire organise an annual family outing for free during the school summer holidays. We invite all our supported families and all our volunteers with all their children to join us. Despite being one of the wettest days of the 2014 summer 90 adults and children came along with us in July to Balloch and enjoyed spending time together as families, meeting other parents, making new friends and creating shared memories. We did all manage to eat ice-cream but sadly our plans for some games together near the beach and some sand castle building were scuppered by the almost constant rain.

2014 FAMILY DAY OUT!

To the Sea-Life Centre at Loch Lomond Shores



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2016



SEPTEMBER



OUR KEY PERFORMANCE FIGURES

Our core scheme met its target of **35** families over the year, our partnership with Families First Fergussie Park added **12** families and the Families First Linwood Family Group supported a further **13** families, one of whom was also receiving home-visiting support. In total **71** children under 5 and **51** children over the age of 5 benefitted from support from either volunteers or staff.

50% (**40**) of the referrals came from our health visiting colleagues, **26%** (**21**) came from the Families First partnership, and the remaining **19** were a near equal split of referrals from Education, Social Work, self-referrals and other community organisations.

We have continued to be fortunate to enjoy a steady flow of new recruits - **35** new home-visiting volunteers were trained over 4 courses - one more course than we have done in previous years, principally to meet the demands of the Families First Renfrewshire project. In total **65** volunteers supported us at some point over the year. Home-Start support is for between 2-3 hours per week and for Renfrewshire the average weekly time given by our volunteers was **2hrs and 25mins**.



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2016

Home-Start is the UK's leading family support charity ...

OCTOBER



Home
SEARCH
SEARCHING FOR A HOME

OUR SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Home-Start Renfrewshire offers support, friendship and practical assistance to parents with young children, around Renfrewshire. Home-Start offers a unique service, recruiting and training volunteers- who are usually parents themselves - to visit families at home to offer informal, friendly and confidential support. We help support parents as they grow in confidence, strengthen their relationships with their children and widen their links with the local community. Volunteers reassure parents that difficulties in bringing up children are not unusual!

"When you are so low, you don't even know you are broken. I had a serious operation and if I didn't have my volunteer then it would have been my breaking point."

- A parent
"I feel a lot happier and the kids are so happy when they know my volunteer is coming. I feel much more confident. When I feel stressed I can speak to her and it helps. Things have definitely improved."



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2016



NOVEMBER



THE INVERCLYDE SATELLITE PROJECT

In late 2014 we were approached by Home-Start UK about the possibility of expanding our home-visiting volunteer support across the Inverclyde area - an area that had never had a Home-Start service. Using a new model where we are in partnership with Home-Start UK, we successfully bid for 5 year funding from BIG Lottery Scotland to establish a satellite scheme - the first of its kind - with a local base in the Inverclyde area whilst being overseen by an already established scheme. This will be the first new local authority area in Scotland to get a Home-Start scheme in over 10 years. This project enjoyed a "soft launch" in November 2015 with volunteers expected to be trained and matched in early 2016.



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2016



LOTTERY FUNDED

DECEMBER



OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Christmas Party is a chance for families to spend time together and share experiences and make memories. We invite all our supported families and volunteers and all their children to attend. In 2014 our Christmas Party was held in St Minian's Church Hall in Ferguslie Park where Santa found us easily! Gifts were donated by BT and the Spirit of Christmas.

We had food, games, dancing, a parachute, face-painting and balloon modelling to entertain everyone.

**OUR STAFF,
VOLUNTEERS
AND TRUSTEES
OFFER**

**EVERYONE
A VERY
HAPPY
CHRISTMAS!**



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2016





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Interested in further information about Home–Start Renfrewshire?

If you would like to know more about.....

- Becoming a member of the Board of Trustees
- Becoming a home–visiting volunteer befriender
- Helping with our fundraising
- Accessing our service

PLEASE CONTACT US!

Phone – 0141 889 5272

Web – www.home-start-renfrewshire.org.uk

Email – theteam@home-start-renfrewshire.org.uk

Facebook – [Home-Start Renfrewshire](#)

Twitter – [@HSRenfrewshire](#)