



SNAAP

Special Needs Advisory and Activities Project

Annual Report 2012



hello

And welcome to our annual report.

SNAAP was started to help make life easier for disabled children and their families and, nine years on, that is still our main goal. Our services have grown rapidly over recent years because we have responded to the needs of families, and the work of our staff, trustees and volunteers enable us to continue to provide a lifeline to parents and carers of children with disabilities.

This report gives an overview of our current year, we hope you enjoy reading it.

our purpose

To improve the quality of life of disabled children and young people, their carers and the whole family by providing bespoke services within a friendly, safe and non-judgmental environment.

And to inspire and empower parents and carers to access the best services and support available to improve their quality of life and ensure their disabled children achieve their life goals.

our values

To welcome children and young people with all types of disabilities, whether formally diagnosed or not. We believe they deserve to receive the best services and support and should not miss out on accessing activities due to their disability.

To provide demand led services, by listening and actively seeking feedback from our service users: both the disabled children and young people and their families

And ensuring that people with the experience of disability and special needs are part of our organisation - management, expert advisors and staff - which will ensure we never lose touch with the real issues our families have to deal with.



our people

We are often reminded by young people, families and supporters that our strongest asset is our staff and none of what we do would be possible without them.



Carrie Wood - Manager

Co-founder of SNAAP and responsible for the managing and development SNAAP's services, with the support of a small team of staff and volunteers. She is also our Company Secretary.



Natalie Simmons - Children and Young Peoples' Coordinator/Family Support Worker

As well as support families through our advice, support and information service, Natalie also runs our weekly after school sessions 'Stay 'n Play', Youth school holiday scheme and manages volunteers.



Hester Hathaway - Leisure Events Coordinator

As well as being the focal point for families joining SNAAP, Hester organises all school holiday activities, in particular family days out, and also does a huge amount of our fundraising for us.



Shelley Hooker - Finance and Administration Officer

Processes all financial transactions, prepares the end of year accounts, and produces finance reports to the Board. Also provides administrative support to the Manager and other team members.

Gill Leadbetter - Lead Play Support Worker

Our newest member of the team, Gill manages our school holiday short break mini-bus days out as well as our weekly clubs.

Plus a fun, friendly and lively team of Play Support Workers and volunteers who assist with all school holiday activities as well as weekly clubs.

our Board of Directors

Stephanie Swan (Chair)

Appointed chair of the Board in 2011, Stephanie has more than 30 years experience in public administration. She left the Mayor of London's City Hall in 2009 where she had been director of finance and administration for the Greater London Authority's Policy and Partnerships Directorate for nine years.

Currently, she is director of finance and administration and company secretary at The London Pathway - an award winning charity working to change the way homeless and other socially excluded people are treated in the health service.

Vanessa Boukharouba (Vice Chair)

Vanessa has two sons with autism and is an active member of her local community, supporting many disability causes. These include being a school governor of a local special needs school with responsibility for training and development, chair of the PTFA committee, and leader of an autism support group, FLAG. She also has a BA(Hons) degree in business studies and marketing.

Sarah Whitney

Sarah is a sister and nurse educator in intensive care for the local hospital Trust and has a B.Sc (hons) in Interprofessional Health and Social Care. She is married with 2 children, one of whom is autistic and dyspraxic.

Sarah joined SNAAP as a trustee because she is passionate about improving the opportunities for disabled children and wants to provide a voice for families in similar situations. This enthusiasm and commitment continues unabated.

Amanda Hutson

Amanda has a son with learning difficulties and works at Canterbury Christ Church University with community and business partners on development projects. As a service user Amanda understands the essential need for social opportunities for disabled children and young people.

our Chairperson's report

Welcome to SNAAP's 2012 Annual report, the first since my election as Chair. Since our last annual report in November 2011, we have had an exciting, challenging and rewarding time.

We secured some additional funding during the year, and were able to add some new, improved or extended services and activities to our already extensive programme. These included: more "on tap" support to families through our dedicated Family Support Worker who is available to give information, one-to-one support and help to families and particularly those in crisis situations; the opportunity for our younger disabled service users to join in a mainstream summer camp during the summer holidays; a much improved Stay and Play club, where we provide the opportunity for families to meet each other, siblings to play together and enjoy a nutritious meal; and lastly we were able to offer some specialised, focused training for parents and carers.

Highlights of the year included: accompanying a group of families to the new Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury to see Cinderella; holding a summer party to mark the fourth birthday of Windchimes where we joined in the excitement of the London 2012 Olympics by using this as our theme; arranging a coach trip to Legoland; holding an end of summer fancy dress party at which we welcomed a special guest, the Sheriff of Canterbury; held a wonderfully, spooky Halloween party and most recently and excitingly our annual sleepover at the youth club was filmed by the BBC South East as part of their build up to the 2012 Children in Need appeal.

During the year, we have successfully run our programmes of mini bus days out, youth activities and family activities throughout the school holidays, as well as our regular youth and sports clubs during school term time.



None of our work would be possible without the support of our many funders, who in 2012 included Canterbury City Council, Children in Need, the Sobell Foundation, Colyer Fergusson and Kent County Council. However, in addition to these core funding organisations, we have received amazing fundraising support from many individuals and groups.

There are too many to mention by name here, but they include some intrepid individuals who abseiled or rowed a dragon boat in aid of SNAAP, the Crab and Winkle Quilters who held their first exhibition and a raffle in aid of SNAAP, the Rotary Clubs of Whitstable, Chestfield and Herne Bay, the three charity shops who have chosen us as their beneficiary charity: Bambinoes, in Tankerton, West Bay Charity Shop and Adz Thrift Store both in Herne Bay, and the many local businesses who have collection tins in their premises and who donate prizes for our raffles.



We were also delighted to be selected as charity of the year by Sainsbury's in Whitstable, and their first fundraising event - the Great Whitstable Bake off - was well supported by Sainsbury's staff and SNAAP's families. However large or small a donation - cash or gift - we are truly grateful to all our donors and fundraisers, and every penny goes to making our services bigger and better for our disabled children and young people.

2012 has seen substantial changes to our Board of Trustees in order that we meet the legal requirements of our new charitable company's constitution. This requires the majority of the board to be non-service users, and we are working to meet this requirement. However, it meant that four of our long serving trustees stepped down in May - Marilyn Smalley, Paula Richardson, Lisa Whiteing and Serena Kemp. I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to Board members past and present for their tireless work, personal contributions and continuing support of SNAAP.

Our biggest challenge for the future remains securing sufficient funding to maintain our current programme of services. This is difficult in the ongoing global economic situation, and therefore we will do everything we can to increase our income by more fundraising in the community.

Finally, I cannot end my report without giving my sincere thanks to our Manager, Carrie Wood and her team of staff and volunteers, for their dedication, passion and hard work. Without them we would not be able to run our services.

Stephanie Swan
Chair

our services

- An integral part of our project is offering families **support** in any way they need it, anytime they need it. Funding from Colyer Fergusson for a dedicated Family Support Worker has seen a huge increase in referrals.
- **Library of Specialist Toys, Book & DVD's** - Since moving the toy library to coincide with the FLAG session (Family Link Autism Group) on a Saturday, we have seen a 80% increase in the lending of toys and receive many requests for new items.
- A fortnightly **Sports Club**, in Canterbury, for disabled children aged 8+. It has approximately 20 children who attend regularly without their parents/carers as SNAAP provide staff and volunteers.
- A fortnightly **youth club**, '**Zone out**' in Whitstable, for disabled young people aged 11+, with a regular attendance of 20 young people, without their parents/carers as SNAAP provide staff and volunteers.

This club has also developed a youth forum, ZAG (Zoneout Action Group) where the young people meet together regularly and discuss future activities they would like to do.

- A weekly **youth club**, '**Inclusive us**' in Canterbury, for disabled young people aged 11+, with a regular attendance of 15 young people without their parents/carers as SNAAP provide staff and volunteers.

This is integrated into a mainstream youth club, and there is a buddy system which enables our young people to feel less dependant on adults and more included within the group.

- A weekly after school club, **Stay & Play** at Windchimes. This is for the whole family to play in a safe and supported environment. Parents stay and SNAAP provide staff and volunteers to support and help. There is a weekly attendance of 20-40 children, and a healthy nutritional meal is provided for the children.



"Thank you so much for all the wonderful trips and opportunities which SNAAP have offered in the past. They have enriched our lives as a family"

“It’s so lovely to be able to go out for a day without being judged all the time. It’s like the pressure is off and even if your child kicks off you know people won’t ‘tut’ and that you’ll be supported by any SNAAP staff or volunteers that are there. It means for us, that even if we only do a few trips, it makes the holidays go by really quickly. I would really struggle without it as my son is reluctant to go out as it is...but he’s willing to go to SNAAP stuff”

- **Short break mini-bus days** out are held every week during school holidays. We take six disabled children into the local community whilst giving their parent/carer a short break. Each year we take approximately 162 children on 27 days out.
- **Youth Holiday scheme** is held three days a week during every school holiday at Whitstable Youth Centre and is for disabled young people aged 11+, without their parents/carers as SNAAP provide staff and volunteers. The sessions are run at a pace and level with which the young people feel comfortable, yet still push the boundaries so they continually learn and develop.
- We have just completed our first ever **Summer Camp** in 2012. This was held at a local mainstream school in partnership with a mainstream provider. We were able to take up to 10 disabled children and young people aged 8-14yrs and offered them fully inclusive activities with the appropriate level of support they needed.

This experience was highly successful with friendships between disabled and non-disabled children being made each day during team games and meal times. One friendship has extended outside the club with two families arranging a 'play date'.

- We also organise **family days out** to local places of interest such as Farming World and Wingham Wildlife plus 'taster sessions' such as skiing or swimming.

These days offer families support from experienced and skilled SNAAP staff and volunteers and also provide an opportunity to meet in their local community and form links with other families who are in a similar situation.



Our finances

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2011	Total 2011
Incoming resources				
<i>Voluntary income</i>				
Grants	-	102,714	102,714	85,164
Donations	9,178	32,579	41,757	20,089
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>				
Fundraising	14,746	-	14,746	3,781
Total incoming resources	<u>23,924</u>	<u>135,293</u>	<u>159,217</u>	<u>109,034</u>
Less total resources expended	28,520	116,068	144,588	163,501
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources	(4,596)	19,225	14,629	(54,467)
Gross transfers between funds	5,389	(5,389)	-	-
Fund balances as at 1 April 2011	<u>16,933</u>	<u>17,932</u>	<u>34,865</u>	<u>89,332</u>
Fund balances as at 31 March 2012	<u>17,726</u>	<u>31,768</u>	<u>49,494</u>	<u>34,865</u>
Summary Balance Sheet	2012		2011	
Current assets				
Debtors & Prepayments	-		428	
Cash in bank and in hand	49,894		40,451	
	<u>48,894</u>		<u>40,879</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>400</u>		<u>7,134</u>	
Net current assets		<u>49,494</u>		<u>33,745</u>
Net assets		<u>49,494</u>		<u>34,865</u>
Funds				
Restricted Funds		31,768		17,933
Unrestricted Funds		<u>17,726</u>		<u>16,933</u>
		<u>49,494</u>		<u>34,865</u>

This financial summary is for information only and may not contain sufficient details to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of SNAAP. Full financial statements can be provided on request.

Legal Status

SNAAP (Special Needs Advisory & Activities Project) is a private Company Ltd by Guarantee incorporated in England & Wales with registration number 06800689 and is a charity registered with number 1130149 (Prior to 1 April 2011 SNAAP was registered with charity number 1107944 under a charitable trust).

Special Needs Advisory & Activities Project has continued to be known as 'SNAAP' and that acronym has been used throughout this report.

SNAAP - Making a Difference



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