



# **Cambridge SCA**

## **Annual Report and Statement of Accounts**

**2011-12**

# Student Community Action

## Volunteers in Cambridge

### Our Purpose

Cambridge SCA exists to encourage the involvement of students in voluntary community work, providing essential services to disadvantaged groups within the community and giving students a valuable learning experience.

### Our Values

- The equal rights of all individuals
- Practical activities that help to counter disadvantage within the community
- Cultural diversity
- The two-way exchange of ideas between individuals with different cultures

### Our Organisational Objectives

- Provide equal opportunities for all students to become involved in the organisation's activities
- Provide a variety of volunteering opportunities to students by running a variety of projects
- Provide opportunities for students to become involved in the management of the organisation and its projects
- Allow client group opportunities to guide the organisation towards providing the services that they require
- Work in partnership with other organisations

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# Management Structure

The Student Community Action Executive Committee consists of Steering Group members, elected annually from students at the University of Cambridge and Anglia Ruskin University, and Senior Members who are appointed for 3 years. Election to the Steering Group takes place at our Annual General Meeting in March each year. Steering Group members "shadow" current members from the election until the last day of the Cambridge University Easter Term, when they take over responsibility for SCA for the next academic year.

## Executive Committee

Comprising senior members co-opted for 3 years and student trustees elected annually.

<b>Paul Taylor</b>	Senior Treasurer	
<b>Joye Rosenstiel</b>	Staff Line Manager	
<b>Jo Haywood</b>		
<b>Rachel Duncan</b>		
<b>Philip Hobday</b>		
<b>Penny Wilson</b>		
<b>Nicola Buckley</b>		<i>From Oct 2011</i>
<b>Jacob Cain</b>	Chair	<i>Student Trustee</i>
<b>David Franklin</b>		<i>Student Trustee</i>
<b>Bodil Isaksen</b>		<i>Student Trustee</i>

## Steering Group

<b>Jacob Cain</b>	President
<b>David Franklin</b>	Vice President
<b>Bodil Isaksen</b>	Treasurer
<b>Hannah Ponting</b>	Internal Projects
<b>Ros Buckland</b>	External Projects
<b>Isobel Stone</b>	Publicity/Events
<b>Hannah Malcolm</b>	College Reps
<b>Oliver Crawford</b>	General Member

## Office Staff

<b>Caroline Ward</b>	Manager	<i>Works 30 hours a week</i>
<b>Ania Rygielska</b>	Volunteer Administrator	<i>From May 2011. Average of 20 hours a week</i>

# Steering Group Report

This year's SG has looked to continue the good work of the previous SG, with the presence of 2 'veterans' and 6 fresh new faces providing a strong dynamism. The incoming of this SG also coincided with the appointment of Ania to the new role of Volunteer Administrator, which has allowed us to shape and benefit from a number of changes to the way that SCA presents itself.

We have achieved a record income from fundraising, something accomplished through traditional events such as raids (street collections), and the ever-increasing traditional club nights. Mostly, our achievements in this area have come down to the sheer energy and determination of the SG to get volunteers signed up for these events – individually emailing college reps to get them to recruit for such events has proved fruitful, and we have had encouragingly high turnouts.

Following on from last year's efforts, we have continued to seek out connections with other societies and organisations, such as sports societies, Cambridge HUB, and major recruiters in the third sector such as Teach First and City Year, in order to increase the number of volunteers we have, find useful connections within the university society network, and increase our publicity. These connections should, we feel, be maintained, encouraged and expanded.

SCA has become increasingly digitalised through the efforts of Ania and the SG, improving the process of freshers' fair sign-ups, and the ways in which we advertise particular opportunities to our active volunteers and members.

We have also aimed to deliver on the more purely sociable side of SCA, organising a well-attended and enjoyed Annual Dinner in December, with a Garden Party and Christmas (2012) Party on the books to celebrate 40 years of Cambridge SCA!

As well as fundraising and event organising, the SG have grappled with more fundamental issues such as the paucity of male volunteers, and the issue of inactive volunteers. Building on the findings of City Year and other charities, the SG have, in collaboration with Ania, developed a more male-focused recruitment campaign involving posters and altered advertising language, and the SG have shown great teamwork in sharing the responsibility of mobilising college reps and other volunteers.

I have been very impressed with the work the SG has done this year, and I'm very sad to leave SCA at this time, as full as it is of energy, potential and enthusiasm. I hope some of the SG decide to stay on, and I'd also like to welcome our new members and say that I hope they enjoy their time as much as I have!

*Jacob Cain*

# Trustees' Report

The SCA Senior Members have been delighted to work with the talented and effective student officers who were elected in 2011. Much has been achieved in the last year and we look forward to celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the founding of SCA later this year.

The Senior Members have been delighted at the continuing commitment, hard work and skills that Caroline and Ania have brought to their posts, not least in continuing to ensure that SCA's grant applications have resulted in the organisation continuing to offer a varied range of opportunities for clients and volunteers. SCA continues to be an effective and respected organisation both within the student community and the wider community.

We were pleased that the recruitment of a new Volunteers Administrator resulted in Ania joining us in May 2011. Ania has brought considerable computer skills to the organisation and has worked, with Caroline Ward and David Franklin, to introduce new online forms for new recruits to the organisation and update our computer system

The senior members have continued to play their part in the running of the organisation regularly attending executive and sub-committee meetings. Nicky Buckley, a new trustee in 2011, has brought fresh ideas and skills to the organisation and we continue to be grateful to Paul Taylor who serves as senior treasurer.

We have continued to develop effective links with other organisations including the Cambridge Hub and a number of city schools.

Most importantly has been SCA's continuing success in recruiting volunteers and our growing links with city families and schools through Bounce and the Homework Help clubs. We would like to record our thanks to SCA officers, steering group and volunteers for their hard work in the last year and wish them well for the future.

*Joye Rosenstiel*

# Manager's Report

The year began with a sad farewell to Beejal, our Volunteer Co-ordinator, but after a short break we welcomed Ania into the fold and I am delighted to report that she has settled in very well. She has brought our admin procedures bang up to date with an amazing on-line sign up system and other energy saving ideas! She will no doubt go into more details about this in her report, but suffice to say she has dramatically improved efficiency around the office and I am very grateful for her expertise in all areas of IT and office equipment.

We have once again appeared to have weathered the turbulent economic climate with relative success. Although slightly down on income from last year, we have tightened our belts accordingly and have managed to keep within our means.

We remain committed to our partnership with The Hub, and enjoy their presence around the office. We will be continuing to explore ways of joint working throughout the year particularly in terms of training and events. Other partnerships have continued to develop including that with Brett Turner and The David Hardie Project . With their support we were able to hold 2 amazing children's parties this year which were attended by over 160 disabled and disadvantage children. The smiles on their faces at these events were certainly a highlight of mine.

As anticipated we have seen a higher demand on our projects, especially Big Sibs, TESL and Taskforce. We are have coped with this by setting realistic limits on the numbers of clients we can accept to ensure the quality of the projects do not suffer. We have been honest and open with referring agents regards these limits and have so far not received any negative feedback.

One aspect of my job I enjoy the most continues to be working with the SCA Steering group. We have been exceptionally lucky to have had some highly motivated and committed students on these committees in the past and this year has been no exception. It always surprises me at how quickly a year speeds by and saddens me every time I have to say goodbye to members of the Steering Group who are moving on.

Our wonderful Executive Committee has had a welcome addition in the form of Nicky Buckley this year who together with Penny Wilson and other senior members ensure that our links and support from the University remain strong and productive. I would also like to give a special mention of thanks to Joye Rosenstiel who gives her precious time to supervise and support me to ensure SCA remains professional and effective in serving the community.

Finally I would like to say a massive THANK YOU to all our wonderful volunteers. Their commitment and enthusiasm is truly inspiring, and the positive comments we have about them from our clients makes me very proud to be part of SCA.

*Caroline Ward*

# Volunteer Administrator's Report

One of the major developments of the admin side of SCA is the general move towards digital exchange of data. This was possible thanks to the webform system that I created over the summer holidays and which has been in use since. Both the prospective volunteers and the referees fill in the on-line forms and the results can be exported and then copy-pasted in the existing spreadsheet -- this has considerably reduced the staff time needed to process the data, as well as the office paper use.

I am also working on making all the project guidelines available on-line in an orderly fashion.

The webform allows us to place the volunteers in the projects of their choice with minimum fuss -- only one visit to the office is needed. We have also received a lot of positive feedback from the referees, although occasional problems with CAPTCHA system are unavoidable.

We had a lot of volunteers signing up this academic year -- between September and January we had 209 students signing up and over 70% visited the office to do a CRB and therefore either got placed with a client or referred to the project leader of the project they wanted to help out with. Over 100 volunteers are helping clients 1-to-1.

To celebrate the Student Volunteering week, we organised taster sessions for Bounce, Betty's, Homework Help, Lunchtime Story Club, and Sunday club at Ditchburn. Twenty individuals expressed interest, and most of them attended the sessions. As a result several people who were not volunteering signed up and started actively helping. It would be wonderful if we could run two taster sessions for each project at the beginning of Michaelmas term. This would allow people to try out volunteering before they commit - hopefully this would mean having more volunteers who actively volunteer.

Other than maintaining and administering the website and assisting prospective volunteers, I help out with countersigning the CRBs, general office housekeeping duties, and in January 2012 I started doing the home visits.

I would like to thank everyone, especially Caroline, for the support and trust you've put in me since my arrival in May. It is a pleasure to work with a team of people who are in engaged with SCA with their hearts!

*Ania Rygielska*

# Project Reports

SCA running internal projects.

## Betty Stubben's Musical Entertainment Group

Betty Stubbens' Musical Entertainment Group, or Betty's as we call it (BSMEG is not an ideal acronym) has been running for over 40 years and is still going strong. Although this year our numbers have varied from three to ten, we have been able to put on an evening's entertainment for the elderly of Cambridge with any configuration of people.

Since the majority of our current members are post-graduate students and graduates we usually meet at a care home, going to a different old folks' home, community centre or sheltered housing complex each Wednesday evening. Steven, one of the long standing members continues to liaise between the group and the care homes to ensure we reach as many as possible.

Each week the residents attending the session range from six and over twenty, depending on the home. We congregate in a communal space where we set up the keyboard and distribute songbooks. We then alternate between a song from the songbook, which the residents are strongly encouraged to join in with, and a solo from one of the group. Worthy of particular mention this year, for the laughs they raise amongst the residents, are Ross' Norwegian drinking song and Matt's amazing supply of Pam Ayres poems. Group songs this year include 'In the Mood', 'Let's Do It' and some Flanders & Swann numbers. We have been without a pianist for much of the year, which has undoubtedly improved our confidence with a cappella singing, and we have found alternative accompanying instruments – mostly guitars but also an accordion. At half time we stop for a twenty-minute interval and distribute ourselves amongst the residents for a chat.

The lack of a minibus has not been an issue so far, with most of us cycling to homes, and the keyboard and music is kindly transported each week by Jo and Matt in their car. We have encouraged Steven to let us know if a home has its own piano (many of them do) to make things easier. Our low volunteer numbers at the start of Michaelmas have been improved by advertising through the SCA bulletin as well as the occasional press-ganging of friends.

We all enjoy Betty's immensely – we have a number of members who have been coming for years and didn't let graduation stop them, as well as some keen new people – and our enthusiasm often seems to be infectious. It's brilliant to be able to listen to some of the amazing stories some of the residents have, and to see their faces light up as they recognise a song and start humming along.

*Katharine Howell*



## Big Sibs

Jonny Walker, last years Project Leader, coined a nice description for the project, so I'll quote him:

"The Big Siblings project matches volunteers with local children who are disadvantaged in some way either through disability, family circumstance or lack of peer group friends. The families are initially visited by a representative of SCA and the volunteer to fill in all the paperwork and ensure the project follows all our Health and Safety checks. The volunteers then visit the child on a weekly basis and spend time building a "Sibling like" relationship with them to build their confidence, give them access to new activities and generally allow the children to have a fun time!"

At present we have slightly fewer clients than we had this time last year as we decided to cap referrals at around 50 clients as we have taken on far more TESL clients that we are working with at home and it was becoming difficult for the staff and project leaders to fit all the home visits in to check each home was suitable for our volunteers. We also had a number of clients who became too old for the project due to the new upper age limit that was brought in plus a disproportionate number of male clients requesting male volunteers who are more difficult to recruit.

Out of 54 clients, only 3 are unmatched. We have 20 girls and 34 boys, ages range from 5 to 14 - the older children (12 and over) will not be assigned a new Big Sib after their current one leaves. They may, however, receive help though one of our other projects. Most of our clients cluster around Arbury, King's Hedges, Cherry Hinton, Addenbrooke's area, and around St Matthew's school.

This year brought about several changes, the most significant being: reducing the upper sign-up age limit to 11 (Year 6), and introducing the new (simpler and clearer) sign-up form. Thanks to this, we can deploy our resources more effectively: having a better idea of what support is needed.

One of the major problems for the Big Sibs project this year, was shortage of male volunteers. As it is, we get 1 male signing-up for every 3 females. Also, most of the male volunteers prefer education or sporty projects. Because of this, seven male children who requested a male Big Sib had been on the waiting list since September, or even June. To keep parents informed, in mid-January we sent out letters offering a bunch of options and stating that if we don't hear from them before mid-February, they will be taken off the waiting list. We didn't hear from six of the parents.

*Ania Rygielska and Caroline Ward*

## The Sunday Social Club (Bounce)

Bounce was historically a sports project where SCA volunteers organised a fun sports session every week for disadvantaged and disabled children. After receiving feedback from parents and children we realised that although the children loved playing games, making friends and generally letting off steam, many of them also liked to do quiet games (e.g. board games, puzzles) or arts and crafts. Thanks to some National Lottery funding, since February we have been able to incorporate these activities into the sessions and have renamed it The Sunday Social Club. This has already resulted in a number of new children attending as there is so much more variety and caters to more children's needs. Over the last year we have settled into a new venue, the City Life Centre on Sturton Street, which has proved very popular with parents as there is free parking and easy access. This has also assisted with the increased numbers of children attending.

We have been lucky enough to have ample volunteers to allow us to offer a range of activities every session and to make sure that every child is being supervised and is doing something they enjoy. This system works well, given the range of ages (six to fourteen) and the variety of special needs the children have. The number of children we have is between ten and fifteen with an average of 6 volunteers each week.

One of our aims is to have a stable team of volunteers with whom the children can form good, long-term relationships with. I think we've succeeded in achieving this: some of our volunteers have been coming regularly for over a year and some of the children have been coming for over two years.

In the future, I hope to integrate The Sunday Social Club more with TESL and Big Sibs, since children on those projects could benefit from the opportunities to have fun and socialise which Bounce offers.

*Oliver Crawford*

## Craft Room

Craft Room is a small project run once a week for vulnerable children in Cambridge. The activities we do each week with the children vary, but generally things like painting and drawing are quite popular. The families living in the refuge come and go, so the number and the age range of the children we have each week can vary quite a bit. At the moment, most of the children at the sessions are quite young (under 5), so we've mostly been doing painting or playing games with them.

Volunteering with Craft Room can be a lot of fun and is very rewarding, both for the children and the volunteers. The sessions give the children the chance to regain some control, as they get to be the ones making decisions and deciding what they want to do. For the volunteers, we enjoy the chance to make a difference in the children's lives whilst having a lot of fun in the process!

The sessions this year have been quite small in terms of numbers, with around 2-5 children per session. In particular, the recent sessions have been quite small, and often we have more volunteers than the number of children! In light of this, we are looking to find other places in Cambridge where we can run similar projects, so we can spread volunteers between different projects.

*Jessica Patel*

## Homework Help (St Lukes)

### Story Club ( New for 2012)

Story club was set up last term as a lunchtime activity for children in keystage 1. We run it as a lunchtime session every week from 12:30-1:00. We currently have 2-3 committed volunteers each week, and we normally have between 4-8 children attending.

Each session involves reading stories in groups, with volunteers reading and discussing the story with the children. We normally choose from a wide selection of large, colourful books from the school library, and then let the children pick which ones they want us to read with them; volunteers have brought their own books before, however. We usually get through (just about!) two books per group in a session.

Things that have worked well are working in several smaller groups rather than one big group, as this gives the children more of a chance to ask questions about the stories and to choose a story which they prefer. Large books with big pictures are the best choice of reading material, as they provide plenty of talking points and are very visible when reading to a group.

Overall, I'm happy with how story club has been progressing over its first few months, and hope that this continues.

### Homework Help/Arts and Crafts Club

The afternoon club at St Lukes has changed a little since last year, as arts and crafts activities have been added to the usual homework help. Each session is divided between a small arts and crafts project and helping out with any homework that the children have received during the week. Sessions are from 15:20-16:30, and usually about 4 volunteers and 4-5 children will attend each week.

We help out with a wide variety of schoolwork: this year it has been mostly English and maths, rather than ongoing science or history projects. The arts and crafts activities vary from origami to pipe-cleaner animals, and at Christmas we made stockings.

The children who attend the club do so regularly, many being happy to get their homework out of the way at an early date. Adding in an arts and crafts element has proved helpful in dealing with a challenge which we faced previously, which was what to do when some of the children did not have any homework to do or finished their work early. The best arts and crafts activities have turned out to be those which are fairly simple and straightforward so that there is time to explain and complete them within half an hour, leaving plenty of time for homework.

I hope that the afternoon club continues to develop into a more varied after-school club with the help of the arts and crafts aspect, whilst still providing plentiful opportunities for volunteers to assist the children who attend with their school-work.

*Katherine Blatchford*

## Homework Help (St Matthews)

Homework Help at St. Matthew's has continued to be a beneficial and fulfilling project to be involved with. The club runs once weekly and provides children at St. Matthew's school with extra support in completing their homework. The children are mainly chosen by Liz Steel, our contact at St. Matthew's, because they are struggling with a certain topic or the school are aware that they do not receive support from home. At one point last year, there were a few regular attendees who were there only because their parents wanted them to go. The school judged that these children did not need extra support and removed them from the list, which has now meant that our efforts can focus on those children who really are in need. I believe that this was the correct decision. We now have between 6 and 12 regular children attending and around 4 to 10 volunteers attending, each week. Often this allows us to offer one to one support for the children, which we have found creates a very calm working environment to which the children respond well. Most volunteers are regular, however I email my mailing list weekly (which consists of around 30 registered students) to remind them of the project so sometimes we get new volunteers who come as and when they can. Most of the time the children have homework to complete, and this has been improved by moving the day the session takes place to correspond with the setting of homework. When this is not the case, we play games and think of interesting creative pieces the children can work on which are related to topics they are studying at school at the time. I firmly believe that the children are grateful for the time and support they received to complete their homework supported, as on rare occasions when the task is not quite finished within the 45 minute period they question; 'Well, when am I going to finish it then?' I believe that this shows that the project is reaching the correct children within the community and is allowing them to rest easy that they will not get in trouble when it comes to hand in time. I feel lucky to be involved with these children and hope that the new project leader is able to keep the project running successfully next year.

*Hannah Ponting*

## Parklife

Parklife involves SCA volunteers taking a group of vulnerable children to the park every weekend. All the children are from single-parent families in the Cambridge area and many are going through extremely difficult periods in their lives. The time that we spend with the children every weekend gives their parents a chance to relax as well as giving the children a chance to run, climb, jump, slide, swing, blow bubbles, throw frisbees and generally have fun!

We tend to be in the park for about an hour and then, after children and volunteers are suitably tired, we go to feed old bread to the ducks -- working very hard not to let the smaller children eat it themselves! After that we take the children back home, although they are often very reluctant to let us leave them!

In 2011, we were able to keep the project running over the summer for the first time; it was easy to see that the extra stability made a real difference to many of the children we work with. Indeed, some of the children have liked coming out to the Park with us so much that their mothers apparently used the threat of a Sunday without to persuade them to behave!

*Mohan Ganesalingam*

## Sunday Club (Ditchburn Place)

Sunday Club remains as a project encouraging interaction between students and Cambridge's older residents at Ditchburn place. We have carried on with the same practice of offering tea or coffee at the start (and then a second cup if anyone would like it halfway through) followed by a period of talking and playing board games where students and residents sit together in smaller groups around the room. The end of the afternoon is always finished with a few songs played on the piano and sang by students and residents; this is a relaxed affair but also an enjoyable tradition and is well liked by the residents as music is highly favoured at Ditchburn.

The number of resident attendees changes each week, but there is a group of five who come regularly and around four more who come less often. To encourage more of the residents to attend I have placed a poster on the Ditchburn notice board and the staff have notified residents in the newsletter, however I have also considered delivering leaflets after the success of this approach last year. I may ask the staff at Ditchburn if individual visits to residents in their own flats would be preferred in some cases. I have also considered broadening the range of activities we do, as some of the residents are less keen on board games, but I will consult the residents to see what activities they would like to do as there are a few who enjoy creative pursuits such as knitting and drawing. Nevertheless, others have said they would like to just sit and chat.

I currently have a team of around fifteen students on the mailing list and of these three to four come each week. The volunteers of this year are both most eager and helpful. They have come from a range of years and subjects including a group of Erasmus Students, which I think has been most interesting to the residents.

*Isabel Keating*

## Sunday Club (St Georges)

We currently have up to three volunteers each Sunday afternoon at St George's who take part in a variety of activities with the clients, doing both one-to-one and group work. Generally volunteers will see a few different clients in each Sunday afternoon session, and we have tried to create consistency with whom they see and when. The project has been running a couple of years now and seems to be fulfilling the needs of those at the care home. The outings running a few times a term on which volunteers have helped (such as visiting the botanical garden and attending tea dances) have been particularly popular. One challenge has been communication with those who co-ordinate at the care home and the process of transfer from one project leader to another, but hopefully that will be more efficient next time, now that a more structured system is in place.

*Hannah Malcolm*

## Taskforce

Taskforce is a project which offers one-to-one services to clients that would benefit from assistance, but do not qualify under any other projects. There are three major groups that can be distinguished: teenagers with learning difficulties who don't have many friends; elderly who ask for company or being taken out in a wheelchair, and "other" (this includes helping a lady who recently had triplets, helping a woman with ME, or assisting someone who has had a stroke).

At the moment we have 20 clients being supported on a weekly basis, with a further 3 awaiting volunteers. Client referrals trickle in all year round, on average two per month, coming from Health Visitors, Social Services, care homes, relatives and self referrals.

*Ania Rygielska*

## TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language)

This project works with children aged 5 – 16 years, who do not speak English as their first language and where another language is often spoken at home. Our volunteers provide support on a one to one basis either in the child's home or at school.

Once again, the number of clients and volunteers involved with TESL has increased this year, with a total number of 68 active volunteers working with over 100 children. All the TESL volunteers I have been in contact with this year have given extremely positive feedback, with recurrent themes being that clients are responding well to the support, their parents appreciate the help being given, and that the volunteers themselves love what they are doing!

At the start of the year I got in touch with the Languages department of Cambridge University, who publicised the project through their mailing lists. I received a number of emails from students interested in volunteering in response to this, and the librarians at the Languages department also kindly donated some dictionaries to the Resources Library in the SCA office, and seem happy to publicise the project in the future. More and more volunteers are now using the resources library on a regular basis and I personally have found it invaluable when tutoring. Volunteers have fed back that they find the worksheets very useful, but would appreciate a wider variety of books and ideas for activities: in the future I would like to compile a list of useful resources for this, online and in the SCA library.

Around 13-15 volunteers attended a training session at the start of the year, which was extremely helpful in explaining some of the issues around bilingualism and learning a new language. A couple of volunteers requested further training sessions, and I wonder if the uptake for these might be higher if the venues were more central.

Overall, TESL has gone very well this year and I have really enjoyed leading the project; and look forward to seeing it develop further next year.

*Sophie Hoare*

# Junior Treasurer's Report

2011-12 has been a successful year for SCA financially, despite tightening funding. This is largely down to our staff's fantastic work in seeking out new grants and making excellent quality applications. We have also made savings in several areas.

The majority of our funding is still received through grants. Cambridge City Council and the Societies Syndicate of the University continue to be amongst our largest supporters. Our existing grant from Children in Need ran out this year, but we have successfully re-applied and gained funding for a further three years. We have also greatly benefited from numerous smaller pots of funding. The hard work of our staff, and the genuinely valuable contribution that our volunteers' make, mean that we are still able to make successful applications in this difficult financial climate.

The colleges are always an important source of donations for SCA. This year we saw an increase in donations from Cambridge colleges, perhaps due to the success of using personalised letters from our college representatives. College JCRs and Chaplains have also made valuable contributions, for which we are very grateful. One goal for 2012-13 should be enhancing our relationships with the College Chaplains.

Criminal Record Bureau income has become a less significant source of financing this year, though we continue to have a reliable stream of forms to administer and still provide one of the lowest prices in Cambridge. No Government changes to the CRB system have been implemented as yet, but we should be vigilant as to any changes and be prepared to adapt to changes as they are announced and implemented.

The Hub has also been a significant source of finance this year as we continue to work closely with them. We have also benefited from an improvement in the performance of our investments.

The Steering Group has performed particularly well this year, with fundraising up and fundraising costs down, giving an overall increase of around £1400 on fundraising events. Jacob Cain has maintained our good relationship with Simon Burdus, managing director of Big Fish Ents, which has allowed us to take some of the profits from big club nights in Cambridge by selling tickets. Raiding has also been a success. Bonfire night this year was particularly fruitful, raising over £1000 for SCA.

Costs have reduced this year, mostly due to SCA only employing one member of staff from March to May, and reduced expenditure on CRBs, as mentioned above.

SCA is in a very promising position with regards to its reserves, which have increased by around £5000. This means SCA is in a good position for the coming year; we should be cheered by our performance in a difficult economic climate!

*Bodil Isaksen*

## Thank you's....

Our thanks go to the many organisations and individuals who support us financially and in many other ways, making it possible for us to help others living in the Cambridge Community.

In particular we would like to thank the following for their generous help and support:

Aiming High  
Alec Dickson Trust  
Activities4Cambridge  
Awards for All  
BBC Children in Need  
British Red Cross  
Cambridge City Council  
Cambridge Community Foundation  
Cambridge Council for Voluntary Services  
Cambridge Hub  
Cambridge Wine Merchants, especially Brett Turner  
Cambridge University Societies Syndicate  
City Life Building  
David Hardy Project  
Deans and Chaplains Association  
Isaac Newton Trust  
Lankelly Chase Trust  
Lion Yard  
Nicky Buckly and her team at CU Community Affairs  
Simon Burdus (Big Fish Ents)  
Sport Relief  
Stephen Glanville Trust  
Waterstones (Get Britain Reading)  
Woodrolffe Benton

**The many individual friends of SCA**

**And of course –**

**Our AMAZING Volunteers**