



## ANNUAL REPORT 2004-05

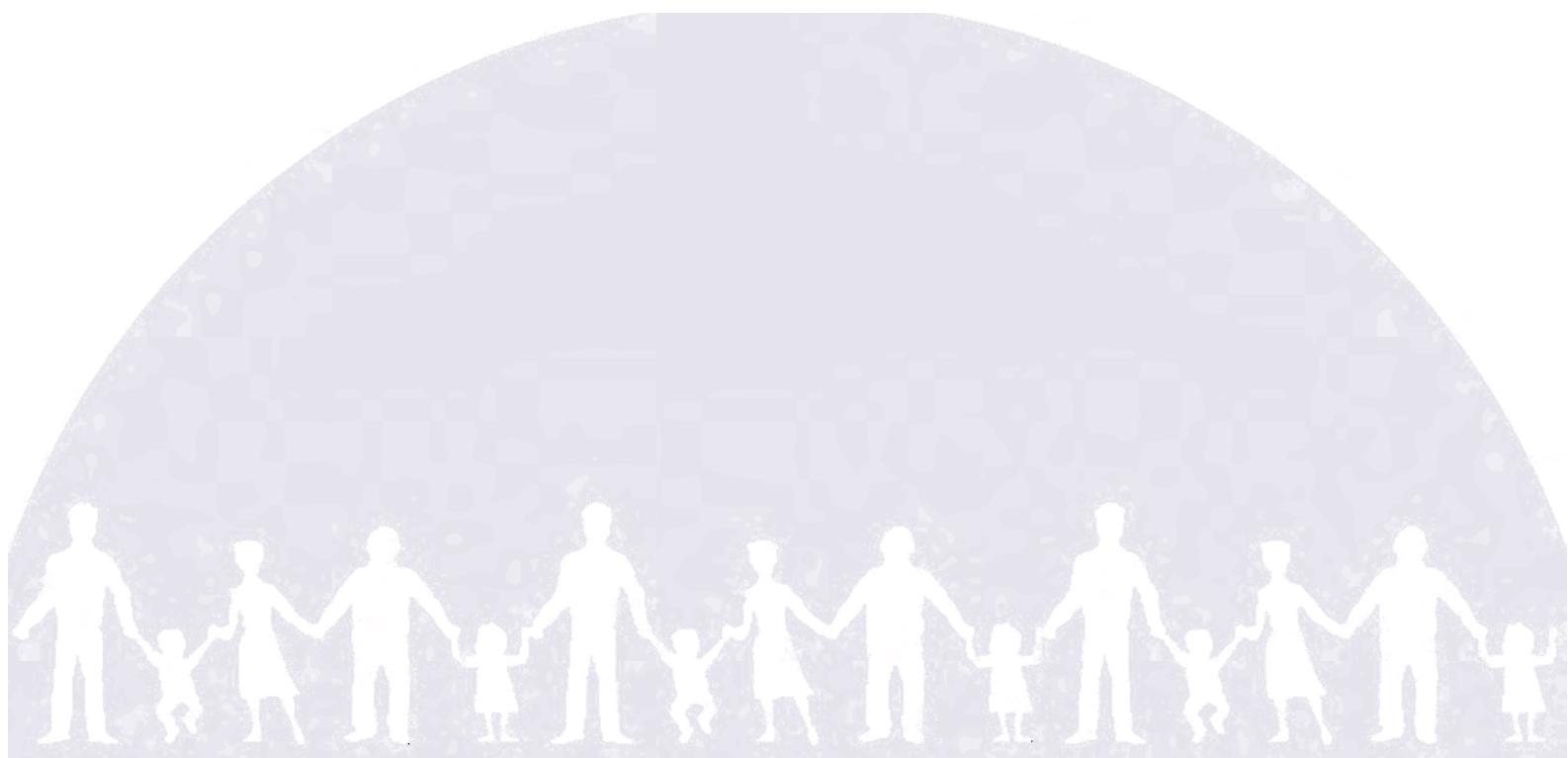




## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Bridging the Gap is a local community project serving the Gorbals area. We were established in 1998 to enable local churches (Church of Scotland and Roman Catholic) to work together to meet local needs.

We aim to work across divides which are apparent in the community, providing opportunities for people to discover 'common ground', irrespective of nationality, religion, ethnic and cultural background, and age.





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## CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

I'm delighted to recommend our Annual Report for the past twelve months. As you will see, it's been another year of exciting developments on all fronts. The appointment, thanks to a generous grant from BBC Children In Need, of Patricia McConalogue as our full time Co-ordinator has made an enormous difference to the whole project. The hard work and commitment of the part-time staff, who frankly give far more than part-time work, has enabled both strands of the project to grow in imaginative ways. In the office, our two workers there have been far more than mere "back-room personnel". We simply could not have done without the willing help of the many volunteers, not to mention the quiet but constant care of the Management Committee. And we continue to be grateful to both sponsoring churches for their support –especially to Blessed John Duns Scotus for the use of the office in their hall, and space each week for the Drop-in.

As always, fund-raising has been a constant demand. We have been reasonably successful on this front-but more needs to be done, and we are grateful for the help we get in this field. We are now in the process of becoming a Company Limited by Guarantee, as befits our growth in status and responsibility.

But the whole point of Bridging the Gap remains, as always, the commitment and partnership with all in the Gorbals who are seeking to improve the life of this community. We continue to seek to improve our contribution to this aim; please continue to support us in whatever way you can. Thank you for reading.

John Harvey  
Chairman



## PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR/WORKER REPORT

I started working for Bridging the Gap as Project Co-ordinator in November 2004.

The project workers make up two strands of the work, the Peer Tutoring team, Lyn, Alice and Terry and the Asylum Seekers and Refugee team, Roz and myself; and Alice who works with both projects. The common thread that runs through Bridging the Gap is giving opportunity for people of all ages to find their voice and contribute to their community, enabling young people to support each other and facilitating integration between Asylum Seekers, Refugees and the local community.

The relationships developed with the children and families are unique. One young primary school child recognised me in the street and said *"you're Bridging the Gap aren't you"*. I replied yes and pointing to herself, she said *"I'm Bridging the Gap too"* indicating that she was in some way involved with the project. Later I discovered that she was a tutee with the **"Go 4 It!"** project.

The weekly drop-in for families seeking asylum, and refugees, has a real sense of belonging for some people. Indigenous people, Asylum Seekers and Refugees are volunteers at this weekly gathering and without their invaluable help and support we wouldn't be able to function in this warm, open and welcoming way. One mum who comes frequently to this event said, *"my children think of Bridging the Gap as their second home"*.

Moseka and Clemence, two of our office workers are on hand to help out with interpreting. Anna, our temporary administrator until July, was a former volunteer at the drop-in at Bridging the Gap and has been a great asset to this project. I know I speak for all the staff when I say she will be greatly missed.

Bridging the Gap is continually developing and its strength lies in the children from the schools that we work in. Helping kids to make a difference in their own lives through the **"Go 4 It!"** programme and reinforcing that each one of them is important.

It's been a privilege to listen to how families under inhumane circumstances make it to this country only to come here and fight a second battle with racism and prejudices. Yet despite the hardship they face they remain dignified and at times positive about their situation.

Bridging the Gap want to help themselves to make a difference to the lives of the community are all part of the bigger Scotland of 'One Nation many



children and families to help difference to their own lives, and the wider society. We picture- working to create a Cultures'.

**Tricia McConalogue**

## EDUCATION TEAM REPORT

In our schools work we have achieved a number of successes in the last year.

Firstly, we worked with 60 young people on a **12-week Citizenship programme** in Holyrood Secondary School using drama, art and media. These young people then presented their work and ran workshops for over 100 Primary 7 children. The First Minister Jack McConnell presented certificates to the young people involved.



Secondly, our peer-tutoring programme '**Go 4 It!**', gave young people in Primary 7 the opportunity to prepare for transition to secondary school. Building positive relationships with older pupils, feeling comfortable in the secondary school building and getting to meet their new teachers enabled the young people to become more confident and relaxed about starting secondary school. The schools involved were Blackfriars, St. Francis and St. John's Primary Schools, Holyrood Secondary and Shawlands Academy.

The 35 S4's tutored the 35 P7's in topics such as study skills and mindmaps. The aims of Peer tutoring were to give the young people involved, increased confidence and self-esteem, improved study

skills, higher academic aspirations and better relationships with peers and teachers. This leads to improved behaviour, better attendance, higher attainment and a smoother transition from primary to secondary (for the P7's).

One S4 pupil commented, ***"it was different, fun and interesting learning how to work with children."***

A P7 pupil said, ***"what I liked was the games we played and we got to see the teachers and most of the school. I enjoyed myself."***



In January 2005, we took the S4's on a residential trip to the **Corrymeela** Centre, Northern Ireland. The group shared the centre with a group of Northern Irish young people who are involved in a peer-education project. The programme for the weekend focussed on personal development and team building activities while looking at issues around sectarianism. This trip helped to further relationships between young people and Bridging the Gap staff and also

provided an opportunity for young people from Glasgow and Northern Ireland to meet. It also promoted integration between the two secondary schools Holyrood and Shawlands Academy

We held an **Awards Ceremony** at which the pupils were presented with certificates and vouchers from Frank McAveety MSP, Rosie Kane MSP, Councillor James Mutter and Atta Yaqub; this brought this years work to a fantastic end. We hope to continue and develop this work next year.



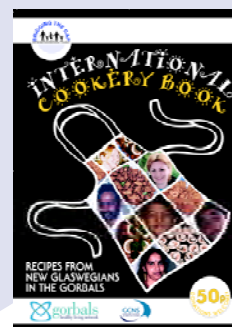


## ASYLUM SEEKER / REFUGEE TEAM REPORT

2004-5 has seen Bridging the Gap's work with asylum seekers and refugees go from strength to strength.

The Gorbals still houses approx 200 asylum seekers and refugees and a few new families arrive each month. Since January we have dealt with an average of 30 requests for support each week varying from applying for courses to getting smoke alarms fixed. An average of 50 people and 25 children attend the drop-in each Thursday and 51 attend English classes. The first International Cook book was produced in partnership with the English classes and GHLN; a sequel is currently being written.

We couldn't offer what we do at the Drop in without the commitment of a strong team of volunteers.



### Development of the Drop-in



Awards for All and more recently Gorbals Healthy Living Network funded a qualified chef from Food For Thought (Sighthill Project) to oversee and support international cookery each week. Activities and events are regular at the drop-in. The advice and information available has been greatly enhanced by the regular attendance of GASP (Glasgow Asylum Support Project) local project workers, NASS (National Asylum Support Service) Outreach workers, a lawyer from the Ethnic Minority Law Centre and

our local community policeman, Stevie Scott. In addition to these we are indebted to many agencies and individuals who support people at our drop in and our work on other days.

### Increased Involvement of Asylum Seekers and Refugees In Voicing Their Concerns Over Issues Affecting Their Lives.

Bridging the Gap has taken a leading role in supporting the Framework For Dialogue process along with the Scottish Refugee Council (SRC), Community Forum and Social Work Department. This is the process by which asylum seekers and refugees are supported through a series of meetings to address the issues affecting them, with those in a position to make changes, and to inform them of their rights. An Information Gathering day, hosted by the Drop-in was attended by over 60 people and ten interpreters. In language



groups we gathered opinions and experiences of racial harassment, solicitors, housing problems and experience of Dungavel. The responses were varied and numerous and were collated and translated again into ten languages. They have informed the subsequent meetings both with the housing and the police. Several people said how good it was to be able to express these issues and to find out that they have not been alone in their experiences.

## STAFF

<b>Project Co-ordinator</b>	Tricia McConalogue
<b>Senior Project Worker</b> Education	Lyn Ma
<b>Project Worker</b> Education/Asylum Seekers and Refugees	Alice Duncan
<b>Project Worker</b> Education	Terry Strain
<b>Project Worker</b> Asylum Seekers and Refugees	Roz Adams
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Moseka Mambi
<b>Administrator</b>	Clemence Butoyi
<b>Temporary Administrator</b>	Anna Mathews

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

<b>Chairperson</b>	Rev. John Harvey
<b>Vice Chairperson</b>	Denis Carr
<b>Treasurer</b>	Andrew Cavanagh
<b>Secretary</b>	Sheena Gilmour
Rev Ian Galloway	
Fr Patrick Lonsdale	
Hector Dickson	
James McKinstry	
Noni Moyo	
Elen Mehari	
Lily O'Donnell	
David Plizga	
Jean Munro	
Margaret Leyden	
Alison Davis	
Tricia McConalogue	

## VOLUNTEERS

Bridging The Gap value the input and hard work of our volunteers. These volunteers come from many different origins- Scotland, Ireland, Zimbabwe, Algeria, Kenya, Sri Lanka and many others. All have found a common ground in the Gorbals community.

**BRIDGING THE GAP** networks with other groups such as:

Gorbals Parish Church  
Blessed John Duns Scotus  
Citizens Theatre  
id  
Blackfriars Primary  
St. Francis Primary  
St John's Primary  
Holyrood Secondary  
Shawlands Academy  
South Addiction Service  
The Initiative  
TASK  
SEAL  
Gorbals Healthy Living Network  
Gorbals Community Forum  
Glasgow College of Nautical  
Studies  
Reed in Partnership  
Scottish Refugee Council  
Strathclyde Police  
Ethnic Law Centre  
Glasgow Asylum Support Project  
NASS  
Positive Action In Housing  
Food for Thought  
Bookstart  
Community Learning  
Sense over Sectarianism  
Impact Arts  
PATCH  
Oatlands & Adelphi Nurseries  
& others



# BRIDGING THE GAP (GORBALS ECUMENICAL PROJECT)

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2005

	£	£	£
		31 March <u>2005</u>	31 March <u>2004</u>
<b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b>			
Tangible Assets		<b>3,652</b>	<u>1,254</u>
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>			
Debtors	<b>8,624</b>		860
Prepaid Charges	<b>142</b>		-
Bank	<b>32,620</b>		37,372
Cash	<b>-</b>		<u>158</u>
	<b><u>41,386</u></b>		<u>38,390</u>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>			
Creditors	<b>1,007</b>		-
Accruals & Deferred Income	<b><u>21,655</u></b>		<u>25,669</u>
	<b><u>22,662</u></b>		<u>25,669</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b><u>18,724</u></b>	<u>12,721</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES</b>		<b>22,376</b>	13,975
Deferred Grant		<b><u>(188)</u></b>	<u>(438)</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>22,188</u></b>	<u>13,537</u>
Reserves			
Brought Forward		<b>13,537</b>	20,223
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year		<b><u>8,651</u></b>	<u>(6,686)</u>
		<b><u>22,188</u></b>	<u>13,537</u>

The financial statements were approved by the management committee on 16th June 2005 and were signed on their behalf by:

John Harvey      Chairperson  
Andrew Cavanagh      Treasurer

# BRIDGING THE GAP (GORBALS ECUMENICAL PROJECT)

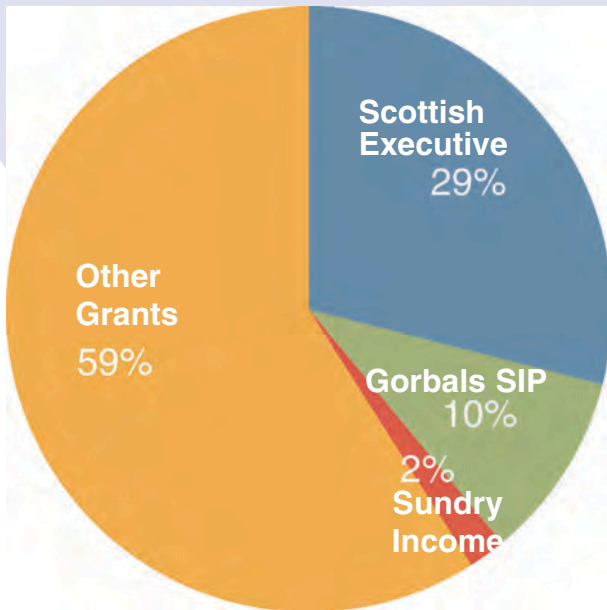
## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2005

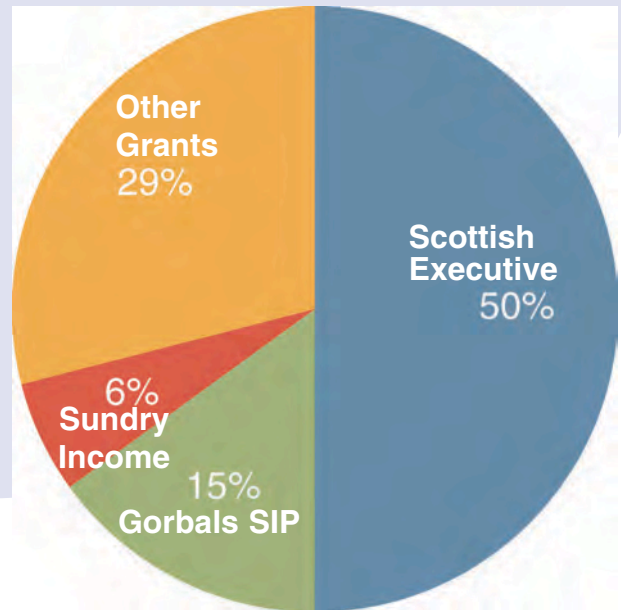
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	<b>Total Funds 2005</b>	Total Funds 2004
	£	£	£	£
<b><u>Incoming Resources</u></b>				
Fund raising	582	-	<b>582</b>	622
Grants receivable	11,285	115,371	<b>126,656</b>	71,119
Investment income	559	-	<b>559</b>	329
Grant Release	250	-	<b>250</b>	1,683
Donations	<u>1,829</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>1,829</b></u>	<u>1,744</u>
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<u>14,505</u>	<u>115,371</u>	<u><b>129,876</b></u>	<u>75,497</u>
<b><u>Resources Expended</u></b>				
Direct charitable expenditure	-	71,845	<b>71,845</b>	34,798
Fundraising and publicity	-	-	-	377
Management and administration	<u>31,707</u>	<u>17,673</u>	<u><b>49,380</b></u>	<u>47,008</u>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<u>31,707</u>	<u>89,518</u>	<u><b>121,225</b></u>	<u>82,183</u>
<b>Net Resources for the Year</b>	(17,202)	25,853	<b>8,651</b>	(6,686)
Balances brought forward	<u>2,252</u>	<u>11,285</u>	<u><b>13,537</b></u>	<u>20,223</u>
Balances carried forward	<u>(14,950)</u>	<u>37,138</u>	<u><b>22,188</b></u>	<u>13,537</u>

## INCOME

2005

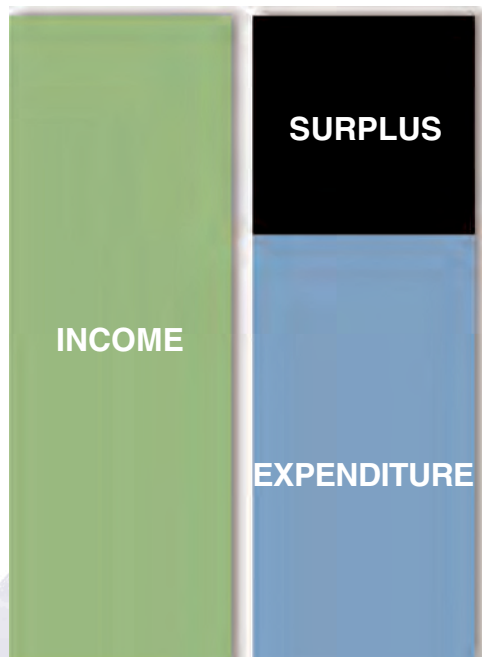


2004

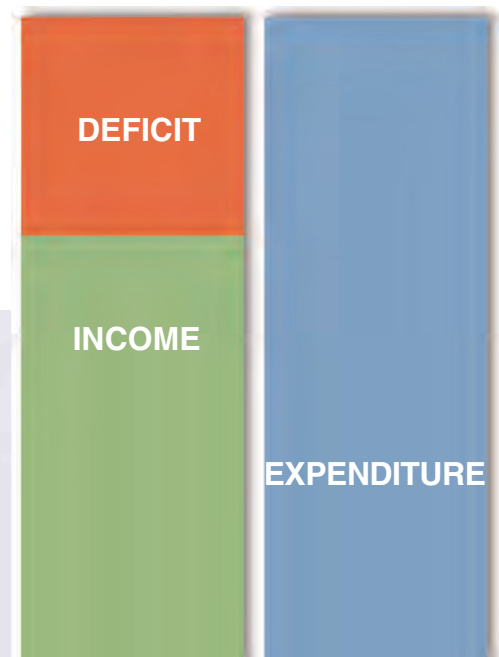


## SURPLUS/DEFICIT

2005



2004





## FIND US!



**Greyfriars Centre  
270 Ballater Street  
Gorbals  
Glasgow G5 0YT**

**T/F: 0141 418 0241  
e: [secretary@bridging-the-gap.org](mailto:secretary@bridging-the-gap.org)  
[www.bridging-the-gap.org](http://www.bridging-the-gap.org)**

### **BRIDGING THE GAP**

is grateful to the following trusts and other bodies for funding support:

Gorbals Social Inclusion Partnership  
Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland  
Robertson Trust  
Tudor Trust  
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation  
Comic Relief  
BBC Scotland Children in Need  
Blessed John Duns Scotus Catholic Church  
Gorbals Parish Church  
Scottish Executive  
Sense over Sectarianism  
Awards for All  
Churches Commission for Racial Justice  
Scottish Churches Community Trust  
Hugh Fraser Foundation

**Scottish Charity No: SCO28657**

