

"Supporting, developing and advising Early Years settings,
Practitioners and Families"

Bexhill & Battle Under Fives Association Ltd

Company Registration No: 5332657
Registered Charity No: 1110025

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

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Introduction from the Board of Directors

This year has seen BBUFA grow from strength to strength, building on our existing good relationships with our member groups as well as our partners. We have retained all of our contracts and increased the size of our team to support the Eastern Rother area.

Our Management Board has remained small, with just two Directors at the helm, however with the Advisory Group set up last year we now have a group of practitioners to help steer BBUFA in the direction our members want and need. We must thank those practitioners for their support and contribution to BBUFA and hope the good relationships continue for many years to come.

As always we must thank our team for their continued dedication to our aims and objectives, providing high levels of support, development and care. Without our team BBUFA would not be the organisation that it is today, and I might add that there are many parents and groups that may not be as successful as well.

This year has seen some key developments which have included; The expansion of our toy library provision to include the Bexhill area; the tendering and securing of a new crèche service to be delivered in the Hastings area (delivery from April 2010); increased membership opportunities, ie discounted events (Nursery World) and the creation of the BBUFA Small Grants Scheme. We continue to develop and support our organisation internally and this year we have created/amended the following policies to support our practice; Student Placements; Training; Adverse Weather Conditions; Whistle Blowing and Staff/Volunteer Induction.

In addition to these services our contract with Rother Children's Centres has continued and we provided over 260 crèches at various children's centres locations throughout Rother as well as providing an increased weekly Peapods music and movement sessions and our standard weekly Little Monkeys physical play sessions.

External to our service level agreements we have once again continued to provide crèches for other organisations. We continually look for ways to improve our services and feedback from these non-contracted organisations have provided us with valuable service development and shown the excellent provision we have in place.

We are very aware that the coming few years will be a challenging time for both BBUFA and our members; with uncertain funding and the recession impacting on our sector we have to be prepared to change and develop to meet them. Through strong management and leadership alongside excellent practitioners and team members we feel BBUFA and its members has prepared well for whatever the future brings.

BBUFA Ethos



Bexhill & Battle Under Fives Association Ltd has provided continuous support to its member groups during the past seventeen years.

The Association believes in the highest quality care and provision for all children in partnership with their parents and carers.

The Association Board and staff are a committed and well-informed workforce who bring current thinking and information to its member groups through guidance and training.

The Association liaises and works closely with other local and national organisations to ensure efficient and effective working practices are shared.

The Association is approachable and open to ideas and suggestions both informally through; its staff, the Advisory Group, the BBUFA newsletter, events and workshops with members, and formally at its Annual General Meeting.

The Association has grown substantially during the past sixteen years but its ethos remains firmly with the children, families and practitioners it works with.

Development Work

Claire Dennis and Emma Turner continue to deliver our support to Early Years provisions throughout the Rother, Hastings and Eastbourne areas.

This year (like most) there have been many challenges including; the introduction of the Summative Assessments, the EYEE Funding Reform, the qualification review by CWDC - to name but a few!

Practitioners continue to show what dedication and commitment there is in the sector by consistently rising to meet these challenges day in day out, and for a large proportion of the sector, still whilst receiving unacceptably low wage levels and lack of recognition for this so important role.

We continue to strive to support the Early Years settings with a variety of support measures and have been instrumental in keep some groups open. Sadly we have had to support three closures this year which is a reflection on the current economic climate and just how hard it is to successful Early Years provision.

On a positive note, and as part of our Service Level Agreement with the EYCESS we have delivered a range of workshops including;

- Recruitment and Employment;
- Committee Issues (get your constitution working for you/AGM support/fundraising);
- Funding Opportunities.

In addition to our Committee Coffees in Eastbourne and representation at the Rother UFO's (Under Fives Organisations) meetings.

We continue to produce our termly newsletters which provide information on a range of topical subjects and a snapshot of current issues and we thank our groups and partners for contributing articles to it and enabling it to be a worthwhile read.





Crèche

Sandra Chambers leads our Rother crèche team which in 2009-2010 delivered in excess of 260 crèches both from our six Ofsted registered crèche sites as well as from a variety of mobile sites.

Sandra leads a staff team of 10 and is undertaking her NVQ4 this year.

We are committed to quality for this service and the staff team have accessed many strands of training this year which has informed and progressed practice.

**Funded by Rother
Children's Centres
and Private Partners**

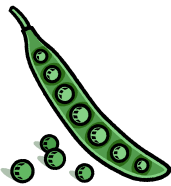
Toy Library

The rural toy library continues to go from strength to strength with both hiring numbers and membership growing.

Elaine and Ewa who deliver this service attend existing community Toddler Groups and Children's Centres sessions in the rural Rother area on a fortnightly basis, in addition to hiring resources to pre-school / nursery groups.

Whilst it can be a challenge to source affordable, sturdy and engaging toys for this service we are continually investing in the service to ensure that the hire rates continue to grow.

In the latter part of this year we also supported the Bexhill Toy Library based at Sidley Community Centre and we are pleased to confirm that we have now secured the contract for this service for 2010-2011.



Pebsham Peapods

Due to the popularity of this group we now deliver two Pebsham Peapods sessions each week. Julie Roarty leads this session accompanied by members of the crèche team. This service is available to other groups should they wish to contract it or Julie!

**Funded by Rother
Children's Centres**

Toddler Group Support

We continue to offer support to the toddler groups in the Bexhill area through funding from Rother Children's Centre. This work is now done by Shirley Markham who visits the groups on rotation offering extended play opportunities. Shirley also works closely with the toy library enabling groups to hire equipment such as smoothie makers, parachutes, obstacle courses, etc which helps ensure that parents have a good range of experiences at their local group.

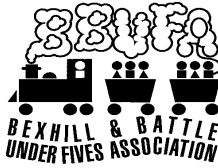
**Funded by Rother
Children's Centres**



Little Monkeys

Little Monkeys is one of our most established services offering physical activity sessions weekly at Sidley Community Centre. Parents are encouraged to support and participate with their children and help them to discover and develop new skills during this active play session.

**Funded by Rother
Children's Centres**



The year ahead 2010-2011

Although 2011 was always going to be a potential year of change for the Early Years Sector with the Labour Government's funding commitments ceasing, due to the current economic climate, 2010-2011 will see BBUFA as an organisation consolidate and evaluate the services that we currently deliver to ensure that we are fit for purpose and able to justify and evidence the benefit of our services to our partners. In addition to this we need to be in a position to be able to capitalise on any new initiatives or opportunities that may develop. Therefore be prepared to be evaluated and consulted at any BBUFA service that you may access!

Our support to our member groups is key and we are continuing to strengthen our membership offer with a continued range of services which include;

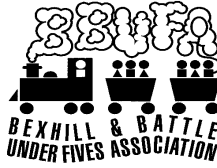
- the launch in April of the Small Grants Scheme to enable Early Years Practitioners to bid for small amounts of funding to support their work.
- Support from the advisory group.
- Online resource service.
- Termly newsletters.
- Reduced training, events and publications.
- Committee resource pack.

Those of you who run Community / Voluntary organisations are well aware of the challenges this type of management structure can bring. To this end we are seeking to work closely with the EYCESS this year to deliver a Trustee Recruitment campaign to enable groups to potentially draw trustees into their groups from wider a field, rather than solely have parents who may only stay while their child is attending thus giving some stability to the management structure —so watch out for that!



New for 2010 is our crèche service for the Hastings area which is the result of successful bids to Hastings Children's Centres and Horizons Project —we are looking forward to working closely with these two agencies this year and delivering some excellent, quality crèche provision. This is a very large piece of work and we are delighted to welcome Claire Davis and her team of 14 into the BBUFA line-up.





Bexhill & Battle Under Fives Association Ltd

Company Registration No: 5332657

Registered Charity No. 1028279

Introduction & Financial Report from the Board of Directors

This information relates to the financial recording for the year
1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010.

As always BBUFA has had a very busy year supporting all of our member groups and maintaining our high level of service to our contracts. We have continued to build on the strengths of last year, ensuring we are as cost effective as possible, this in turn has ensured the future of BBUFA for our members. Once again we have to look towards our fantastic team, it was through their hard work and dedication of our board that has enabled us to once again maintain the financial stability of our organisation.

As always a full copy of our audited accounts are available for those of you with more of an interest in our finances. For the rest of us we have prepared some basic information which shows how we earned and spent our money in 2009 / 2010.

Profit and Loss Statement for Financial Year 2009-2010

Profit and Loss Account			
Year	2009-2010	2008-2009	2007-2008
Turnover/ income	£126,081.94	£111,817.00	£84,032.00
Expenditure	£123,074.89	£95,203.21	£95,518.00
Operating Profit	£3,007.05	£16,613.16	£-11,468.00



Contract and Funding Stream Breakdown 2009-2010

Board Income & Reserves	
Brought Forward	£10,152.45
Income	£3,872.98
Expenditure	-£3,190.91
Transfer of private crèche funds to reserves	£12,778.16
Balance	£23,612.68
Comments: BUFA Reserves to ensure stability of organisation. To enable us to continue to support our members by subsidising training and development opportunities.	

Rural Children's Centres	
Brought Forward	£3,117.36
Income	£19,994.60
Expenditure	-£25,867.48
Balance	-£2,805.52
Comments: This includes our Peapods and Little Monkeys projects. A slight overspend on this year's budget, £2000 from the main contract and a further £800 from Peapods and Little Monkeys. The shortfall will come from our reserves.	

Horizons Project	
Brought Forward	£Nil
Income	£Nil
Expenditure	-£107.15
Balance	-£107.15
Comments: New contract for 2010-11. This expenditure is from the start-up costs and will be funded from reserves, however this is paid back into reserves in 2010 from this contract.	

EYCESS	
Brought Forward	£423.29
Income	£44,636.04
Expenditure	-£39,473.36
Balance	£5,162.68
Comments: This year we have under spent on this contract. However just over £4000 has to be reserved for a specific volunteer recruitment project that is still running that we are supporting.	

Private Crèche	
Brought Forward	£Nil
Income	£18,735.00
Expenditure	-£16,947.77
Balance	£1,787.23
Comments: Income from our Private Crèche will be used to support the training and development of our team and our member groups. We transfer this money across and use as operational reserves for BUFA.	

Food Project	
Brought Forward	£1,289.85
Income	
Expenditure	-£360.53
Balance	£929.32
Comments: This funding will continue to support programmes across our member groups linked to healthy eating.	

Toy Library	
Brought Forward	£NIL
Income	£25,320.24
Expenditure	-£23,882.51
Balance	£1,437.73
Comments: This year we have under spent on this contract due to lower vehicle expenses, however the balance has been carried forward to the new financial year.	

Hastings Children's Centres	
Brought Forward	£NIL
Income	£4,170.00
Expenditure	-£3,327.21
Balance	£842.79
Comments: This is a new contract for 2010-2011 and this initial payment was for the start up costs of the contract. The under spend due to an element of training not being complete has been carried forward.	

Core Cost Recovery	
Brought Forward	£NIL
Income	£9,402.27
Expenditure	£9,817.08
Balance	-£414.81
Comments: This income is formed from all our contracts and covers the business costs to run our business. This includes book-keeping, administration, management, etc.	

BUFA employ a qualified accountant to examine our annual books and provide support through the year on all matters relating to financial queries. A full copy of the financial report can be requested at any time or viewed on the Companies House website.

We hope you find the information contained within this document sufficient however if you have any queries relating to our accounts please contact Lisa Hayward-Bartlett, Director, contact details are available on our website www.bbufa.org.uk

BBUFA's Board

Lisa Bartlett – Finance Director
Marie-Ange Coxhead – Company Secretary

BBUFA's Staff team

Development Manager

Helen Atkin

Administrator & Book-keeper

Leanne Walker

Pre-school Development Team

Claire Dennis - Rural Rother
Emma Turner - Hastings and Eastbourne

Toddler Support Worker

Shirley Markham

Rother Crèche Team & Activity Groups (Peapods and Little Monkeys)

Sandra Chambers - Crèche Team Leader
Julie Roarty - Deputy Crèche Leader
Sessional Crèche Workers - Anne Andrews, Angela Hicks, Shirley Markham, Sally Crockford, Heidi Jackson, Lisa Barrett and Carrie Spice

Toy Library

Ewa Biadala-Peters - Rural Area
Elaine Reid - Rural Area
Heidi Jackson - Bexhill Area

Hastings Crèche Team

Claire Davis - Crèche Team Leader
Senior Crèche Workers - Alison Hitchman, Tracy Noble, Julie Page and Kyrsty Winch
Sessional Crèche Workers - Wendy Bailey, Michelle Brooker, Chris Delves, Elaine Kinsella, Jackie Moule, Abbie Murrow, Magdalena Tamale, Karen Thunder, Carol Wardroper and Sherrill Dixon.

BBUFA Advisory Group

Ruth Dicken - Netherfield; Lynn Harding - Etchingam; Julie Webster - Little Common; Tracey Maskell - Robertsbridge; Kath Boyd - Ninfield; Helen Clifford - Cygnets, Bexhill; Karen Woodgate - Early Years, Bexhill; Glenys Cornwall - Crowhurst; Alison Grinham - Ticehurst; Karen Hathaway - Herstmonceux; Beverley Smith - Asten Fields, Battle.

BBUFA's Members

Playgroups, Pre-Schools, & Nurseries

Bexhill: Bexhill High School Nursery, Christchurch Methodist Playgroup, Cygnets Childcare Centre, Early Years Nursery, Little Angels Playgroup, Little Common Playgroup, Rainbow Childcare Centre, St Mary Magdalene Independent Nursery, Stepping Stones Playgroup, 1st Friends Day Nursery.

Rural Rother: Battle Pre-School Playgroup, Bodiam Pre-School Playgroup, Crowhurst Playgroup, Etchingam Under Fives, Herstmonceux Pre-School, Ladybirds Pre-School, Little Acorns Hurst Green Playgroup, Netherfield Pre-School, Ninfield Pre-school, Robertsbridge Children's Services, Sedlescombe Pre-School, Stonegate Pre-School.

Eastbourne: Chalk Hill Pre-school, Eldon Road Pre-School, Jumping Beans Pre-school, Lower Willingdon Pre-School Nursery, Pevensey and Westham Playgroup.

Hastings: The Gables Day Nursery, Ore Church Mice Playgroup, Park Road Under Fives, Silverhill Playgroup.

Thank you all for your continued support!