

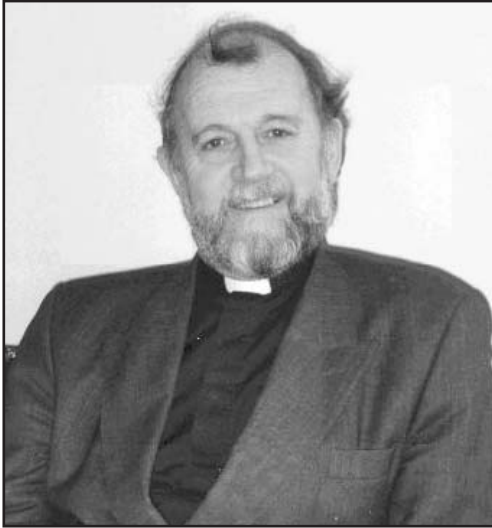


Forthspring  
Inter Community  
Group Ltd.

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2002

*the*  
community  
together

## A WORD FROM THE HONORARY CHAIRPERSON . . .



As I come to the end of my term as Honorary Chairperson I look back to the early days, some 10 years ago, when some of us shared dreams of what might be. Today most of those 'impossible dreams' have become reality! This achievement is due to the hard work of a committed team of people, some of whom have moved on and others who still continue to turn dreams into reality.

I commend this Annual Report to all who receive it and encourage you to continue to support the work of Forthspring. On behalf of the Directors I extend our thanks to all who have supported us financially with practical help and to all the staff and volunteers who make Forthspring work.

I wish the Project every blessing for the future years.

**David J Kerr**

## 2002 - THE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

In many ways the keynotes of 2002 have been uncertainty and instability. On the political scene this is due to yet another year filled with highs and lows and growing uncertainty as to the future, resulting in the suspension of the Assembly, in the latter part of the year:

In Forthspring while many of the programmes have continued to develop, the uncertainties around funding has caused anxious times for staff and Management alike. However it is with great relief that we have finished 2002 with all staff positions intact and our hope is that the coming months will bring more stability

for the salaried posts.

Also it is encouraging that we have witnessed another year of relative stability along the Springfield Road Interface, at a time when many other Interfaces were in turmoil. This has enabled us to continue with our main focus in Forthspring, helping to create relationships of trust, understanding and friendship both within local communities and across the sectarian boundaries that remain so apparent.

To follow is a very brief look at the programmes that operated throughout 2002:

### partners

cornerstone community • currach community  
springfield road methodist church

### programmes

carer and toddlers • after schools • youth • women's group • senior citizens  
community relations • counselling • cafe • special events

# AFTERSCHOOLS CLUB



## Anthea Turner visits After Schools Club

The children from the local communities continue to attend daily, participating in a variety of fun, educational and stimulating play sessions.

Tying in with Forthspring's theme this year of, "Our Histories, Our Hopes", the children have used various methods of exploring their family and local communities histories.

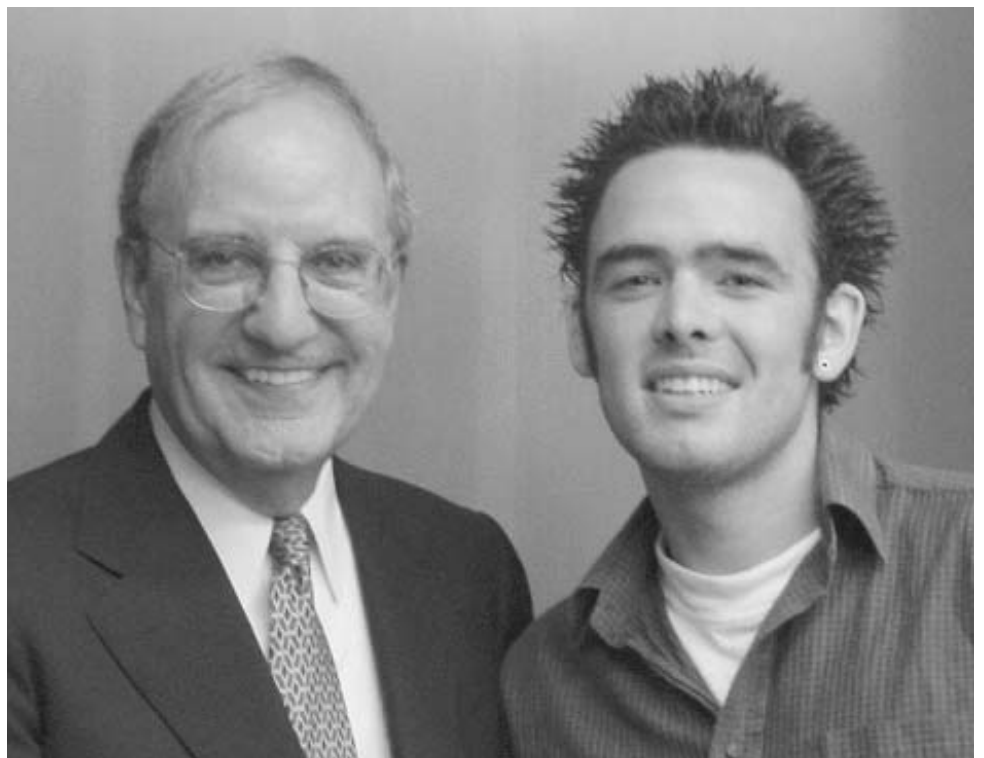
The highlight for many was the visit by Santa and Anthea Turner to the Afterschools as part of the ITV's "This Morning" Pass the Parcel campaign. All the children and young people participating in programmes received wonderful gifts and we are very thankful to This Morning for selecting our group as a recipient.

## YOUTH PROGRAMME

**A**pproximately 60 – 70 young people continue to participate in an average of 3 sessions each per week. Programmes have included Youth Leadership Training, Creative Writing, Drama, Dance, Rock Climbing, Kayaking, Health Groups and Focussed Community relations discussion groups.

It has been very pleasing to watch a number of the young people grow and develop into new roles as peer leaders and this has had a positive and stabilizing affect on the behaviour of the other young people. Also the last year has seen many of the programmes that were operating on a single identity basis develop into cross community programmes. This has been at the request of the young people themselves who have deepened their friendships and developed understanding and good levels of trust. This high level of positive interaction between the two groups of young people has helped the overall reduction in violence at and around the Interface.

During the last year our Youth Worker, Stuart Mullan participated in the first International Peace Builders Programme in New York, jointly organised by Columbia University, New York and Frank Costello Associates in Belfast. This proved an invaluable experience for Stuart both at a professional and personal level.



Stuart Mullan (Youth Worker) meets Senator George Mitchell

# PARENT AND TODDLERS

The numbers and interest has grown significantly in this programme, particularly in the Autumn term.

The Parents participated in a very educational and enjoyable "Parenting Matters" course facilitated by Barnardos, looking at the stresses and strains of being a parent and in particular exploring ways of positive discipline within the home.

# WOMEN'S GROUP

Following the pressures of the Christmas spend, the women's group began their year looking at Debt, From the Personal to the Global, examining personal money management, through to learning about Third World Debt and issues of forced and slave labour. From this as individuals and as an organisation are committed to purchasing Fair Trade and Rug Mark products.

Faith in a changing society became the focus as the group explored the emergence of the Christian church in Ireland and the intricacies of the 4 main Christian traditions prevalent in Ireland today. Following this the group had a number of lively and participative sessions learning about Muslims in Ireland, their faith, culture, politics and how they live within a fairly mono-culture society.

# SENIOR CITIZENS

**The senior citizens group has continued to grow in numbers and fervour. Over the last year they participated in a residential in Corrymeela as well as their weekly dance class, cross community prayer service and luncheon club.**

A new departure in September has been the introduction of topical discussions facilitated by Community Dialogue, exploring issues around the peace process, policing etc.



**Anthea & Santa drop into the Senior Citizens Group**

## THANKS

**In conclusion I would like to acknowledge and thank all those people who have participated in the life of Forthspring over the last 12 months including: - The participants, partner groups, volunteers (local and international), Board of Directors, Staff and last but by no means least our funders.**

Many people have given of themselves in different ways, their time, their support and encouragement, their money, their prayers and

good wishes. All of these are equally important in creating Forthspring, an organisation that in my view has been and continues to be a vehicle for change, at an individual, family and community level.

As Mahatma Gandhi said, "You must be the change you wish to see in the world" and each day we witness many people working to make this a reality.

**Bernie Laverty (Project Coordinator)**

# Annual Financial Report

For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2002

Financially this year has been difficult but we are grateful to the many funders who have supported our programmes throughout the year. Our fundraising results in December enabled us to make a small surplus.

There continues to be uncertainty over funding generally in the voluntary sector in Northern Ireland. We received good news however in relation to long-term funding for two of our main staff posts at the end of the year.

Finally we are grateful to Bernie Laverty our Project Co-Ordinator, our Finance Committee and Neil Morris our Financial Consultant for all their hard work during the year.

**David Campton (Executive Chair)**

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - For the year ended 31 December 2002

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2002 Total £	2001 Total £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
Grant Income	-	-	39,779	39,779	54,278
Trust Income	-	46,200	46,582	92,782	128,319
Volunteer time contribution	-	27,900	-	27,900	30,780
Donations	-	7,772	31,768	39,540	17,159
Forthspring Partners	-	-	23,984	23,984	52,264
Interest on Deposit	1,659	-	-	1,659	2,558
Drop in Centre	806	-	-	806	1,328
Rental Income	5,400	-	-	5,400	5,820
Capital Grant Release	-	19,200	-	19,200	19,200
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>7865</b>	<b>101,072</b>	<b>142,113</b>	<b>251,050</b>	<b>311,706</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Core Programme Staff Costs	-	589	33,397	33,986	32,166
Programme and Staff Costs	7,019	45,686	108,716	161,421	208,197
Administrative Costs	595	54,797	-	55,392	69,934
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>7,614</b>	<b>101,072</b>	<b>142,113</b>	<b>250,799</b>	<b>310,297</b>
Net incoming resources	251	-	-	251	1,409
Net movement in funds	251	-	-	251	1,409
Fund balances brought forward	2,556	-	-	2,556	1,147
<b>Funds balances carried forward</b>	<b>2,807</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,807</b>	<b>2,556</b>

**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT - For the year ended 31 December 2002**

	2002	2001
	£	£
<b>Turnover</b>	231,850	292,506
Administrative expenses	(250,799)	(310,297)
Other operating income	19,200	19,200
<b>Operating Profit</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>1,409</b>
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	<b>251</b>	<b>1,409</b>
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	-	-
<b>Profit transferred to reserves</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>1,409</b>

**BALANCE SHEET - As at 31 December 2002**

	2002	2001
	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Tangible assets	355,935	375,137
	<u>355,935</u>	<u>375,137</u>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	23,875	18,236
Cash at bank and in hand	50,359	40,021
	<u>74,234</u>	<u>58,257</u>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	(71,426)	(55,702)
<b>Net current assets</b>	2,808	2,555
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	358,743	377,692
<b>Accruals and deferred income</b>	(355,936)	(375,136)
	<u>2,807</u>	<u>2,556</u>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>		
Profit and loss account	2,807	2,556
	<u>2,807</u>	<u>2,556</u>
<b>Shareholders' funds</b>	2,807	2,556

# THANK YOU

The Directors, staff and users of Forthspring would like to thank the following bodies for varied support in the past year:

Barnardos  
The Barrow Cadbury Charitable Trust  
Belfast Activity Centre  
Belfast City Council  
BELB  
Belfast Interface Project  
Belfast Islamic Centre  
BBC Children In Need  
Challenge For Youth  
Charles S French Charitable Trust  
Citizens Advice Centre, Callender Street  
Community Dialogue  
Community Relations Council  
Conflict Trauma Resource Centre  
Corrymeela Community  
Dance Northern Ireland  
Department of Finance and Personnel  
The Earl and Countess of Wessex Charitable Trust  
Eastern Health and Social Services Board  
Eleanor Peel Trust  
ECONI  
General Board of Global Ministries  
Harmony Community Trust  
The Henry Smith Charitable Trust  
Interface Residents Group, Woodvale  
International Fund for Ireland  
Irish School of Ecumenics  
Lessans Riding School  
Lloyds TSB Foundation for Northern Ireland  
Mission Ireland  
N & W Health Trust  
NIPPA Childhood Fund  
Odin Charitable Trust  
Opportunity Youth  
The Pennycress Trust  
The Pilgrim Trust  
The Rank Trust  
St Lukes United Methodist Church Orlando  
Sheltered Help  
Sydney Black Charitable Trust  
United Methodist Church of America  
Voluntary Missions Overseas  
Youthlink NI



**Pat Walsh (volunteer) dresses up for charity**



**A day at after schools**

## STAFF

<b>Bernie Laverty</b>	Project Co-ordinator
<b>Andi Smith</b>	Youth and Community Worker (Jan-Oct)
<b>Stuart Mullan</b>	Youth and Community Worker
<b>Kirstie Boal</b>	Playworker
<b>Anne Marie Strong</b>	Assistant Playworker
<b>Maria Mc Kenna</b>	Administrative Assistant
<b>Margaret McKeown</b>	Café Manager (Nov – present)
<b>Eileen Smyth</b>	Cleaner

## INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

<b>Natalie Dutrow</b>	Brethern Volunteer Service USA
<b>Jan Wiegelmann</b>	Eirene, Germany
<b>Christina Seliger</b>	Eirene, Germany
<b>Donna Johnson Sanchez</b>	Dominicans Volunteers International
<b>Daniel Knaeble</b>	IDJE, Germany

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>Honorary Chair</b>	David Kerr
<b>Vice Chair</b>	David Campton
<b>Representatives</b>	David Campton (Church)* Dorothy McConnell (Church) * Barbara Watson (Church) Wesley Weir (Church) Tom Hannon (Cornerstone) * Isobel Hunter (Cornerstone Jan – Apr) * Bridie Twomey (Cornerstone Apr - present) * Norma Dodds (Cornerstone) Shelagh Livingstone (Cornerstone) Noreen Christian (Currach) * Verona Lamb (Currach) * Masi Noor (Currach) Don Carville (Currach)
<b>Co-opted</b>	Jacqui McNeilly

\* Members of Executive Committee

<b>Company registration no.:</b>	NI31276
<b>Charity no.:</b>	XR16266
<b>Registered office:</b>	373-375 Springfield Road Belfast BT12 7DG
<b>Company Secretary:</b>	Ms Bernie Laverty
<b>Financial Consultant:</b>	Neil Morris

<b>Bankers:</b>	Ulster Bank Limited 11-16 Donegall Square East Belfast BT1 5UB
<b>Solicitors:</b>	Cleaver Fulton & Rankin 50 Bedford Street Belfast BT2 7FW
<b>Auditors:</b>	Grant Thornton Registered auditors Chartered accountants Water's Edge Clarendon Dock Belfast BT1 3BH