



Oxford Poverty Action Trust

Annual Report

2009

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1 Chair's Report 2009

Background

The Oxford Poverty Action Trust (OxPAT) was set up in 1996 by a committee including representatives of the City, University, police, churches and concerned citizens to meet the challenge of visible poverty in the streets and invisible poverty in hostels, bed-and-breakfast accommodation etc. Inspired by successful "Diverted Giving" schemes in Winchester and elsewhere, the aim was to establish an umbrella fund to receive donations from the public, including tourists, and distribute them to the existing agencies working to alleviate poverty. One of its aims was to help reduce street begging by persuading the public not to give directly to beggars, and thus fuel dependency on alcohol or drugs; and to provide a means whereby their generosity could be channeled more productively.

OxPAT raised well over £100,000 in its first 10 years, and is on course to have raised a further £100,000 by the end of 2011. Money comes to us partly from collection boxes and partly from fund-raising events, but mostly from concerned citizens giving regularly by Gift-Aided bankers' orders.

Changes to the Committee

There were no changes to officers during 2009, but Bhavan Sagoo rejoined the committee, and we also welcomed PC Philip Owen, Community Support Officer, and Marc Kusicka, project coordinator for OHCV Homeless Action Group, as members. Hugo Brunner stepped down as a Patron on his retirement, but we gained a new Patron in Bishop William Kenney.

Overview

We have continued to hold monthly meetings (with the exception of August) and have continued to distribute the bulk of our grants to Core Agencies in accordance with our Grants Policy. The following were successful in their applications to be Core Agencies for the 2010 calendar year: Simon House (A2 Dominion Housing Trust), The Gap, The Gatehouse, Elmore Community Services, Connection Floating Support Team (Oxford City), The Porch Steppin' Stone Centre, Julian Housing and O'Hanlon House. Aspire Oxfordshire Community Enterprise Ltd and the Church of God of Prophecy, Soup Kitchen will each be 50% share Core Agencies.

We have been kept in touch with the Network through the attendance at their monthly meetings of one or another of Marieke Clarke, Sister Anne, and Meg Movshon; and our programme of visits to client agencies continues. We had the benefit of a number of informative talks from agency representatives including Saeeda Imaan, a Youth Worker from Asylum Welcome, and Karen Diver from Oxford Domestic Abuse Services.

We have continued our links with Oxford students through Oxhub. Marc Kusicka has arranged for our new boxes (see below) to be distributed to College JCRs, and has also been instrumental in promoting OxPAT as the beneficiary of numerous student fundraising events. We are particularly grateful to the OUSU and Rhodes House students who helped with our first fundraising day in February which raised £1200.

In March Susanna Pressel very kindly held a Lord Mayor's Reception for OxPAT, enabling us to welcome patrons, supporters and client agencies.

A generous grant from St Michael's and All Saints Charities enabled us to update and refresh our collection boxes and publicity material, and Oxford Design and Illustrators once again helped with their design expertise.

We held our traditional carol singing before Christmas but this time 3 schools took part - West Oxfordshire Primary School, St Ebbe's Primary School and St Barnabas Primary School. We also held two carol singing sessions at Oxford Station with the help of the Oxford City Singers and were joined by one or two of our clients. All in all carol singing raised nearly £1000. Our Publicity Officer, Patrick Mulvihill, gave several interviews on Radio Oxford as a result.

We are extremely grateful to all our supporters, particularly our box collectors and – of course – the donors who give so generously in order that we may continue our efforts. We are also grateful to those organisations which have made grants towards our Administration Fund, thus enabling all the money received from donors to be distributed to agencies.

Deborah Ceadel Chair, February 2010

2 Legal Details

Trust

The object of the Trust is “for the relief of the effects of poverty, sickness, disablement and old-age” in accordance with a Trust Deed made on 28th June 1998.

The Trust has been granted registration as a charity by the Charity Commissioners. The Charity Number is 1070645.

The Inland Revenue has accepted the Trust as a charity within the definition of section 506 (1) Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1998, as a result of which the Trust’s income and gains are not taxable to the extent that they are applicable and applied to charitable purposes.

The registered address is 25 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 6HA.

During the calendar and accounting year 2009 the following acted as Trustees of the Oxford Poverty Action Trust (known as OxPAT) for some or all of the time:

Jerome Bertram
Stephen Brown
Deborah Ceadel
Marieke Clarke
Andrew Lack
Meg Movshon
Patrick Mulvihill
Susanna Pressel
Jonathan Clark

The Patrons of the Trust are:

Rt Revd. John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford
Rt Revd. William Kenney CP

Gross income during the year 2009 was £24,174.42
Expenditure during the year 2009 was £23,145.73

The Charity’s Bankers are:

The Co-operative Bank, King’s Valley, Yew Street, Stockport, Cheshire, SK4 2JU

Officers during the year 2009 were:

Chair: Deborah Ceadel
Secretary: Meg Movshon
Treasurer: Jonathan Clark

The Independent Examination of the Accounts was carried out by: Celia Fry

Fundraising expenses during the year 2009 were: none.

The charity owns no functional property and there are no connected companies.

3 Financial Report

At the end of last year, I was reading the applications from local charities to be OxPAT core agencies in 2010. I was very struck by the excellent work that these organisations do, to alleviate some of the very real hardship that exists in our community. As I read the applications (many of which came from charities which we already supported in 2009) I felt very proud that OxPAT is able to support such worthy recipients of the money.

I was reminded too that it is the great generosity of our many supporters who donate their money to OxPAT, which enables OxPAT to provide this support. Despite the financial climate, donations to OxPAT increased quite significantly compared to previous years. If I exclude the reclaim of Inland Revenue Gift Aid (which was exceptionally high in 2008), and the donation made to OxPAT in 2009 for new collecting boxes and publicity materials, then total donations jumped from approximately £15,000 in 2008 to approximately £21,500 in 2009. Within those totals there are many exceptionally generous donations. On behalf of the OxPAT committee and our beneficiaries, I would like to thank all our contributors and supporters.

In 2009 donations to OxPAT to support the homeless totalled £22,890.42, a rise of 12% compared with 2008. In addition OxPAT received a grant from St Michaels and All Saints Charities of £1,284.00 to pay for new collecting boxes and publicity materials. We are very grateful for this grant, which has enabled us to put new collecting boxes in a large number of the Oxford University colleges.

During the year, OxPAT distributed £22,380, 96% of which went to our nine core agency partners, who are listed in the table below. Grants to individuals made up the remaining 4%. There were administration costs of £76.10 during 2009, which we funded from donations made by organisations in the past specifically to help us with our minor administration costs. Therefore as usual 100% of the money donated by the general public went to supporting individuals in need. It is perhaps worth mentioning that we also ask our core agencies to ensure that the money they receive from us goes entirely to individuals in need, and not to general expenditure. Typically they achieve this by putting the money in their welfare funds, and using it to make small purchases for individual recipients.

We continue to aim to distribute the funds quickly, maintaining as small a balance at the bank as possible, without going overdrawn.

Once again Celia Fry has very kindly scrutinised the accounts, and I wish to thank her very much for her help.

Jonathan Clark, OxPAT Treasurer, January 2010

OxPAT Accounts 2009	
EXPENDITURE	
EXP-Admin Sub-Account	
Maintenance	£415.63
Publicity	£274.00
Travel	£19.60
Website	£56.50
Total	£765.73
EXP-Grants - Charities	
Aspire Oxfordshire	£2,540.00
Cherwell Housing Trust (Simon House)	£2,540.00
Church of God - Soup Kitchen	£1,270.00
Connection Oxford	£2,540.00
Oxford Night Shelter	£2,540.00
Steppin' Stone	£2,540.00
The Elmore Team	£2,540.00
The Gap	£2,540.00
The Gatehouse	£2,540.00
Total	£21,590.00
EXP-Grants - Individuals	
Asylum Welcome	£575.00
Cherwell Housing Trust	£200.00
Stoneham Housing Association	£15.00
Total	£790.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£23,145.73

OxPAT Accounts 2009	
INCOME	
INC - Boxes	
Blackwells	£106.28
Bunters	£16.94
Celebrations	£12.00
Christchurch Porter's Lodge	£10.26
Linacre College	£10.00
M&S, Summertown	£676.04
Oxford Union Bar	£28.93
Phoenix Cinema	£12.80
Railway Station	£473.15
St Michael's Shop	£47.28
Tourist Information Centre	£15.90
Town Hall	£34.07
Undesignated	£347.82
Total	£1,791.47
INC - Fund Raising	
Carol Singing	£985.18
Street Collection	£1,100.39
Talk fees	£35.00
Total	£2,125.57
INC - Organisations	
CAF	£100.00
Costain	£200.00
Exeter College	£200.00
Jesus College	£128.00
Oxford University Student Union	£1,750.00
St Anne's JCR	£662.00
St Hilda's JCR	£280.00
Total	£3,320.00
INC - Places of Worship	
Community of St John Baptist	£300.00
Rose Hill Methodist	£39.00
St Aloysius - The Oratory	£4,240.06
St Michael at the Northgate	£590.98
St Michaels And All Saints Charities	£1,284.00
Wolvercote Baptist Women's Fellowship	£10.00
Total	£6,459.04

OxPAT Accounts 2009	
INC – Private Donation (Gift Aid)	
Annual	£1,020.00
Monthly	£2,191.00
Occasional	£1,765.00
Quarterly	£450.00
Total	£5,426.00
INC - Private Donation (Non-Gift Aid)	
Anonymous	£2,060.00
CAF	£782.55
Charities Trust	£512.67
Individual	£50.00
The Westward Trust	£200.00
Total	£3,605.22
INC- Bank Interest	£1.66
INC- Inland Revenue (Gift Aid) Refund	£1,397.62
Internet	
Everyclick searched	£0.01
Total	£0.01
Unknown	£47.83
TOTAL INCOME	£24,174.42
RECONCILIATION WITH BANK	
Opening Balance	£579.32
Income	£24,174.42
Expenditure	£23,145.73
Closing Balance	£1,608.01
ADMINISTRATION SUB-ACCOUNT (included within)	
Opening Balance	£393.73
Income	£150.00
Expenditure	£76.10
Closing Balance	£467.63
ST MICHAELS GRANT ACCOUNT (included within)	
Opening Balance	£0.00
Income	£1,284.00
Expenditure	£689.63
Closing Balance	£594.37

4 Grants Policy

Core Principles

1. OxPAT funds are to be used to provide direct help to homeless or vulnerably housed adults - e.g. food, clothing, shelter, rehabilitation.
2. OxPAT funds are not to be used to fund administration nor on-going costs, nor to discharge statutory duties.
3. OxPAT funds will only be distributed to or through recognised charitable agencies; and must be spent by or under the supervision of such an agency.

Distribution

The monies received by OxPAT are distributed through agency welfare funds to be spent on welfare services, rehabilitation, accommodation and training and education to help people to get off the streets and move forward.

Core Agencies

OxPAT will aim to distribute most of its funds to a core group of agencies via regular monthly standing orders to their welfare funds. It is each agency's responsibility to ensure this money is spent in accordance with OxPAT's core principles and to report back at the end of the calendar year as to how it has been spent.

Specific applications

Some of OxPAT's funds will be used to fund specific applications which are not from the core agencies. Examples of successful applications include requests for clothing, bedding, work tools, and transport costs to enable a person in need to travel to a job.

To apply for a grant for a homeless, or vulnerable, person, please download the OxPAT Grant Application Form from the OxPAT website (www.oxpat.org/), and follow the instructions on it.

5 Partners

Core agencies during 2009 were

A2 Dominion Housing Trust (Simon House)
Connections Floating Support Team (Oxford City)
Oxford Night Shelter
The Elmore Team
The Gap
The Gatehouse
Steppin' Stone
Aspire Oxfordshire
Church of God - Soup Kitchen

Other Partners

Asylum Welcome

6 Box Officer's Report

Box Locations

Yellow boxes at:

Tourist Information Centre
St Michael at the North Gate Shop
Christchurch College Lodge,
Oxford Union Bar
Bunter's Delicatessen
Cowley Swimming Pool
Marston Ferry Sports Centre
Linacre College,
Magdalen College
Quakers Shop,
St Aloysius,
Celebrations

Red Square Boxes at:

Oxford Town Hall Reception
Blackwells.
Summertown M&S
Phoenix Cinema

Round Box at:

Oxford Railway Station

Catherine and Francis King, Box Officers, February 2010

7 Donors and Supporters

The Oxford Oratory Church of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, St Michael at the Northgate, Oxford University Student Union, St Hilda's JCR, Darbys Solicitors LLP, oxford designers & illustrators, St Anne's JCR, Costain, The Westward Trust, Exeter College, Jesus College, St Michaels And All Saints Charities, The Community of St. John Baptist at Begbroke , Concerts at St. Michael at The Northgate, CAF, Magdalen College MCR, Worcester College JCR, Carol Singing – Oxford City Singers, West Oxford Primary School, St. Ebbe's Primary School, St . Barnabas Primary School, Rose Hill Methodist Church, the Society of Friends and many Private Donations.



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