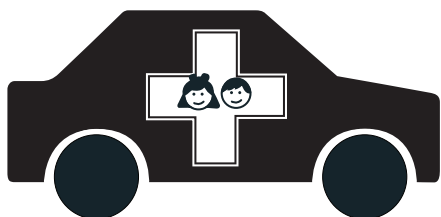


Manchester and District Transport for Sick Children

A Volunteer Driver Scheme helping to transport children to hospital and clinic appointments



Annual report 2004 – 2005



Transport for Sick Children

Reg. Charity No. 1035066

Transport for Sick Children
 Units 1–4, Crown Industrial Estate
 Kenwood Road
 Reddish
 Stockport SK5 6PH
 Telephone 0161 432 7800
 Fax 0161 432 8110
 E-mail to@transportforsickchildren.org

Trustees

Chairman Sarah Drake
Vice Chairman Geraldine Pickering
Treasurer Sally Carroll
Membership Secretary Carol Bagnall
Secretary Pat Brunt
 Lily Lloyd
 John Sagar
Co-opted Trustee: Rosie Jones

Staff

Charity Development Manager
 Prue Yeoman June 2004 - Present
 Sally Carroll April – June 2004

Transport Organiser
 Christine Stevens

Assistant Transport Organisers
 Judith Oxley
 Jo Senior
 Susan Simpson Dec. 2004 – April 2005

Volunteer Recruitment
 Graham Fletcher from Jan. 2005

Volunteer drivers

John Brown
 Pat Brunt
 Tony Budgett
 Sally Carroll
 William Clune
 Barbara Clutton
 Lenny Cope
 Barbara Donoghue
 Sarah Drake
 Graham Duggan
 Brian Foster
 Bob Friedman
 Bill George
 Esther Goulden
 Liz Hirst
 Joseph Horricks
 Ken Horricks
 Brian Howarth
 Ian Hurdley
 Douglas Jakeman
 Maureen Jakeman
 Bill Mitchell
 Noel Monkman
 Ronnie Newbiggin
 Al Rigg
 Norman Robinson
 Denis Royle
 Irene Sagar
 John Sagar
 Anne Shelley
 Alan Simpson
 Pete Smith
 Ron Spencer
 John Whittaker
 Sheila Whitworth
 John Yates

Our thanks to:

GMPTE	Jason Hiley, Partner at PKF Accountants and business advisors	George Davies Solicitors
 GMPTE	 Accountants & business advisers	 GEORGE DAVIES <small>SOLICITORS</small>
<p align="center">John Royle at: Royles, Chartered Accountants; Gabriel Drake, I.T. Consultant; Chris Spencer at Stockport Law Centre; and Antony Alton, copywriter</p>		

Chairman's foreword

Welcome to our eleventh annual report. Our charity was established in 1994 'to relieve the need and sickness of children by the provision of voluntary transport to and from hospitals, clinics and out patients departments for such children and their carers who reside in and around Manchester.' The scheme had been running since 1977 as part of the work of the Manchester branch of Action for Sick Children, but by 1994 had grown so large that it needed to become a charity in its own right.



From its inception, the scheme's priority has been to ensure that local children can gain access to, and maximum benefit from, the healthcare that they need. From the initial request to help one family, our volunteer drivers now help over 700 different children a year to attend consultant appointments, diagnostic treatment, therapy sessions, fittings for appliances, treatment for burns, to visit paediatric in-patients – the list is almost endless.

This report highlights the events of the past year and the generosity of those who support us, and presents statistics that outline the work of all those connected with the scheme. However, to those of us who are involved, the children whom we help are not viewed as statistics – and it is this personal approach that makes the scheme unique. From the initial fax or friendly telephone conversation between the referrer and our staff, to the patience and care with which our volunteer drivers carry out each trip, the child and their carer are treated as people to whom we can extend a helping hand.

This year has seen considerable progress. We appointed three new staff members to strengthen the management of the charity, the recruitment of volunteers and the vital day to day administration of the scheme which ensures that we help as many children as possible. We have

extended our service level agreements with Primary Care Trusts, worked closely with Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive over the implementation of the Urban Bus Challenge grant and have moved office. Amid all this, our drivers have carried out more trips than ever. Many thanks to them and, in particular, to Barbara Clutton, our first Chairman, who retired this year as a driver.

This is also my last year as Chairman of the charity – having been privileged to hold this position for six years, I feel that it is high time that someone else should bring new ideas and enthusiasm to the job. Whoever it is will inherit a wonderful team of staff and volunteers all of whom, in their very different ways, give 'over and above' the call of duty. Thank you very much, to volunteer drivers, staff and Trustees for your support to me as Chairman and, much more importantly, for your unstinting generosity towards the increasing number of children throughout Manchester who benefit from the scheme.

I hope that you will enjoy reading the report and that it will help you to appreciate why Manchester & District Transport for Sick Children needs to exist.

Sarah Drake, Chairman

New expansion and development

Back in 1991, before the term 'social exclusion' was invented, members of Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTE) understood the transport difficulties encountered by families trying to access healthcare for their sick children. They provided funding for the first paid Transport Organiser for this voluntary transport scheme and have, ever since, been among our greatest supporters both financially and with practical help.

Over the past year we have continued our service agreement with GMPTE. We have planned and developed the implementation of our Urban Bus Challenge grant (£134,970 over three years) to start in 2005. We appointed Prue Yeoman as Charity Development Manager in June and finally moved, after much negotiation, from our cramped office in Romiley to three times the space in Reddish. Many thanks to Stockport NHS Primary Care Trust for allowing us to perch for free in their health centre for the past five years. Special mention should go here to Prue, members of the Carroll, Drake and Sagar families all of whom put in the many hours hard labour that ensured the success of the move. We are delighted to be housed now alongside Greater Manchester Accessible Transport Limited – Ring and Ride – and look forward to a mutually supportive partnership, including the garaging of our new vehicle.

Throughout all this upheaval, service remained largely unaffected thanks to the sterling work of our office staff. As always, our commitment remains firmly focussed on the needs of the individual children whom we help. Our volunteer drivers, who are on the road day in, day out, ensure that this important work continues smoothly and

safely. During the year we have started a big volunteer recruitment drive and employed Graham Fletcher to undertake this essential task. The only reason to expand is so that we can offer the benefits of our flexible, bespoke service to more children, ensuring that they gain maximum benefit from the healthcare available to them.

Over the year we have helped 710 different children and carried out 4,446 trips, which involved a total of 62,374 miles. They were referred by 405 different health related professionals, e.g. health visitors, community nurses and social workers, and our drivers took them to 114 destinations. The families whom we help are often referred to us because in the past they have failed to attend healthcare appointments; it is, therefore, extremely impressive that our 'wasted' trips, i.e. those where the driver has arrived at the house only to find nobody at home, amount to only 6 per cent of our total trips. It should also be mentioned that our office staff have arranged 447 more trips, only for them to be cancelled before the date arrives. Both the wasted and cancelled trips can be frustrating for volunteers and staff but highlight the difficulties encountered by the families that we help.



Volunteer driver Lenny Cope receives donation from Heywood Charities Fete; Gill Heyworth (GMPTE), Sarah Drake and Prue Yeoman at the AGM July 2004

Children, transport and the NHS

Having a child go to hospital for any reason is a cause for concern for all parents, carers and relatives. Most children find the experience daunting. We can't take away all of these concerns but our voluntary transport scheme does help. Transport is a big issue, especially for deprived families where a quarter of households with children don't have access to a car.

The charity ensures that the interests of sick children and their transport needs are high on as many agendas as possible. We keep informed of local and national trends and strategies within health and community transport sectors by involvement with the following groups.

North East Reconfiguration Programme Transport Group (Prue Yeoman – Member)

Health and Transport Group (Prue Yeoman – Member)

Greater Manchester Community Transport Operators Forum (Prue Yeoman attends meetings)

Community Transport Association (Charity membership)

Greater Manchester Strategic Health Authority (SHA) set up the 'Children's and Young People Network' in 2003 to review and redesign care services for children in line with best practice and latest national policy and guidance.

Sally Carroll is a member of the **South West Sector Board** and their Patient and Public Involvement steering group.

Prue Yeoman gave a presentation, in March, to the **Children, Young People and Families' Joint Council**.

We are members of **Action for Sick Children** and support their 'Park the Car, Park the Charges' campaign.

Sarah Drake is Vice Chairman of **Trafford Healthcare NHS Trust**.



Thank you to donors:

Sonia Alexander
Kate Babbage*
Jeni Beattie of Accolade
BP Matched Giving
Bury Lions
Sally Carroll*
Charnwood Nursery Trustees
Co-operative Bank
Sarah Drake*
Felicity Goodey*
Heywood Charities Fete
Liz Hirst*
Caroline Jones
Ronnie Newbiggin*
Rochdale Community Health Visitors
Sale United Reform Church
Anne Shelley*
Ron Spencer*
St Aidan's Flower Club
Wendy Rankin
Al Rigg*

** Member of the charity*

Why we do what we do



“Some of our children have profound special needs and could not use public transport. A lot of our families are not from wealthy areas and without this service they wouldn’t reach us. Our groups enhance children’s lives and support their families. Even families with cars can’t always get here if one of them needs the car for work. Often mothers of children with special needs don’t return to work after maternity leave as their child has a greater need than anticipated. This may mean they can’t afford regular taxis. Transport for Sick Children is so supportive. Parents feel supported, as opposed to in a taxi. The drivers are empathetic and the service is very valuable.”

Christine Taylor, Co ordinator – Trafford Early Development Service

“A few weeks ago I met an amazing young man. A nine year old with brittle bone disease who is tiny for his age. However, I soon stopped thinking about his frail body after being in his company. He had me in stitches by pulling faces at his mum behind her back, then winking at me. When his treatment was over for the day he would say he was thirsty; knowing I can never resist a hot chocolate! Then, when he was rested, his mum and I would chat and it was obvious she treated him no differently to his brothers. Where she got her strength and patience from I have no idea. With the chance to meet families like these it is a privilege to be a driver.”

Barbara Lee Donoghue – Volunteer Driver

“Some of our families don’t have transport and our Centre is not easily accessible by public transport. Some parents just wouldn’t come to our group without the transport provided by this charity. Being picked up from home and driven to the door allows our families to feel ‘normal’ and get the benefit of what we offer here.”

Cath Littler, Outreach Worker – Portage Service, Overdale Centre

“I regularly drive a loveable little chap, who was 11 weeks premature and is fed by tube. I am honoured to be his personal chauffeur. He’s a credit to his mother who copes with him alone. He knows the days we go out and eagerly awaits my ‘green’ car. I will be sorry when I stop driving him in September. The only consolation will be that when I buy my next car it won’t have to be green!”

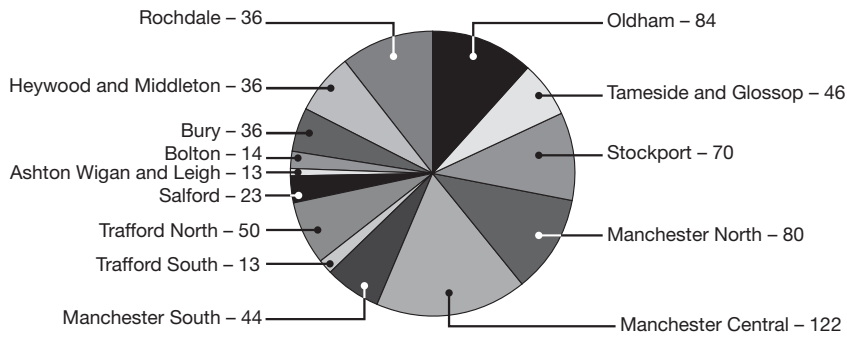
Al Rigg – Volunteer Driver

“For two years I took a single mum to visit her son in intensive care at Booth Hall and then home again. It took me a while to realize that this one year old lad noticed that every time I arrived on the ward his mother left him shortly afterwards. He never saw me bring her as I used to drop her outside the ward. Finally, after two long years it was my pleasure to transport him, his mum and an NHS nurse home. It was then and only then that this three year old didn’t frown at me. I am certain his smile was both of joy and gratitude.”

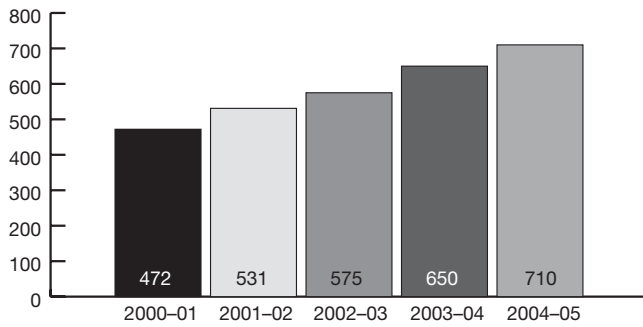
Bob Friedman – Volunteer Driver

Activity statistics

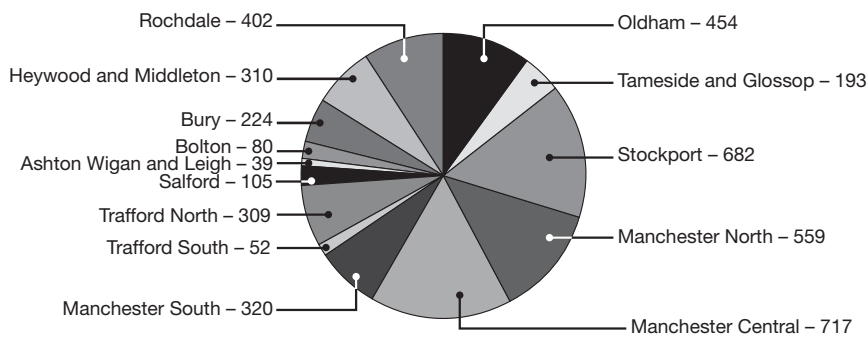
Number of children helped by NHS Primary Care Trust



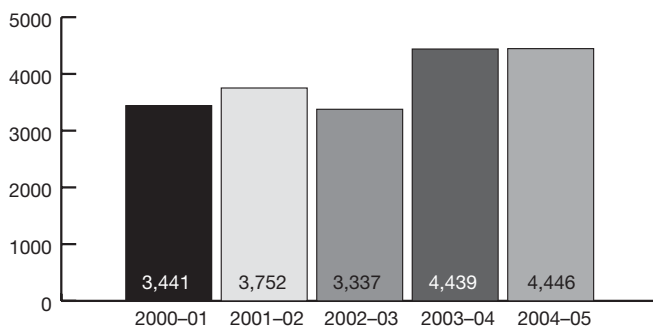
Number of children helped



Number of trips by NHS Primary Care Trust



Number of trips



Manchester & District Transport for Sick Children

Independent examiners' report to the trustees

We report on the accounts of the trust for the year ended 31 March 2005 set out on pages 2 - 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43 (7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to our attention.

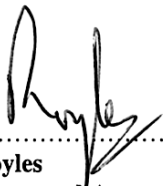
Basis of independent examiners' report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Royles
Chartered Accountants
18 Heaton Gardens
25 Heaton Moor Road
Heaton Moor
Stockport
SK4 4LT

17 June 2005

Manchester & District Transport for Sick Children

Income and Expenditure Account-General Fund
for the year ended 31 March 2005

	2005 £ Unrestricted funds	2004 £ Unrestricted funds
Income		
Donations- Transport	2,254	3,016
Health Authorities & Primary Care Trusts	29,160	24,466
Donations - other	526	1,212
GMPTE Grant	22,445	21,793
Fund raising	1,448	-
Co-operative Bank	2,500	-
Bank interest	1,107	386
Other income	1,228	202
Total income	60,668	51,075
Expenditure		
Drivers' mileage	22,697	21,574
Insurance	338	298
Printing & stationery	1,892	1,442
Postage	400	299
Telephone	1,746	1,517
Miscellaneous	1,114	835
Salary (incl Employers' NI)	27,317	14,913
Session worker	8,863	6,722
Car seats	510	-
Recruitment costs	725	-
Training	279	842
Other costs	1,012	614
Depreciation	1,697	1,395
Total expenditure	68,590	50,451
Net incoming resources before transfers	(7,922)	624
Transfers between funds	-	-
Net movement in funds	(7,922)	624
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April 2004	40,878	40,254
Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2005	32,956	40,878

Manchester & District Transport for Sick Children

Balance Sheet
As at 31 March 2005


	2005 £	2004 £
Tangible assets		
Computer equipment		
Cost		
Brought forward	4,188	4,188
Additions	904	-
Carried forward	<u>5,092</u>	<u>4,188</u>
Depreciation		
Brought forward	2,791	(1,396)
Charge for year	1,697	1,395
Carried forward	<u>4,488</u>	<u>2,791</u>
Net book value	604	1,397
Current assets		
Bank balances		
Current account	55	100
Deposit account	32,297	39,378
Cash in hand	-	3
Net assets	<u>32,956</u>	<u>40,878</u>
Funds: Unrestricted		
General	32,956	40,878
Total funds	<u>32,956</u>	<u>40,878</u>

The financial statements on pages 2 to 4 were approved by the trustees on 6 June 2005 and signed on their behalf by:



Mrs S Drake

Chairman


Mrs S Carrol

Treasurer

Manchester & District Transport for Sick Children

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2005

2005

£

1. Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and follow the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2000.

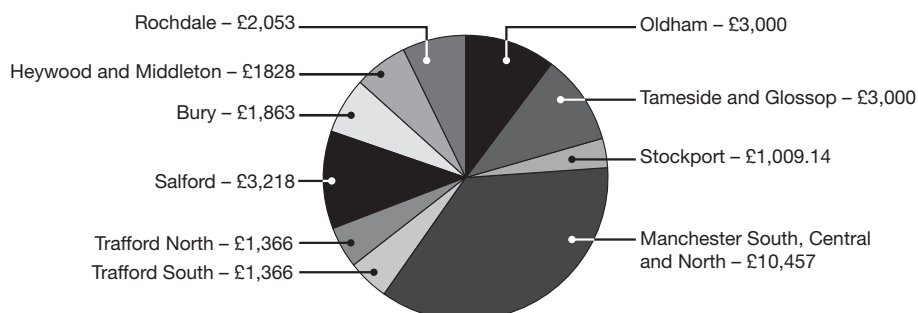
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its useful life:

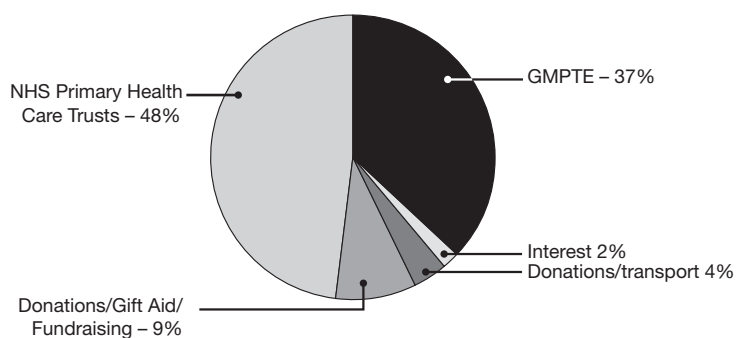
Computer equipment: 33.33% on cost

Funding statistics

Income by NHS Primary Care Trust



Income



Can you help with volunteer driving?

Manchester and District Transport for Sick Children helps children in need by providing transport to local health appointments. We depend on our team of volunteer drivers, who have their own cars, to get the children and their parents/carers to these vital appointments. Volunteers are fully reimbursed for any expenses incurred. If you're interested, we'd love to hear from you.



Need help getting your child to health appointments?

If you have difficulty getting a child to any health-related appointment, ask your health visitor, social worker or nurse to ask us for help.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver, please ring us on

0161 432 7800

Reg Charity No: 1035066



Transport for Sick Children