



Supporting children,  
young people and families

# Annual Review 2019/2020



The year under review has seen extraordinary extremes for FSN, our local communities and families. In 2019, FSN celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, culminating in a highly successful and enjoyable event at our Public Meeting in September attended by local dignitaries, children and families.

Agreed actions to deliver on FSN's 3 year strategy were moving forward positively and fed into plans to source funding to expand the delivery of our children and young people's mental health projects to older young people and into new areas. As part of this, we were delighted to be one of only 22 projects across the country that was awarded funding from the Department of Health and Social Care in partnership with East Sussex County Council to deliver support for older teenagers.

All of this alongside continued success with existing projects and services, and a balanced budget, the Board were very pleased with the progress and position of the organisation.

Our plans to develop the digital and technological approaches to the way we work was also progressing and it was this last area of work that became a priority area to support our families and community, when, at the start of 2020, the spread of COVID-19 became national news and at the end of March, we were in lockdown.

We know that the projects and services that FSN delivers will be essential in meeting the many challenges in dealing with a pandemic, the likes of which have not been seen for 100 years. The resulting impact on our children, young people and families mental health, wellbeing and employability are going to be considerable. But FSN Trustees, staff, volunteers and supporters are dedicated to respond to the needs, both in the immediate and longer term. We are proud of the commitment of everyone involved with FSN and feel confident that as an organisation we will, as always be able to continue to deliver vital services to support our local communities in what will undoubtedly be difficult times.

**Peter Carcas, Chairman**

## Treasurer's Report 2019/2020

2019-20 was another quiet year in terms of capital expenditure, but no less challenging with the continuing need to attract commissions and grants to fund the services FSN provide to its clients. Within current circumstances FSN has been able to balance its budget with Government support. This is now tapering off and going forward the challenge is to maintain income from fees and charges in very uncertain economic times.

Last year expenditure amounted to £1,400,997 whilst income was £1,453,656 giving rise to a surplus on the year of £52,659, from which a loss on investments of £9,200 is deducted. This resulted in a net contribution to funds of £43,459 on the year. The investments experienced the negative effect of Covid19 on world markets during March but will be held for long term gain.

Our balance sheet at 31 March 2020 remained healthy with fixed assets valued at £1,055,749 and net current assets of £394,714.

The saga of the removal of the old and deteriorating fire escape continues together with the need to also renovate the internal office space around the access area. This is proving to be a lengthy process in meeting planning and building control conditions. It is likely to cost around £40,000 once all permissions have been received from the relevant authorities.

FSN continued to successfully attract grant funding and forged strong partnership links with other bodies with similar aims to ourselves. Negotiations with St Andrews Trust in Bexhill are ongoing regarding the provision of young people's services. A significant sum of money is available should this materialise. Generous donations and support have been given towards the Pantry scheme and to Dragonflies, whilst significant grants were received towards the ROVTE project.

My thanks go to all the staff of FSN who continue to make the organisation such an important part of the local voluntary sector. The Board believe we have the ability to remain a strong viable organisation for the foreseeable future.

**Dave Froude, Hon Treasurer**



## The 80th celebration cake.



### Patrons:

Baroness Fookes of Plymouth DBE, DL  
The Right Reverend Dr Martin Warner MA PhD  
Sara Stonor DL, Vice Lord Lieutenant, East Sussex

### Honorary President:

Mollie Green MBE

### Contacts

Chief Executive Tracey Rose  
Development Director Stephanie Edmonds  
Operations Director Angie Jakeman

### Professional Advisors:

#### Bankers

Lloyds, 17 Wellington Place, Hastings, TN34 1NX

#### Auditors

Acuity Professional (Sellens French) LLP,  
Unit 2.02, High Weald House, Glovers End,  
Bexhill, East Sussex, TN39 5ES

**Mollie Green MBE, FSN President  
and Andrew Blackman,  
Deputy Lord Lieutenant, cut the  
celebration cake.**



### Trustees:

Peter Carcas, Chairman  
The Rev'd. Martin Harper, Vice  
Chairman  
Richard Cuff, Vice Chairman  
Dave Froude, Hon. Treasurer  
Michael Blandy (retired September  
2019)  
Janet Wyatt  
Alison Bissett  
Gary Marriott  
Jocelyn Tilbrook  
Judy Rogers  
Dr. Roger Elias

### FSN Registered Office:

66 London Road St Leonards on  
Sea  
TN37 6AS  
Registered Charity No. 208446  
Registered Company No. 371615  
[www.fsncharity.co.uk](http://www.fsncharity.co.uk)  
Twitter: #FSNHastings

## Employability and Skills

FSN offers a range of opportunities to develop the skills and confidence of adults living in the Hastings, St Leonards, Rother, Eastbourne and Wealden areas. This is carried out in partnership with a number of organisations including East Sussex College Group Hastings, East Sussex County Council, the National Lottery Community Fund, SELEP/CXK and Optivo Housing. Additionally FSN is a City and Guilds Accredited Centre.

### COMMUNITY AND FAMILY LEARNING

- 444 learners enrolled on courses
- 53 courses delivered
- 83% of learners reported improved social/interpersonal skills
- 89% of learners reported improved confidence
- 92% of learners felt more positive
- 85% of learners reported feeling more motivated

*Learner: **“the course has been brilliant, very well delivered and full of information. I have gained full time employment in a school because of gaining the qualification”***



**ROVTE Learner workshop  
supporting recycling**

### ROVTE

- 7 courses delivered, including the introduction of a new Level 2 Award in Supporting in Schools
- 26 workshops delivered
- 6 events held
- 68 learners enrolled
- 46 learners achieved a qualification
- 17 people progressed into employment or higher level training

# Volunteering

FSN is immensely proud & appreciates the support of the 67 volunteers who give their time & energy in the last year, in a range of different ways from supporting projects & centres to leading self-help activities.

## Volunteers Lead The Way

### - Funded by 'Awards For All'

- Drop in and Chat - 91 attendees
- Creative Hub - 54 attendees
- Computer Confidence - 28 attendees

### Pantry

- 80 families supported
- Monthly table sale

Pantry User ***"Brilliant help, it is really helping with managing financially. The choice of food is very healthy. The social aspect is also beneficial and the volunteer very courteous, friendly and helpful."***

Volunteer: ***"My first interaction with FSN was when I attended a course, which had a very positive influence on me. I was so impressed that I now volunteer. I am encouraged to be involved and have a sense of purpose. This has definitely improved my mental health....As soon as I go through the doors of FSN the accepting and welcoming environment is an inspiration"***



**Made by a group of volunteers for the 80th celebration**

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## Where does the money come from?

2019/2020

Charitable Activities	993,650
Other Trading Activities	349,588
Donations & Legacies	107,662
Investment Income	2756
	<u>1,453,656</u>



## Where does the money go?

2019/2020

Early Years Services	739998
Community Provision & Training	472114
Young People	164873
Property	16610
Core Services/ Governance	49274
Loss on Investments	9,200
	<u>1442869</u>



Full audited accounts are available for viewing on our website [www.fsncharity.co.uk](http://www.fsncharity.co.uk) or by appointment at St. Nicholas Centre, 66 London Road, St. Leonards on Sea, East Sussex TN37 6AS Tel: 01424 423683

**A BIG THANK YOU** to all the individuals, charities, companies and other organisations who have supported our work in the past year

### This includes contributions from:

Anthony Mayhew Trust; Asda (St Leonards); Bannatynes Hastings; Battle Bonfire Society; Battle Muffin Club; Battle Wives Church Group; Berwick PCC; Bexhill Academy; Bexhill Lions Club; Booker & Best; Brede Carol Singers; Broad Oak Allotments; Burgess & Co; Charlotte Marshall Charitable Trust; Drallim Industries; DWP (London Road); Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust; Francis & Eric Ford Charitable Trust; Global RE; Hastings Area Community Trust; Hastings Comedy Fringe; Hastings Direct; Hastings Old Town Carnival Association; Hastings Rotary Club; Hastings Winkle Club; HBC Cemetery and Crematorium; Highwoods Golf Club; Homelands Charitable Trust; HSBC; Kings Church Hastings; Little Common School; Little Darbys; McPherson's Accountants; Magdalen and Lasher Charity; Out of the Blue; Paragon Trust; Park Holidays; PCC of St Michael and All Angels; PCC Winchelsea St Thomas Church; Pett Stoolball Club; Pissarro's; Rhokett Ltd; Rotary Club of Hastings; Rush, Witt & Wilson; Rye Group WI; St Paul's School; St Peters Church Bexhill; St Richards Church; Smudgers Legacy; The Asda Foundation; Three Oaks Trust; Vinehall Pre-prep School; Winchelsea Beach; Women's Fellowship Fairlight; Wyatt Hughes St Leonards;

**Thank You**

