

Thanks to just some of our donors



**Egan Reid**



**As** **Abingdon Primary School**  
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# ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008



Artwork provided by Orienne Year 6 Abingdon Primary School, Reddish, Stockport

## TRANSPORT FOR SICK CHILDREN

A volunteer Driver scheme helping to transport children to hospital and clinic appointments





Transport For Sick Children Ltd.  
Registered Office  
Units 1-4 Crown Industrial Estate  
Kenwood Road  
Reddish  
SK5 6PH

Telephone 0161 432 7800  
Fax 0161 432 8110  
E-mail to@transportforsickchildren.org

### Directors

**Chair** John Sagar  
**Treasurer** John Adams  
**Company Secretary** John Adams  
John Perry  
Geraldine Pickering  
Roger Watts

### Staff

**Manager** Prue Yeoman (to August 2007)

### Transport Organisers

Judith Oxley  
Jo Senior  
Claire Bickley

### Administrator

Anna Burns

### Volunteer Support Worker

George Stenson

### Our Thanks to



Danielle Hunt – Central Manchester and Manchester University Hospitals

## Awards Received During the year 2007/2008



This year the Charity was successful in achieving the award for "for their outstanding contribution to the community".

The awards organised by Manchester City Council took place at Manchester Town Hall and were presented by Annabel Tiffin and Gordon Burns from the BBC's Northwest Tonight programme.

Irene & John Sagar, Alan Berry and Tom Bevan received the award on behalf of the charity.

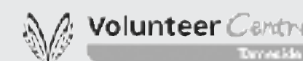


Sarah Drake one of the charity's founder members received The League of Mercy Foundation Order of Mercy Award from Sir Robert Blachin DL, the President of The League. Sarah received her award at The Mansion House, London 4th June 2008.



Stockport Council held a evening to celebrate the achievements of volunteers in the area and above is Ronnie Newbiggin, Esther Goulden and John Whittaker showing their certificates which were presented by the Lord Mayor of Stockport.

Rochdale Council in conjunction with the Volunteer Service also held an award ceremony to honour the service given by volunteers during the year. Five of our volunteers were nominated and Barbara Donoghue (below) was chosen as "Exceptional Volunteer of the Year 2008".



### Volunteer Awards 2008

John Whittaker	Alan Berry
Ronnie Newbiggin	Tom Bevan
Norman Robinson	Graham Duggan
George Green	Anthony Gregory
John Capstick	Esther Goulden
Bernard Fawley	Harold Kemp
David Kelly	Bill Mitchell
Cliff Wignall	Barry Carney
David Lees	Wayne Kelsey
Christine Dutton	Vic Longden
Geoff Lucas	Martin Jones
Jennie Gilpin	Irene & John Sagar



### Volunteer Awards 2008

David Kelly  
Wayne Kelsey  
John Sagar  
Irene Sagar



# Our Thanks To

## Our thanks to Volunteer Drivers

Alan Simpson  
Alan Berry  
Andrew Crawley  
Anthony Gregory  
Anthony Scanlan  
Anthony Munday  
Arthur Oliver  
Barbara Schickhoff-Brown  
Barbara Donoghue  
Barry Carney  
Bernard Fawley  
Brian Foster  
Brian George  
Bernard Ward  
Christine Dutton  
Clifford Wignall  
David Naylor  
David Kelly  
David Haworth  
David Lees  
David Lewis

Eira Jones  
Elaine Cope  
Liz Hirst  
Esther Goulden  
Faye Haven  
Geoff Lucas  
George Green  
Brian Howarth  
Glen Poole  
Graham Duggan  
Harold Kemp  
Irene Sagar  
James Fowler  
Jennie Gilpin  
John Sagar  
John Capstick  
John Whittaker  
John Yates  
Joyce Tarry  
Ken Horricks  
Martin Jones

Monika Marciniszyn  
Norman Robinson  
Paul Bramah  
Pete Smith  
Philip Collier  
Ray Bilton  
Richard Kinlin  
Robert Friedman  
Ronnie Newbiggin  
Roy Modlinsky  
Sally Carroll  
Sheila Whitworth  
Stuart Lodge  
Tina Turnbull  
Tom Bevan  
Tony Loftus  
Victor Longden  
Wayne Kelsey  
William George  
William Mitchell  
William Clune

## Donors

Heywood Lions  
Heywood Charities Fete  
Manchester City Council  
Community Awards  
Chris Walsh – Social Worker  
& Referrer  
Elizabeth Matthews  
Felicity Goodey  
Dr W Rankin-Williams  
P Yeoman  
J Carey  
Rochdale Childrens  
Information Service  
South Manchester Welfare  
For Children  
Rotary Club Of Stockport  
Aspinal Primary School  
Councillor Merrell  
Friendship Mark Of Master  
Masons, Bury  
Rotary Club of New Mills &  
Marple

Mast Lift Co  
Assured Events  
Mrs J Millan, Seymour Grove  
Health Centre, Old Trafford  
Moto In The Community Trust  
Health Visitors Of Langley  
Clinic, Middleton  
Mrs EM Cocciagiferro on  
behalf of Mrs D Kibrige  
Egan Reid Stationers  
Geraldine Tresman, Pre-  
School Special Needs  
Service, Manchester  
Manchester Guardian Society  
Charitable trust  
The family & Friends of  
Alston Rigg  
Hobsons Bakery, Reddish  
Houldsworth Golf Club,  
Reddish  
Alan Clarke – Moments In  
Sound

Abingdon Primary School,  
Reddish  
Wishes N Kisses  
FB Balloons  
Your Event  
Majestic Wines  
Morrisons Supermarket  
Marks & Spencer  
Tesco Supermarkets  
Sainsbury Supermarket  
Boots The Chemist  
Halfords  
Northern Rock  
Buildbase Ltd  
Mad About Toys  
Stalybridge Readymix  
Waitrose  
C & M Developments  
Parfetts

# Chairman's Report



The continuing success of the Charity is based on a team of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer drivers supported and organised by a small part time staff equally committed to the aims of the scheme.

The demand for our service continues to grow at some ten percent year on year. Although the majority of the appointments for the children we serve are within the Greater Manchester Area we have answered requests for transport to specialist units in Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield, Birmingham and Liverpool.

The value of the contribution made to the local community by the Charity has been recognised during the year. The volunteer drivers won the Manchester City Council "Contribution to the Community" Group award for 2007. Stockport MBC and Rochdale MBC awarded certificates of appreciation to all the drivers in their communities. Barbara Donoghue was chosen as the "Outstanding Volunteer Of The Year" by Rochdale MBC. Sarah Drake was awarded "Order of Mercy" by The League of Mercy: just reward for someone who served the Charity in many capacities and for many years. Congratulations and well done to them all.

The front cover to this report was drawn by Orianne from Abingdon Primary School and was the winning entry in a school competition arranged by Transport Organiser Clare Bickley. Thank you Clare for your initiative.

During the year our Charity Manager Prue Yeoman left us. Prue joined us at a vital time in the development of the Charity and made a valuable contribution to the growth of the Charity.

The Charity is involved with the implementation of "Making It Better" having representatives sitting on the NHS Public Partnership Board and the Greater Manchester, East Cheshire and High Peak Children, Young People and Families network. The main challenge for the coming year is to meet the need for more drivers to of set the impact of the "Making It Better" programme.

Many thanks to the "office" team, and all the drivers we do make a difference for the better. Also to the Directors for giving their time and expertise to help keep the charity functioning so well.

We look forward to another successful year.

John Sagar - Chairman

## Why we do what we do



Why be a volunteer? In a word it's.....inexplicable. It's a way of using what skills or talents I have to help others. No formal qualifications are required, just have an interest in people and some time to spare – just do what I can when I can. It means meeting people outside my own small circle, keeping touch with more aspects of every day life and the problems other people face and giving a bit of support if only for a short time.

With Transport for Sick Children the difference to a family that one short car journey or two or three hours of a volunteers time is staggering. Each child has different challenges to face. For some it's a short-term problem, for others several medical conditions requiring long-term treatment. Whatever the challenges, the courage and resilience of the children and their parents is amazing and uplifting.

Making the vital link between families, referrers and volunteer drivers is a very friendly, hard working, efficient and resourceful team in the office. Always cheerful, mental gymnastics is their forte when it comes to co-ordinating our trips! To them we are not names or numbers, we are people with our own lives to lead – volunteering is just a part of it.

Being a volunteer keeps me active both mentally and physically and gives me the opportunity to help others. Why be a volunteer? Well...Why not?

Irene Sagar – Volunteer Driver

“As a health visitor I really value the service Transport for Sick Children provides. I use the service on a regular basis and always find the staff friendly and helpful, they try their best to provide a driver often at short notice. The comments I receive from families I have referred to the service are always positive and full of praise for the volunteer drivers. Many families struggle to keep their children's health appointments because of lack of transport and financial difficulties. Without the service many children's health needs would not be met.”

Gaynor Kershaw, Health Visitor, Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale PCT

MaST LIFT (Manchester, Salford & Trafford Local Improvement Finance Trust) was delighted to support TFSC last year with a very successful Charity Golf event, which we hope to repeat in 2008. The LIFT company is a partnership between the Public and Private sectors, to deliver new Health and Social Care buildings in Greater Manchester, and we have invested over £75m to date since 2004. Our partners are passionate about helping communities at all levels and the vital service provided by TFSC complements and to a large extent, enables, what we are doing to be more successful.

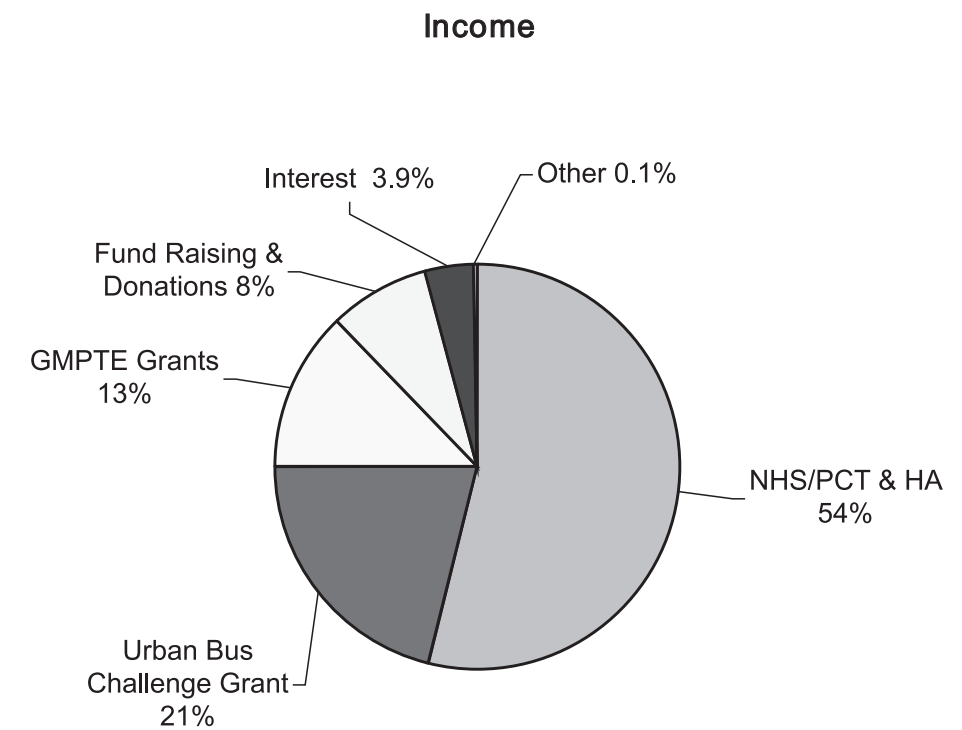


Richard Groome - Regional Director, MaST LIFT (Pictured with L-R Anna Burns, John Adams & George Stenson – Transport For Sick Children)

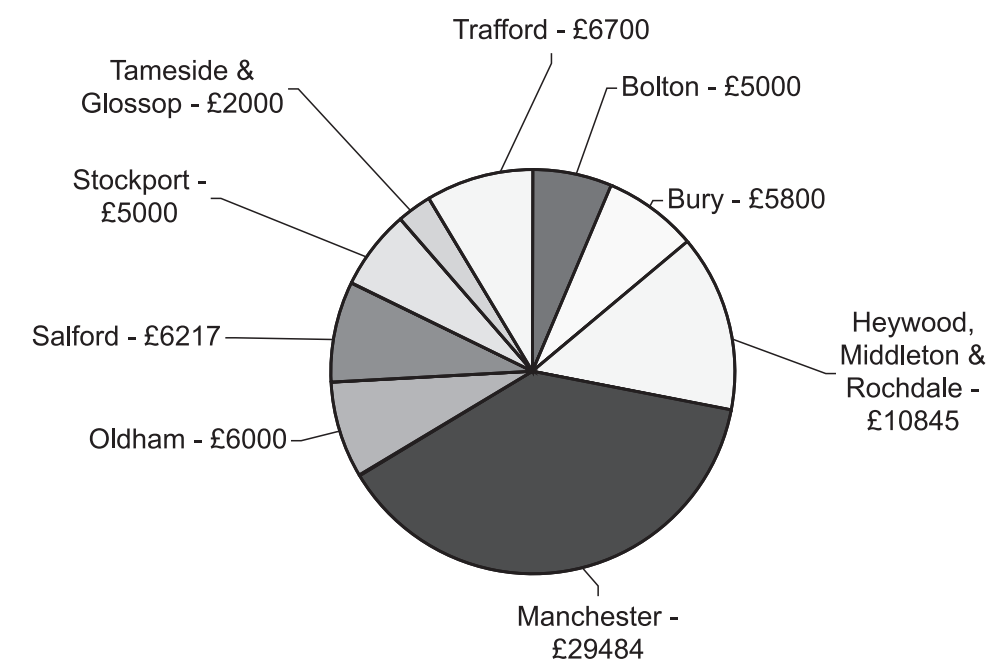
Transport For Sick Children has provided support to children and families attending the children's out patient department at Wythenshawe Hospital for many years. The service has been invaluable in helping us to support families who would otherwise find it difficult to travel to appointments for a variety of reasons. The service provided by the organisers and drivers is always supportive and friendly, often making extraordinary efforts to help us.

Sister Christine Lavendar  
Paediatric Outpatients Department, Wythenshawe Hospital.

## Activity Statistics cont.



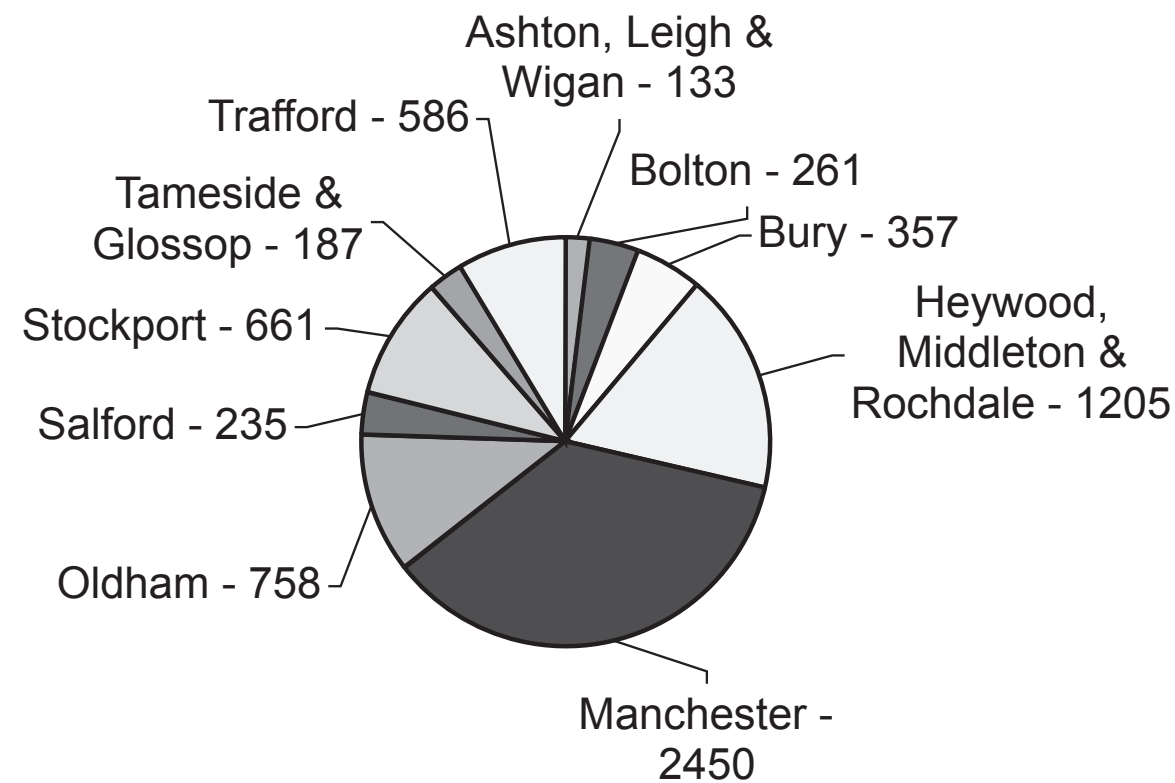
### Income by NHS Primary Care Trust



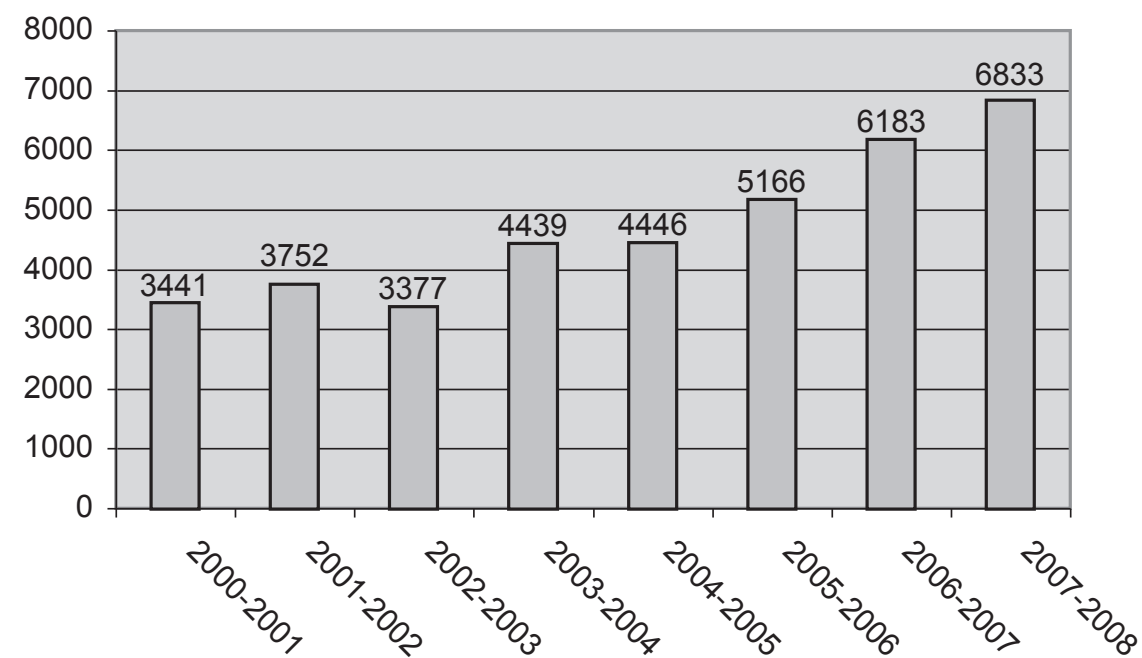


## Activity Statistics cont.

Number of trips by NHS Primary Care Trust



Number of trips



## Why we do what we do

### A Case Study:

We have helped a Mohammed Dildar since August 2006 and to the year ending 31st March 2008 we completed 54 trips.

Transport For Sick Childrens driver Tom Bevan has completed almost all of these trips. The child was born prematurely and the parents really struggled to visit their baby. The family live in Bolton so the daily trip to Royal Manchester Children's Hospital was a huge hurdle for the family to overcome. With the help of Transport For Sick Children the parents were able to see their baby regularly and so aid the baby's recovery.

After almost 2 years of help and support the baby was finally discharged.

Tom Bevan has built up a relationship with the family and has enjoyed seeing the baby improve and eventually go home.



Tom Bevan

"The parents were always really appreciative and sometimes took photos of the driver and his family to show other members of their family how much help we gave them. I found Mrs Dildar easy to assist even when things went wrong. The baby even smiles sometimes when I've strapped him into the baby chair. It's been a long road and lots of trips. It is nice to see the culmination of all the help and support I've given and the end result is so positive now the baby is back home with his family."

Tom Bevan - Volunteer Driver



Mrs Dildar & Mohammed

"Mohammed is now two and a half years old. He was born with a very complex medical condition and has spent most of his life in hospital either at RMCH or his local hospital. When the child was in RMCH his parents had great difficulty visiting him, as they do not have any transport. TFSC were able to bring parents and his 3-year-old sister to visit him twice a week for well over a year.

By February 2008 the child's medical condition had stabilised and discharge home looked feasible. With the invaluable help of TFSC the child started to go home for short periods once a week, initially for two to three hours. The driver was able to pick the mother up from home, come to RMCH with her then take the child home and bring them back later. By April 08, He was having overnight stays, first one night then two and finally on the 15th May 08 he was discharged home and continues to be at home. His care is very demanding. He requires 3 gastrostomy tube feeds during the day and continuous overnight feeds for 12 hours but the child and his family are clearly doing very well at home. He continues to have frequent clinic appointments which TFSC help with. Without the help and support of TFSC such a smooth transition to home would not have been possible."

Genia Polowyj - Renal Social Worker, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

## Treasurer's Report



It is pleasing to report that after another record year of activity the charity's finances are sound. This has been brought about because of:

- Urban 'Bus grant final year payments
- Increased income from the Primary Care Trusts
- Increase in level of donations
- Sound control of expenditure.

The Urban Bus Grant, which was received for a three year period, has been worth about £30,000 per year for three years, ended in February 2008. The Grant was part of a submission made in 2004 by Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive. The Transport Executive has supported the charity for some years and wished to sustain the desire to increase the activity to match the believed demand. The Grant has had a major impact on the growth achieved in the last three years and given time to allow the needed increase in income from other sources, to be able to finance the increased growth when the Urban 'Bus Grant ceased. It should be noted that, before the award of the Grant, GMPTe was already financially supporting the charity and its contribution was important in its survival. In the last year GMPTe have reduced their support, but this should be seen as a compliment that funding is now less of an issue. Nevertheless our indebtedness to GMPTe for their support deserves to be recognised.

The total income from Primary Care Trusts was £77,047. This is an increase of £16,587 against the previous year. There has been a positive approach from the Trusts in discussions with them and the plan is to have contracts with all of them. This process has already started. The increase in funding is obviously important, but with it has come a substantial improvement in the timing of the payments, which has assisted the cash flow immensely.

Donations have reached a record level. A volunteer gave £5,000; MastLift Manchester £3,900 from a golf day held on our behalf; Moto in the Community gave £1,000; Heywood Charities Fete, donating for the seventh year running, gave £500, The Friendship Mark Of Master Masons £250. There were many smaller donations too numerous to mention here but important to the charity. Over the year our Volunteer Drivers, without whom we would not exist, donated over £1,000. Our thanks are due to all of our donors for their very generous support.

Interest earned in the year was approximately £5,500.

During the year the computer based management system has been upgraded, new hardware purchased and an improved telephone system installed. These changes have assisted in the running cost of the service being carefully controlled.

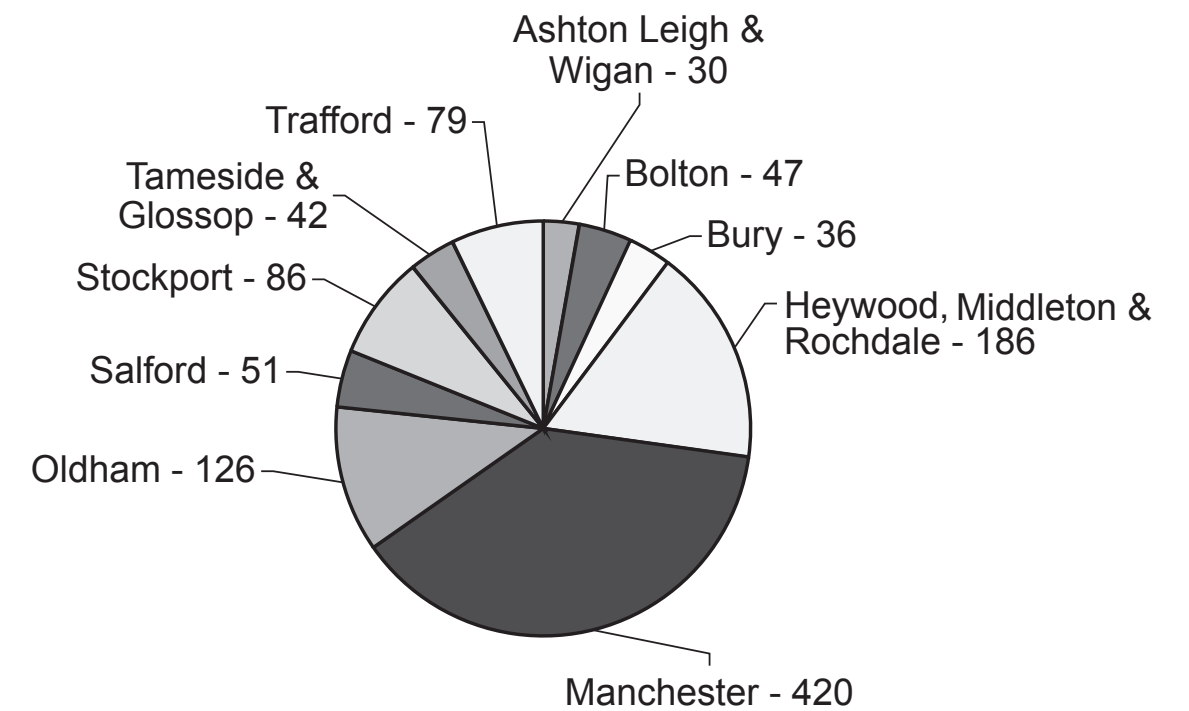
There are signs of a change in some of the children served. There are journeys being carried out that are in the responsibility of the local authority rather than the Primary Care Trusts. If this continues to grow funding must be sought from local authorities for the service provided.

The charity has always been financially well managed. One of the guide lines that has been used and continues to be observed, is that there must be a minimum of six months reserves available at any time to maintain the service. If it reduces below this level action must be taken to ensure the charity's continued existence. At the time of writing this report the reserves are in excess of one year giving sufficient time for increasing funding to meet the expected rise in children served over the foreseeable future.

John Adams – Treasurer

## Activity Statistics

Number of Children Helped by NHS Primary Care Trust



Number of Children Helped

