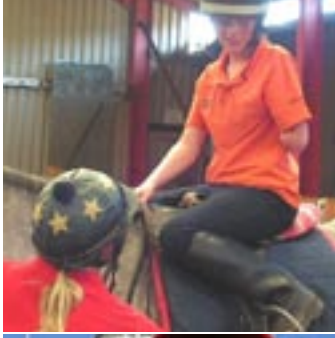
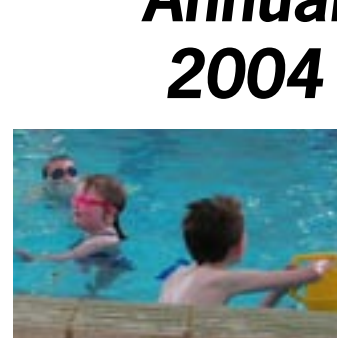


Annual Report 2004 - 2005



Annual Report

Reach

Reach was founded in 1978 by parents of children missing part of their arm or a hand. The formation of the Association was in direct response to the development of a new electronically controlled artificial arm. The most important aim, then, was to press for the provision of such arms to be available under the NHS, but the campaign also highlighted the need for a parent support organisation. It is now recognised that there are many types of hand or arm deficiency where an artificial limb is not appropriate and Reach believes our group is the UK's leading association for children with all manner of upper limb deficiency. For nearly 30 years Reach has provided the means by which parents can be brought into contact with each other, giving them the opportunity to compare their experiences and a means of understanding how others have coped or overcome problems. We can provide information on what to do and where to go for advice regarding treatment for all types of deficiency, be it the provision of artificial limbs, appliances or surgery

How do we help?

Reach publishes a quarterly newsletter, Within Reach providing a valuable means of communication for all member families. The newsletter contains a broad range of information including articles relating the experiences of individual families, news of medical and prosthetic developments, details of local Branch activities and special fundraising efforts, etc. You can read the magazine on line at www.reach.org.uk

Reach has an excellent website which has extended our area of support to the rest of the world. Members are able to access a secure members only chat board, once again reducing the feeling of isolation often experienced.

Reach arranges insurance cover for the 'good arm' of children over two years of age in the Association who are resident in the UK. This cover is provided as an automatic benefit of membership

Reach organises outings and events for the member families and also for 'Reach' children.

Reach offers a hire scheme for 'one handed' recorders and advice on other suitable musical instruments.

Reach operates a Grant Giving Bursary Fund to allow the distribution of funds to help children with upper limb deficiency.

Reach fully expects to continue its involvement in these areas and also to extend them.

Chairman's Report on behalf of the Trustees

This is my first year as Chairman of Reach. I joined when our son Dan was born in 2001. Having been referred to various specialists in all the wrong things (including club feet!), I initially got involved as a Trustee to see how we could spread the word of Reach so that there would be plenty of information out there for parents like us. Dan is now 4, confident and happy and as full on as only 4 year old boys can be but I am only just appreciating how much support and help will be required as he progresses through school. This is, as I'm sure most of you are already aware, where Reach has its greatest strength.

When we get together as parents it is an invaluable opportunity to chat to people who are either experiencing things at the same time as you or who have valuable advice to give about how to handle the various challenges that life throws up. Attending Reach's Family Weekends and meeting and talking to other families and children about how they are progressing is a fantastic experience.

This year was the first time that we have ventured across the water for the Family Weekend to lovely Dublin and the Red Cow Moran Hotel! Having handed over the mantle of Chairman to me, not content with sitting back, Chris and Rita Creamer organised a truly brilliant weekend. Each year the Trustees choose a theme which they hope will educate and inform and even entertain! This year's focus was Careers; now that Reach is 26 years old, our first members are grown up with careers of their own and it was fascinating to hear them speak about how their career choices have been influenced or even inspired by their limb deficiencies.

As you all know, fundraising is vital to the continuation of Reach this year as ever there have been many people who have devoted a great deal of time and effort into organising events. Some of them seem to be becoming, dare I say it, annual events! A big thanks to Ralph Zoing who organised his ProAm Celebrity Rugby Challenge again in Harrogate – a fantastic event and a huge contribution to Reach; to Gary Phillips who organised another very successful It's a Knockout in Guildford; to the irrepressible Frank Letch who spends more time behind the wheel of a car zipping about the country than you can imagine spreading the word and raising funds (I'm making him sound like a missionary which I suppose in a way he is!); and of course to our Patron Jeremy Beadle who continues to tour the country with his outrageous Quiz Nights. However, for every big event, there are many, many smaller ones organised by parents, friends, grandparents all of which make an incredibly valuable contribution – please keep it up!

As many of you will know, when you first get in touch with Reach, one of the first things that you might be sent is a video – this was made some 10 years ago and has proved to be a vital tool in promoting the work of Reach both to new families and health professionals. However, as time and technology have moved on, we have taken the decision to make a new film which will be available as a DVD.

This year the Leader's weekend which is held in preparation for the Reach Activity Week, included some who have come through the ranks of Reach and are now keen to help the younger members. As well as helping out at RAW, the leadership training that they are given is hopefully a valuable asset as they move on to the next stage of their lives.

As ever, a Chairman's report should include some thanks to those who keep us all organised! Sue Stokes, our National Co-ordinator does a fantastic job both as initial contact for parents and making sure the organisation is run like clockwork – many thanks Sue. Also to Liz Bleach who edits our magazine and is a fund of knowledge about Reach past and present.

I wish you all a very happy year ahead and look forward to meeting you at the next Family Weekend. If you haven't been before I can promise you a very rewarding experience. It's the perfect chance to see in action what Reach does best – providing support, information and the chance to get to know people – and all with a pretty good knees-up too!

GEORGIE JOHNSON

Annual Report

Trustees for the year to 31st August 2005:

- **Georgie Johnson**
- **Chris Creamer**
- **Dee Simpson**
- **Sian Brooks**
- **Frank Letch**
- **Harry Morrell**
- **Claire Hermon**
- **Gary Phillips**
- **Fiona Holohan**

Branches

Reach has branches around the U.K. all are run by members of Reach for members of Reach. It is one of the most important aspects of our association as it allows families to come together and help each other face the issues arising from having a child with Upper Limb deficiency. Although as Reach gets older we are also increasingly seeing many of our Branches organized by adults with U.L.D. and they are invaluable to our association. A few of our branches are in real need of some new organizers as they have been under the guidance of the same member for a very long time and as with all aspects of life, the emphasis moves and priorities change. If you are a Reach member reading this who feels their local area isn't really covered by local support and if you would like to consider the possibility of doing something about it, please do contact head office. The more branch action there is out there, the better support for families. Now to a quick look around the world of Reach and our local representatives.

Claire Churchill took over the looking after of Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire regions, an area that covers 119 members and Claire began by organizing a Christmas party and a visit to the Lookout Centre.

Lesley Couch has been the organizer of the Northern Branch for some years now and along with her regular helpers covers 60 members in the north east areas of Tyne & Wear, Cleveland, Durham and Northumberland. This year saw the branch gathering together for a Christmas Party, and Easter get together and also a short break.

Cheryl Danson is one of our adults who is now passing on her personal knowledge of life with an upper limb deficiency by keeping 111 members in the north west areas of Cheshire, Lancashire, Manchester & Merseyside in touch and offering outings such as Christmas Party, a visit to the Dolphin Centre, Gulliver's World and Manchester United Football Club.

Jane Foulner arranges Christmas Parties and other events for the 35 members in the Dyfed, Glamorgan & Gwent areas of South Wales.

Helen Hooley organizes meetings for one of our most active areas, keeping 76 members in touch in the areas of Dorset, Hampshire & West Sussex. This year the branch have met for Christmas, at the Crazy Kingdom, Moors Valley and for a Barbecue plus they have held a weekend camp.

Pat Kent remains the contact point for all new families in Kent but due to family commitments does not have the time to organize local meetings. If any member amongst the 55 out there feels they could help, please get in touch with head office.

Marion Knight has had a busy year setting up a new business and moving home but has managed to get the get some of the 120 members to the Colchester Zoo as well as organizing Football Fun Days to raise funds for Reach. Marion would love someone in the branch to offer to take over her position and keep the Essex Branch together. **Joanne Le Grice** has the task of looking after 160 members in London and Middlesex. Each year they hold a very successful event in Battersea Park and Jo also arranges other trips and meetings whenever she can. Their Christmas party 2004 was held at Topsy Turvy world.

Mandy Murphy coordinates the West Midlands, covering 79 members in the West Midlands, Shropshire and Staffordshire. Mandy has also had a very busy family year and hasn't been able to get families together this year but will hopefully be back in harness for next. If any members feel they could help, please do get in touch either with Mandy herself or through head office.

Anne Powell has recently taken the reigns from Andrew & Helen Larkin and will be soon arranging meetings for the 60 members in and around Yorkshire.

Carl Roulston has been doing a sterling job covering the whole of Scotland and has managed to arrange some really challenging events for Scottish members. Some of the 82 members have tackled dry slope skiing, white water rafting to name just a few. The Scottish branch have also purchased several books which may be of interest to members. The branch also has its own website. Carl was considering handing the branch over to new blood but has been persuaded to stay with us providing he can get some local support from other members.

Alison Tisshaw has looked after the East Anglia region for many years now and although she feels a new coordinator is long over due she will continue to arrange meetings until such time as a volunteer comes forward. The 38 members in and around East Anglia have been treated to visit to the Panto, theme parks etc.

Klair Whitworth is our local contact for the 71 members in the Chesterfield, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and some areas of South Yorkshire. With the generous help of Viv Ibbotson and the Sheffield Limb Centre Klair keeps families in touch with a regular Christmas Party and other meetings at the centre.

Paula Zeller keeps contact with the 44 members in Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. This year they have been to visit the Twin Lakes, Melton Mowbray, had fun at a Christmas Party and also been on an Easter Egg Hunt.

Unfortunately this year we lost Lynn Guy our organizer for the 73 members in the Devon and Somerset areas as Lynn no longer had the time to organise events. The members last got together for their Christmas Party and we would love to hear from someone in the area able to take over, if you feel you could do this, please contact head office.

We also have branch co-ordinators in Ireland where the 28 members in Northern Ireland can keep in touch via Marie Hughes and who are also annually invited to the Christmas Party at the Musgrave Park Limb Centre. Trustee Chris Creamer looks after the 68 members in the south of Ireland and October 2004 saw the rest of us pay a visit at the annual General Meeting in Dublin, since then a few families have been together for a Fun Day.

Accounts

Revenue Account for year ended 31st August 2005

	2004	2005
INCOME		
Membership Subscriptions	22507	19141
Donations	51865	69140
Fund Raising	812	5838
Fund Raising - Jeremy Beadle	4418	12576
Bank & Investment Interest	1402	2969
Stickers, Badges, Christmas Cards etc	5468	2936
Marathon	13200	1974
AGM	9783	18609
Advertising	5090	5960
Activity Camp	6610	20769
Rugby/Concert	2460	13647
Trusts/grants	6308	11749
Everest ☒		
It's a Knockout	700	855
Gift aid (included in relevant income for 2005)	177	
TOTAL INCOME	133965	202407
EXPENDITURE		
Insurances	4167	5850
Printing	11909	14577
Advertising & Promotional Items	781	161
Travel Expenses	15742	19739
Administrative Expenses	49511	56798
Accountancy	776	776
Christmas & Birthday Cards	5229	2470
Fund Raising Costs	3832	
Music Bank	242	753
AGM	21614	46926
Bursary Expenses	1270	5170
Activity Camp	22377	14314
Website	2500	3063
DVD Production Expenses		4503
Exhibition Costs	2198	2305
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	142148	177405
SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	(8183)	25002
Balance Sheet (including Branch funds) as at 31st August 2005		
	2004	2005
Current Assets		
Bank and Cash in Hand	88836	111258
Debtors and Prepayments		1920
	88836	113178
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	2565	1905
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	86271	111273
Represented By:- Total Funds		
Restricted - Bursary Fund	14077	8907
- Research Fund	15000	15000
Unrestricted	57194	87366
	86271	111273