

Reading Community Est. 1977 Carnival

"Bringing the Sun and a Smile to the Thames Valley"



Annual Report

30th September 2004

Year Ending 30th September 2004

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CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

This is my second report as Chairperson for Reading Community Carnival. This year I feel that we as a community have continued on our learning curve. Yes we have got some things right, but as always there is still a lot to learn and it's with great hope that over the coming year we can improve on those things that we didn't get right, making them better next time.

From my viewpoint, I am still learning and hope to carry on with my learning. If this was an end of term report it would read something like this: *"Works hard and tries his best for everyone, but sometimes does not get the task completed until the last minute". Sometimes he needs to take on aboard good advice and not see this as, "someone having a go at him", He can then use this information to make his task easier. However he has worked hard this year and we hope to see a big improvement next year (if given the opportunity)"*

It was great that we were able to get local radio station 107FM involved. They ran a one-hour special on the Carnival the following week featuring interviews with stallholders and individuals that attended. If their interest in Carnival continues, you never know, they may even introduce a show that features Soca on a weekly basis.

On the Saturday before the event, I was on site marking out the plots for the stall and it started to rain. I looked up to the sky and asked for help not with the marking out but for sun on the Monday. On the Sunday morning the sun was shining and it felt good. I completed the marking out and went to the shop. It started to pour down with rain and this took some of the shine off my morning's work. On the morning of the event I went into the middle of the park and thought that I had made the area too large. The year before I thought I made it too small. However as the day went on I stood in the same place and it started to look as if I had made the right decision after all.

The Carnival was a great success. It was a challenging day, trying to juggle radio and press interviews, stallholders, security issues, performers and the procession. However, it all came together and a wonderful time was had by all.

The number of visitors was up on last year, thanks in part to the magnificent weather on the day. Our aim this year was to open up the event to as wide an audience as possible. One of the most prominent features of the Reading Community Carnival is its appeal to children and families, and our objective was to create a safe environment with a wide range of activities and facilities for them. The day is also a celebration of diversity reflecting and promoting the value of the multicultural nature of the population of Reading itself. The park was filled with the smell of BBQ's. There were rides, crafts & information stalls, a pet animal area and face painting among the

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activities, as well as family picnics everywhere.

This year's procession was colourful and vibrant and was enjoyed by onlookers as the floats moved their way along the route. A big thank you goes out to all the Associations, groups and community organisations who helped Reading to keep this cultural side of carnival alive. Getting lorries or trucks is becoming increasingly difficult due to insurance restrictions but we still hope to increase the number of floats in the coming years. The artists on the stage wowed us with their performances, all giving up their free time to do so. We sincerely appreciate you taking time out to entertain us and wish you every success for the future. We had a float and a stall from Littlewoods this year, who also gave us prizes for the King and Queen.

The list of people to thank grows each year, and if I have missed anyone, please accept this as a personal thank-you to all involved.

I hope that we as the committee can take onboard all the comments that the community has passed on to us. I know that you have to take the good with the bad and I accept that I have made some mistakes, but that is the only way to learn. Someone asked me what I do for the community with regards to carnival? So I invited them to join me on the committee. I still haven't had a reply. It does hurt when individuals are willing to criticise but are not willing to help out.

This year, as with previous years, it was a very small but dedicated team that worked so hard to make the event a success. Most of us work full-time and organise Carnival in the evenings and weekends, giving up valuable time with our families.

I hope we can gain sponsorship from local and/or national businesses next year. We need funding or gifts in-kind and fresh ideas. Most of all we need lots of volunteers to carry forward ideas from those who attended and ease the load. The new committee will certainly have its work cut out.

All that remains for me is to say a very big THANK YOU to the out-going committee, our supporters and you for caring enough to read this report.

This a COMMUNITY CARNIVAL so.....

- Get Involved
- Share your skills
- Enjoy next years event

Best Wishes
Kendel Falconer

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Treasurer's Report

This year following feedback, the Reading Community Carnival committee felt that it was important to try to assist groups to take part in Carnival. To this end, all artists appearing on stage were allowed a total of £50 for expenses if requested. A steel band group was also put on the road at the cost of £440, which included the cost of lorry hire, and a payment to the musicians.

The committee also awarded £100 prizes for the best male, female, group costumes and float. These payments were not as much as we would have liked to have presented however reflects the committee's limited income. With this in mind, the committee is currently looking into sourcing funding from the Arts Council, which if successful, will be used to assist community groups to participate in carnival.

It now seems very unlikely that the carnival dance will be held next year. The Carnival Dance which was held at Rivermead Leisure Complex, on a Friday night due to the lack of available venues, made a loss. The Carnival Dance is the traditionally setting for the judging of the carnival king and queen costumes. However, due to the lack of support from the community and individuals unwilling to enter the competition on the night, the committee feels that in future the judging can be moved to Carnival Day, thereby releasing the committee from incurring such large losses from what are very limited funds.

This has all resulted in the carnival bank account not being in as healthy a position as it was at the end of last year.

With the support of the local community, attending our planned fund raising events, we look forward to a successful Carnival 2005.



Ros Reid
Treasurer

Year Ending 30th September 2004

Income and Expenditure Account

	Notes	Year 2003/04 £	Year 2002/03 £
INCOME			
Grants	1	5,280	5,280
Donations	2	101	150
Activities	3	6,884	7,803
Interest Receivables		6	2
Total Income		<u>12,271</u>	<u>13,235</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Prizes		400	0
Administration		106	28
Security		3,702	3,014
Activities (Carnival)	4	5,218	3,310
Activities (Dance)	5	1,811	2,370
Activities (Fund Raising)	6	70	0
Refundable Deposits		1,000	846
Carnival Launch		30	0
Carnival Banner		114	0
Advertising		0	0
Refundable Deposits		0	0
First Aid		1,300	2,463
Insurance		350	470
Bank Charges		0	8
Total Expenditure		<u>14,101</u>	<u>12,509</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)		<u><u>(1,830)</u></u>	<u><u>726</u></u>

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Notes to the Income and Expenditure Account

Note	Year 2003/04 £	Year 2002/03 £
1 Grants		
Reading Borough Council	5,280	5,280
	<u>5,280</u>	<u>5,280</u>
2 Donations		
Tesco (Voucher)	0	10
Marks & Spencer (Voucher)	20	20
John Lewis Partnership (Voucher)	20	20
Other	61	100
	<u>101</u>	<u>150</u>
3 Activities		
Fund Raising	220	0
Carnival Dance	337	916
Carnival Day	6,327	6,887
	<u>6,884</u>	<u>7,803</u>
4 Carnival Day		
Marquee's	657	652
Live Stage and Acts	250	0
PA System	881	
Car Park Attendants	736	100
Musicians	200	300
Photographer	10	0
Hospitality	40	100
Site Clean-up	200	100
Hire Lorry	244	109
Generators	2,000	1,949
	<u>5,218</u>	<u>3,310</u>
5 Carnival Dance		
Hall Hire & Decoration	596	573
Sound System	0	0
Live Band	500	900
PA System	588	588
Catering	127	309
	<u>1,811</u>	<u>2,370</u>
6 Fund Raising		
Musicians	70	0
Printing	0	0
	<u>70</u>	<u>0</u>

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Balance Sheet

		Year 2003/04 £	Year 2002/03 £
	Notes		
Current Assets			
Debtors			
Cash at Bank and in Hand		<u>2,466</u>	<u>3,805</u>
		2,466	3,805
Creditors: Falling due within 1 yr	1	<u>(2,440)</u>	<u>(1,949)</u>
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		26	1,856
Creditors: Falling due after more than 1 yr		<u><u>26</u></u>	<u><u>1,856</u></u>
Capital and Reserves			
Share Capital			
Revenue Reserves	2	<u>26</u>	<u>1,856</u>
		<u>26</u>	<u>1,856</u>

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Notes to the Balance Sheet

Please note that creditors have been included in Income and Expenditure and not Reserves
For consistency the previous year has been restated

Note	Year 2003/04 £	Year 2002/03
1 Creditors: Falling due within 1 yr		
Musicians - Fund Raising	50	
RBC - Generators	2,000	1,949
RBC - Rivermead Hire	390	
	<u>2,440</u>	<u>1,949</u>
2 Reserves		
Revenue Reserves	1,856	1,130
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(1,830)	726
	<u>26</u>	<u>1,856</u>

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Summary of Financial Activity

	Year 2003/04	Year 2002/03
	£	£
Income	12,265	13,233
Expenses	<u>14,101</u> (1,836)	<u>12,509</u> 724
Other Operational Income	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,836)	724
Interest Receivable	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u><u>(1,830)</u></u>	<u><u>726</u></u>

Chairperson:

Mr. Kendal Falconer Date:.....

Secretary:

Mrs. Patricia Alleyne Date:.....

Treasurer:

Mrs. Rosalind Reid Date:.....

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