



G-Force Annual Report – Charity No 1110767

Period - April 2022 to March 2023

By Mark Ashcroft – Chair of the Board of Trustees, and Paul Huxley – CEO

Overview

This was the most challenging year to date for G-Force as Tina, the Project Manager and member of the Management Team (and wife of our CEO Paul Huxley), was diagnosed with lung cancer in May 2022. This means that two of the three Mngt Team that plan and deliver most of the work we do were taken out of the picture for long periods of time with Tina having to endure a series of medical interventions and Paul supporting Tina through her treatment.

This had a real impact on what we could do as an organisation with the result being that we had to refocus on what was most important and where we could get the best value for our communities. As the year progressed other issues also impacted G-Force as members of the Board of Trustees suffered serious illness as did other close relatives and friends of the G-Force family.

The Board of Trustees would like to express their gratitude to all out supporters and funders for their understanding and support through this difficult time.

For clarity G-Forces work has always focused on distinct communities; the major ones being Broomwood and Oldfield Brow and to a lesser extent Broadheath. As well as this we also focus on thematic groups where our skills can bring most benefit.

The Annual Report this year is broken down into these areas of work but as is the way, many of these areas overlap, compliment, and support each other.

Community Cafe on Broomwood

The Community Cafe opened in April 2009 and has run successfully ever since. It currently employs four local people.

The importance to G-Force of the Community Cafe cannot be over emphasised as it is the face of G-Force on Broomwood and the gateway to all our other services for those living in that area.

The café has managed to 'ride out' most challenges during that time (including the pandemic lockdown) and has always paid its way. The future of the Community Cafe was however thrown into doubt by the impact of the increases in Gas and Electricity prices following the conflict in Ukraine. At one stage the monthly gas and electricity bills had increased by almost fourfold. Thankfully our friends at Oglesby Charitable Trust (who had funded the opening of the cafe back in 2009) stepped in and agreed to cover the excess costs for a 12 month period. This gave us the time to plan for the future and with this help we managed to make the changes needed to ensure its survival.

The Trustees would like to say a special thank you all the ladies who work at the café for helping so much during the health difficulties mentioned above.

The G-Force Centre

I am pleased to report that the Centre roof has now been replaced and repaired where needed and that it is now totally leakproof and has a 20 year warranty too. This is a massive weight off our minds as the interior was getting damaged more and more by some very major leaks. Our heartfelt thanks go to the good people at Zochonis Charitable Trust who provided the vast majority of the funding needed, and to South Trafford Food Bank who helped with the rest. It was such a relief to us all when this was done. I went to the centre the day after the first major storm following the roofs completion and it was great to walk in and see everywhere dry.

The work on upgrading the Kitchen in the Centre (funded by Morrisons) led by the volunteers from Farrat Isolevel Ltd unfortunately came to a standstill during this period. It is though 90% completed and we are hoping to finish it off in the coming financial year.

South Trafford Food Bank are still using the Centre and we continue to have a great working relationship with their team. We marvel at the tremendous work they do and often find ourselves working together to combat food poverty locally. The Café on Broomwood is a prime example of this, being a distribution point for Food Bank Vouchers.

There are currently no other activities being delivered at the Centre. It does though continue to be used as our storage facility for toys, donated food, our gardening, environmental and fun day equipment and our other resources too. The Centre is a wonderful asset and one which we appreciate.



The roof being repaired

Our Partnerships and strategic work

During this year Paul (our CEO at G-Force) decided to step down as Chair of both the Broadheath and Broomwood Partnerships as he felt unable to give the time needed to drive them forward. Paul facilitated the smooth handover of the Chairmanship of the Broomwood Partnership to Cllr Sean Ennis with TMBC Officers taking the lead in helping the Broadheath Partnership re-establish itself.

We intend to keep our links with both these Partnerships either through continued membership or by being an active Partner in the area. During this time administered all three Partnerships, supported Partners in their search for external funding, delivered **Platinum Jubilee Community Fundays** in each of these areas and took the lead in delivering Broadheath Community Association's Community Funday.

The Oldfield Brow Partnership is now well established and is recognised by most agencies as a very fruitful and mature conduit through which they can converse with active and proactive members of the community. It continues to have great connections with the local community, statutory and voluntary agencies and the local Councillors too.

The development of a Pocket Park on the waste ground opposite the shops in Oldfield Brow has now been completed and it was officially renamed at the opening ceremony as the 'Calm Corner'; a name chosen by the local School Boy Andrew Brown. The event was also attended by the Major of Trafford and the Deputy High Sherif of Manchester who planted a Tree awarded from the Queens 'Tree of Trees' that was on display outside Buckingham Palace during the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. This development has been very well received by the community and is a real indication of the future potential of what can be done through the Partnership.



Buckingham Palace



The Cowfield and the old Allotment site in Oldfield Brow

We continue to work closely with TMBC to ensure community input in the development of the Allotment site (destined for housing) and the adjacent to the Cowfield Recreation area where we are pressing for the 'Community Infrastructure levy' (previously known as Section 105 funding) to be spent. There are lots of other wins too during this time with the second Boys 5-a-side football team still going strong and still being supported by G-Force as are other community activities throughout the year such as the **Platinum Jubilee Funday**, various litter picks, bulb planting, gingerbread decorating at the School, weekly art classes, new waste bins in the community and the moving of the football nets in the Cowfield.



You are all cordially invited to the
Oldfield Brow Partnership
Family Platinum
Jubilee Fun Day

On the Cowfield on Thursday 2nd June - 5pm to 8pm

Donkey Rides	bbq	Slime making workshop
Multi-sports & penalty shootout	Burgers Just £1 each	Free Arts & crafts
Two Bouncy Castles	Swingball	ARTS & CRAFTS
Live music	Giant Jenga & lot more for families	Face Painting
Slushie just 50p		

You can also have your picture taken with the Queen

Don't forget to bring your own picnic and drink to the event. If you can help please ring Paul on 07552 89552 or email paul@oldfieldbrowpartnership.co.uk. Thank you.

SEAMING MOSS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
SMCA
 FOR EDUCATION, RECREATION & ENVIRONMENT

ALL WELCOME

The link with **the Church on the Brow** continues with the Church now hosting the weekly **Oldfield Brow Community Grocery** that started in Oct 2022. This project is being supported by a whole host of local volunteers and each week over 50 attendees come along and are able to purchase a wide range of fresh fruit, vegetables and other food types, all at rock bottom prices. The church supports this SMCA Project (being delivered by G-Force) by offering its resources FOC along with a room dedicated to the project. The Church's willingness and their openness to allow their building to be used by the community is now making a real difference. It remains the only accessible community building in Oldfield Brow and has the potential to become an even stronger community hub bringing benefits for the whole community. This too is something we actively promote.



The **'Love Oldfield Brow' WhatsApp group** continues to be a great way to communicate. The active member been very successful in creating interest and debate.

The Accessibility Audit (commissioned by SMCA) arrived before Christmas but action on it has been delayed until after the local Elections in May 2023.

Our thanks go again to SMCA for commissioning all our work on Oldfield Brow. We must also thank the local Councillors and the Friends of the Cowfield all of whom have been very active and supportive of the Partnership and the work of G-Force during this period. The School deserves a special thank you too, as it continues to be the beating heart of Oldfield Brow with a reputation second to none.



Making hot meals for the homeless in Manchester

This project has been running for a while now and is led by Hazel and her team of volunteers. This year, with the kitchen at the Centre being renovated, we moved to cooking the meals at the Church on the Brow. We also provided a hot Christmas meal for 100 people at the Christmas Party held in St Peters Square in Manchester. Hazel deserved great credit for leading on the project and for her care and dedication in wanting to provide wholesome and home cooked meals for these most vulnerable people.



Our work helping struggling families includes...

Free lunches distributed during school holidays for kids living on Broomwood

We have continued to develop this free service and during this period over 3000 meals have been given away 'free of charge' from the G-Force café on Broomwood alone. Our thanks go to the South Trafford Food Bank for supporting this project. Any child or young person living on Broomwood can just call in and pick up a meal of their choice.



This year we also launched two Community Groceries: one in Oldfield Brow and one in Broomwood

The Oldfield Brow Community Grocery was launched in October 2022 and the Broomwood



Community Grocery followed in February 2023. Both have been very popular attracting between them over 100 attendees each week. Between both locations the attendees are purchasing nearly £3k worth of groceries each week for approx. £600. Both these were 'steps of faith' as we had no guarantee of weekly stock being renewed, but even so the food comes in each week

and our thanks go to the many organisations supporting this initiative. This included Tesco, Sainsburys, Marks & Spencer, Cook, Fareshare, Nisa and many others organisations and private individuals too. The weekly income then allows us to purchase extra produce not donated so that we have a great range of wholesome, healthy, and fresh food for those that attend. I should also say that this project is supported by many local volunteers who come along each week giving many hours setting the groceries, serving customers and the packing everything away. They are amazing.

This year we were also able to distribute free Christmas Toys to struggling families with over 60 families benefitting. The bulk of the referrals came from our local schools. We sorted and then delivered the gifts straight to the schools for them to forward to parents. We are again in great debt to Mission Christmas for their generosity, without them this project just wouldn't happen.



Community based Art classes

This year we ran the two regular weekly art classes, one at Leverett Close Sheltered Scheme (which was delivered free of charge) and one at the Heyes Lane Congregational Church. Unfortunately, due to circumstances, the one at Leverett Close had to stop before the Summer Holidays and hasn't started up again but the remaining class is going from strength to strength.

Here are a few examples of the art produced.



The Christmas Giant Gingerbread creations

This became a regular Christmas activity at G-Force and one



that all the children look forward too. In total we sent 1200 gingerbread creations into three schools: Broomwood, Broadheath & Oldfield Brow, as well as delivering it



to other groups in the community. Our thanks go to all the volunteers who helped put the packs together and helped to deliver the activity too, we just couldn't have done it without you. Some activities are worth doing for the lovely memories they create and this activity is one of those. It started over 20 years ago and has become a G-Force tradition that our old members from that time still talk about and look back on with affection.

Coffee mornings and the Over 50's Christmas Party

The coffee mornings have now been running for over 12 years in the café organised by local volunteer, Joan Lloyd. These coffee mornings raise funding to help towards the cost for the annual over 50's Christmas party. The coffee mornings are held on the 1st Monday of each month and this year they raised over £700. The Conservative Club in Altrincham hosted this year's party with over 70 people in attendance. We also managed to get the local Singer Colin Paul to come along and entertain us. It was a very successful event.



Pictures taken at the Over 50's Christmas Party

Free trip to Altrincham Garrick Panto

We have got to say thank you again to the Garrick Theatre for their generosity in donating tickets to G-Force. We were able to distribute over 40 free tickets to local families so they could see the Pantomime and from what I have been told it was a truly magical and amazing night.



Volunteering in G-Force

This year we had over 50 individuals volunteer at G-Force and between them they gave over 1500 volunteer hours in support of our work. We are in debt to each and every one and we can say without a doubt that without them G-Force wouldn't be able to deliver the services to the community that we do. Our heartfelt thanks go to every single person involved.

Finally, our most sincere thanks go to the following organisations for their help and support during this year

Seamons Moss Community Association, Farrat Isolevel Ltd, Oglesby Charitable Trust, Zochonis Charitable Trust, The Church in the Brow, Fairshare, Cook in Wilmslow, South Trafford College, Aldi, Asda in Broadheath, Fairshare, Nisa in Timperley and Oldfield Brow, South Trafford Food Bank, Marks & Spencer, Sainsburys in Timperley and Altrincham, South Trafford Foodbank, Altrincham Baptist Church, Martins Bakery, Trafford Council, The National Lottery, Truck Care, Tesco at Altrincham and on Broomwood, the National Trust and Oldfield Brow School for the Harvest festival donation. We must also thank all those individuals who also made donations (large and small) to help our efforts in addressing food poverty and sustain the work of G-Force.

We appreciate and value your support, thank you so much.

The Trustees during this period were as follows:

Mark Peter Ashcroft	appointed 11-1-21	Jacqueline Ann Marsh	appointed 11-1-21
Barbara Taylor	appointed 11-1-21	Wendy Ashcroft	appointed 11-1-21

We confirm that all the work done during this period was in line our aims and objectives detailed in our constitution adopted on 19th June 2005 and that G-Force is an unincorporated Association.

Registered Office

65 Briarfield Road, Broomwood, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 7DD

There are currently no formal policies and procedures for the induction and training of Trustees.



REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

REGISTERED CHARITY: 1110767



INDEX TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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**INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL EXAMINERS REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

In accordance with the request of G-Force Charity; to examine its Reports and Accounts (without the undertaking of an Audit) for the year ended 31st March 2023

Based in the information given, invoices & receipts provided, overviews of projects and explanations received I have pleasure in recommending the Reports & Accounts setting out the dealings of G-Force Registered Charity: 1110767, as a true and accurate record

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hilton Jones Ltd', is written over a horizontal line.

Hilton Jones Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants

Hollinwood Business Centre
Albert Street
Oldham
Lancashire
OL8 3QL



**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Income and Expenditure		
Incoming Resources		
Albert Hunt Trust		2,000
Asda	445	600
Awards for All	9,990	9,947
BCA	750	
Broadheath Comm Assoc	1,260	
Broadheath school income	2,196	
Broomwood school income	1,880	350
Cafe Trading Income	87,225	74,194
Cash for Kids Grant	900	
Community grocery	6,934	
Donations & Misc income	7,625	18,449
Food bank Rent	7,000	1,298
Friday Art Club	130	426
Fun days income	1,272	
Gift Aid		167
Hidden Talent Project		1,600
Hits Radio		1,900
IVH Grant	1,500	
Just giving income for minibus	280	
Job Retention Scheme		9,035
Morrison grant kitchen at Newstead	18,600	
Oglesby Trust	35,000	7,500
Packed lunches income	24,854	
Sale mayoral fund	1,200	
Sale of Minibus	2,500	
Sainsburys		500
SMCA	27,950	30,000
THT Social Investment Fund	4,916	9,890
Timperley Boxing		170
TMBC	3,500	12,178
Trafford Food bank grant		1,238
Trafford Food Bank Rent		7,000
Zochonis Trust - grant for new roof	65,000	7,000
Total Incoming Resources	<u>312,906</u>	<u>195,442</u>



**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Resources Expended		
Accountancy	792	720
Bouncy castle inspection	261	
Café advertising		77
Cafe food & drink	25,411	25,486
Cafe maintenance		624
Café Repairs	1,348	1,968
Cafe Telephone and broadband	691	663
Cafe Utility Bills	18,026	6,435
Café bins	683	1,310
Café Sundry	440	1,353
Christmas Gifts	225	
Food Project	4,299	1,384
G-Force Centre Cleaning		89
G-Force Centre repairs below £501		867
G-Force Centre Tel & Broadband		414
G-Force Centre TV Licence		159
G-Force Centre Utilities		4,136
Cost of activities		6,383
Liability Insurance	2,137	1,933
Licence & Membership Fees	138	249
Legal Costs		2,964
Minibus fuel	734	
Minibus insurance	1,893	1,055
Minibus Road Tax & Repairs	1,855	1,068
Newstead centre - Utility bills	2,281	
Newstead centre - refurbishment	12,930	
Newstead centre - phone and internet	690	
Newstead centre - Roof repair	65,614	
Postage, printing & stationary	425	730
Pension payments	3,149	5,823
Project costs	10,731	
Wages & Nat Ins	140,527	131,804
Staff Expenses		802
Telephone, mobile & Ipads	1,763	2,050
TMBC VSC exp		450
Travel	456	3,079
Trailer services	723	
Website, computer & Internet - comm grocery	1,756	156
Volunteers Expenses	158	293
Depreciation	241	322
Total of Resources Expended	300,377	204,846



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Year ended 31 March 2023	Year ended 31 March 2022
Total Resources brought forward from 1st April	205,543	214,947
Net movement in Resources for the year	12,529	- 9,404
Net movement an Assets	-	
Funds at 31 March	<u>218,072</u>	<u>205,543</u>

All activities are classed as continuing.
Movements on reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above.



**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

	31 March 2023 Total	31 March 2022 Total
Fixed Assets		
B/fwd book value of Tangible assets	200,724	200,965
Additions	<u>200,724</u>	<u>200,965</u>
Current Assets		
Cash at bank at year end	<u>17,348</u>	<u>4,018</u>
	17,348	4,018
Creditors		
<u>Amounts falling due within one year</u>		
Café income banked after 1st April 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>560</u>
	-	-
Net Assets	<u><u>218,072</u></u>	<u><u>205,543</u></u>
Funds		
Unrestricted funds	215,796	202,440
Restricted funds	2,276	3,103
Total funds	<u><u>218,072</u></u>	<u><u>205,543</u></u>

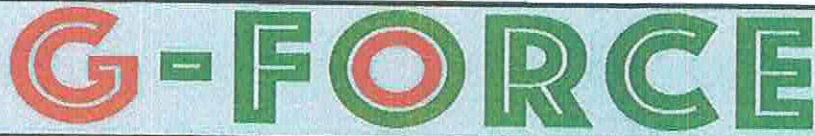
Approved by the trustees on

M. P. Ashcroft

Trustee Treasurer

22/1/2024

Date



**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023**

1 FIXED ASSETS

COST	<u>FIXTURES & FITTINGS</u>	<u>BUILDING</u>	<u>MOTOR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
At 1 April 2022	8,801	200,000	28,297	37,098
Additions				
Disposals				
At 31 March 2023	<u>8,801</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>28,297</u>	<u>237,098</u>

DEPRECIATION

At 1 April 2022	8,581	0	27,552	36,133
Depn this year	55	0	186	241
At 31 March 2023	<u>8,636</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>27,738</u>	<u>36,374</u>

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 March 2022	<u>220</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>745</u>	<u>200,965</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>165</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>559</u>	<u>200,724</u>

Minutes of the G-Force AGM

Held on 22nd Jan 2024 at 7pm at the G-Force Cafe

Trustees Present

Mark Ashcroft, Jackie Marsh & Barbara Taylor

Mgmt Team present

Hazel Berrisford & Paul Huxley

Members Present

Anne Hunter – David Huxley– Jez Quirk - Grant McKenzie - Laura Clark – Kerry Hindle – Ian Taylor - Chris Booth

Apologies

Amy Huxley - Wendy Ashcroft – Val Quirk - Leslie Thacker -

Item	Meeting started at 7pm	Action Required
1.	Welcome & Apologies The Chair Mark Ashcroft welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those for attending. Mark also thanked the Management Team for all their work and spoke about the sad passing of Tina Huxley who had been a founder member of G-Force and the other devastating personal losses and illnesses that had affected the G-Force team during this time.	
2.	Declaration of conflict of interest There were no conflicts of interest noted for any of those in attendance.	
3.	Presentation of Financial Report or the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 The report was presented by Paul Huxley. It was accepted unanimously by the meeting as a true and accurate record of the fiscal dealings throughout the year.	
4.	Presentation of the Annual report The report was presented, welcomed and the accepted unanimously by everyone at the meeting.	
5.	Update ref the application to become a CIO Mark explained to the meeting that the application was taking longer than expected and that the Board were progressing the application under the guidance of a Mark Heaton; a Consultant paid for by Oglesby Charitable Trust	
6.	Voting in the new Board of Trustees The Board (namely Mark Ashcroft, Wendy Ashcroft, Barbara Taylor and Jackie Marsh) were voted back into office unanimously by the whole meeting. Mark, Barbara & Jackie thanked the members for their support.	
9.	Date of next meeting To be decided at a later date	

Signed as a true record of the meeting W.P. Ashcroft (Chair)

Date 22/1/2024



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