



FAMILY SUPPORT RECYCLED



ANNUAL REVIEW YEAR ENDING 31ST AUGUST 2020



@STRIPEYSTORK INFO@STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK WWW.STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK

OUR ORGANISATION

Stripey Stork believe that every child deserves the **same start** and that by sharing the items our families have outgrown we can support a circular economy in a focused and meaningful way.

Our vision is that **every child in Surrey** has access to the essential things they need to develop and meet their potential.

Our mission is to **alleviate the impacts of childhood poverty** by providing a practical way for families to help each other with kindness and purpose.

OUR VALUES

We are sensitive to the situations of families and children we help, **without judgement**.

We continue to **share our gratitude** and impact with our staff, volunteers and partners as we grow.

We are **active participants in the wider community**, developing partnerships, and staying open-minded.

We remain true to our guiding principles; bringing our **passion, commitment and quality** to everything we do.



STRIPEY STORK

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www.stripeystork.org.uk

info@stripeystork.org.uk

CONNECT WITH US:



@STRIPEYSTORK



/COMPANY/STRIPEYSTORK

Registered charity in England and Wales (1161613)



WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO



Stripey Stork have been successfully supporting local families with practical items they need to raise their children since 2013.

The charity collects donations of equipment, clothes, toys and other items for babies and children, and distributes them to families experiencing hardship across Surrey and the surrounding areas. Our service has grown over the seven years we have been in operation, and we have received support from individuals, businesses, funding sources and other community groups.

Stripey Stork does not support individuals or families directly, and instead receives requests from local professionals (health visitors, social workers, schools, family centres etc.) on behalf of families in need.



We aim to meet each request with the items so generously donated by local families. We keep the warehouse well-stocked by sharing a monthly wish list on our social media channels and use funds that are raised to buy items taking advantage of trade and bulk discounts wherever possible. Items are collected by these referral partners from our warehouse in Reigate and then delivered as part of the scheduled visits that the referral partners make to the families.

Stripey Stork prides itself on passing on items in great condition. All items are cleaned and, where necessary, safety checked. We deliver a strong social return on investment with the work that we do. Stripey Stork want families to feel like they are receiving a gift and not a hand-out. We take care in the presentation of our packs and where possible always like to include a little treat for Mum/Dad/carer.



WELCOME FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CHAIR OF TRUSTEES



No one could have anticipated the twelve months that was heading our way, and our 2019/20 year is a story of two halves – life before and with COVID-19.

We started the year celebrating the fact that we had been recognised with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service just a few months earlier. We took the opportunity to invite all the volunteers together for a special evening at Hartsfield Manor, and then a month later we were honoured to welcome HRH The Duke of Gloucester to the warehouse for the formal presentation of the award. Taking the time to celebrate our amazing Team Stork was so special and of course, like preparations for any special visitors, gave us an impetus to finish off some of the remaining jobs we had to do in our relatively new warehouse!

The Christmas campaign is a special one and our partnership with Reigate Grange care home exceeded all our expectations. One of the team was aware that they had some spare space in their new facility and, from what must have appeared to be a very random initial enquiry from me, Reigate Grange gave a wholehearted 'yes' to working together. We quite simply could not have delivered a project of that scale without the support and

Nicola Dawes DL, Chief Executive - 24th June 2021

It has been a year like no other for Stripey Stork, just as it has been for the wider world.

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed significant unforeseen challenges for all organisations, including Stripey Stork; however, the commitment of the staff and volunteers coupled with the support of our partners and the wider community have enabled us to navigate the uncertainty whilst continuing to deliver the service our referral partners have come to rely on.

We recognise that sadly, child poverty statistics are on the rise and the need for our service will only grow over

Karen Lord, Chair of Trustees - 24th June 2021

space they offered us, and the bonus was how wonderful it was to spend time with them and their residents.

In March 2020, as the COVID-19 pandemic spread across the world, the country went into lockdown. We had to quickly draw up plans to ensure the team were safe and that we could all accommodate homeschooling. I had an active hands-on role during the initial weeks of lockdown, and spent my warehouse shifts quickly emptying the shelves of nappies, games, books and stationery to fulfil the hundreds of additional requests we were receiving. And then in the afternoon, when the warehouse was quiet, Nancy and other team members would arrive and restock the shelves with items that the team were spending time sourcing online. The practical and effective way that Team Stork rose to the challenge that we faced was incredible, and every time a car was packed up with exactly what was requested (and often more!) I was reminded of what a true team effort it was to make that happen.

There is no denying that there are going to be difficult months and even years ahead, but we will keep up the momentum and continue to support the local families in our community who need us more than ever before.



the coming years as the impact of the pandemic are truly felt. We are therefore focused on putting the building blocks in place so that we have a scalable service that will support requests from across the county.

Stripey Stork have an ambition to leverage our new capacity and capabilities in order to meet the increasing needs of socially deprived areas and we look forward to continuing to work with our staff, partners and volunteers to achieve this ambition.



OUR IMPACT

From September 2019 to August 2020, Stripey Stork responded to requests to support 4,023 families. This represents an increase in demand of 52% year on year, and a 15% increase on our already ambitious target to respond to 3,500 referrals.

The requests came mostly from the East Surrey boroughs but also from surrounding areas in Surrey. We also supported requests from East Sussex and the London Borough of Croydon.

We have relationships with **1,627 referral partners** including health visitors, social workers, family support workers, midwives, and schools.

We also work closely with local charities including **Reigate & Banstead Women's Aid, YMCA East Surrey, ESDAS, HomeStart, Their Voice, Citizen's Advice Bureau and local food banks**. It is a service that is needed and valued:

"Not only does it provide the family with all the essentials they need, but it also provides them with the knowledge that people care! It also really helps us develop a relationship with the families that we are working with, helping to breakdown the barrier between a family and Surrey Children's Services."

SOCIAL WORKER, SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL.

165 
stairgates

 180
prams/buggies

2234 
toy packs and
book bags

355 
school bags filled
with stationery

137 
crib/cot/cot bed/
toddler bed

746 
craft and
stationery packs

83 
baby gym/
play mat

3344 
toiletry packs

26 
moses baskets

WE RESPONDED TO
4023
REQUESTS FOR HELP

1029 
nappies/wipes

37 
new car seats

310 
bedding packs

585 
shoes and trainers

1592 
clothing bundles
(prepacked by age/gender)



323 
new mattresses

111 
new baby packs
(average of 20 items per pack)

500 
holiday activity packs

59 
slings

105 
high chairs

45 
sterilisers

709 
other items

A SAFE PLACE FOR TOM TO SLEEP



At Stripey Stork, we believe that every child should have a safe and clean bed to sleep in – one which is a good fit for their age and a safe haven to call their own.

A family support worker told us about Tom* who had outgrown his cot and was starting to try and climb out of it. This was obviously a worry for Mum, who had been trying to find a bed second-hand, but realised she could not afford one without having to use their food allowance. We were only too happy to help, providing a toddler bed, a new mattress and freshly laundered bedding, so that the bed could be made up for Tom to sleep in that very night.

We hear stories like this all too often, children having to sleep in cots they have outgrown, on sofas, or sharing a bed with their siblings, and babies having to sleep on makeshift cots made from bundled towels. Sleeping safely is a basic need, which is why Moses baskets, cots, cot beds and toddler beds are one of the items we re-gift the most.

All are tested to ensure they comply with UK safety standards and are complete with an instruction manual and attachments. For hygiene reasons, each pre-loved bed is given with a brand new, good quality mattress. We were thankful when in November 2019 we were awarded £9,086 from a Community Development Co-op Fund to bulk buy mattresses.

Tom was so looking forward to going to bed that evening, Mum told us how he kept running in his room all afternoon and lying on his new bed with the biggest smile. It has been lovely to hear how we have been able to make such a positive difference to this family's life through giving help on such a practical level; knowing how we've played a helping hand in Tom progressing to his next milestone.

**Please note, name has been changed for privacy reasons.*

"he kept running in his room all afternoon and lying on his new bed with the biggest smile"
TOM'S MUM

137 CRIBS/COTS/COTBEDS AND TODDLER BEDS DISTRIBUTED, ALONG WITH 310 BEDDING PACKS.



AT THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY



RUN REIGATE 2020

A firm favourite in the Team Stork calendar, the multi-award winning Run Reigate took place on Sunday 15th September. It was Run Reigate's sixth year and as always, our runners, volunteers and supporters came out in full force, turning Priory Park orange and showing everyone Team Stork at its best!

77 runners made up of corporate partners, volunteers, referral partners and supporters took part in the half marathon, 10k, 5k or kid's race to raise sponsorship for Stripey Stork, collectively **raising over £11,500!**

A highlight of Run Reigate is always seeing the costumes that our talented supporters Sam and Jackie design to wear for their 10k, and this year's fairy costume did not disappoint! Young supporter Caitlyn zoomed around the kid's race in her amazing Stork costume once again and the Mayor of Reigate & Banstead, Cllr Keith Foreman completed the half marathon raising money for his chosen charities – Stripey Stork and Loveworks. We were delighted to be supported by the teachers from Lime Tree School in Merstham and a team from Willis Towers Watson too. Our stall in the event village was a hive of activity, as well as being a place for our runners to check in pre-race and collect their certificate and goody bags (thank you to Nelsons and Puzzler for donating the contents, and Reed for assembling). We had Stripey Stork face paints, stickers and of course our winner's podium was everyone's favourite place to strike a pose! Thank you to fellow stall holders who supported us on the day - esure, Crumbs Brewery and Morrisons Solicitors.

Once again, our army of orange-clad volunteers manned the stall and our allocated car parks from the early hours of the morning, with bright smiles and orange buckets. We are always so grateful to everyone who takes part in this brilliant community event.



A LITTLE GIRL WITH A BIG HEART

We are always blown away by our supporters, young and old, who are keen to use their talents and energy to benefit others. Seven-year-old Ava-May was one of our star fundraisers during the first lockdown. She wanted to raise money for those who were helping on the frontline and decided to do this through not one but five fundraising activities. Her cake sale, TikTok challenge, bike ride, homework goals and charity quiz certainly kept her busy and what is more **raised nearly £2,000**, an incredible amount which was split between Stripey Stork and NHS Charities Together.

A Stripey Stork superstar who shone particularly bright when we needed it the most.

AVA-MAY



CELEBRATING TEAM STORK



The Stripey Stork service is powered by a team of committed and creative volunteers. There is a core team of over 60 volunteers who help regularly in our warehouse or at home, and a wider team of 270 who help on an ad-hoc basis and act as ambassadors in the community. Together they offered 6,700 hours of their time in the reporting period.

We welcome corporate groups to volunteer at our warehouse for the day and it is a popular option for those wishing to use some of their CSR (corporate social responsibility) allowance. We were able to welcome 29 groups in the reporting period before Covid restrictions came into effect.

Partnerships are important to us, and we have developed long-term relationships with companies such as LNRS Data Services Ltd (formerly Reed Business Information), Fidelity, Grant Thornton International, Partners Group and Pfizer.

We are active citizens in the community making connections and identifying ways that we can help, and the Community Ambassador role has reaped rewards with consistent support from local community groups (WI, Soroptimists, Rotary, Round Table, Lions), schools and churches.

We are always proud to be selected as '**Charity of the Year**' and in the reporting period we concluded our year as one of the mayoral charities for the Mayor of Reigate & Banstead, as well as starting a term as the charity selected by both the male and female captains at Reigate Hill Golf Club.

One of the UK's leading family-owned construction businesses, Osborne selected us as their Charity of the Year for 2020 and we were pleased to be able to welcome them for a volunteering day in February.



Our amazing Volunteers offered 6,700 hours of their time in this reporting period.



(Pre-Covid) We welcomed 29 corporate groups to our warehouse in this period.

VOLUNTEER EVENT AT HARTSFIELD

On 1st October Team Stork hung up our aprons and put on our glad rags! The volunteers and core team were invited to an **evening reception to celebrate Stripey Stork receiving the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service**. Taking place at the stunning Hartsfield Manor, it was wonderful to bring together so many of the people who have helped Stripey Stork grow over the last six years.

The event was sponsored by Moore Kingston Smith and we were grateful to Hartsfield Manor for their hospitality – a delicious buffet and on-brand orange cocktails! The Board of Trustees and the Mayor of Reigate & Banstead and Mayoress joined us for the celebrations. There was mingling, baby-themed games and some heartfelt words from the Mayor, Karen Lord and Nicola Dawes. It was great to be able to recognise everyone's hard work with this prestigious award and give Team Stork the toast they deserve.



Raising a glass or two to our wonderful volunteers and team

"One of my favourite charity days to date. Nice people, worthy cause and grateful for our support. It is nice when the organisation is well organised – you feel like you are really adding value."

LNRS DATA SERVICES LTD.

BY ROYAL APPROVAL



The 12th of November was an exciting and memorable day for Team Stork. The warehouse floor was cleared of the usual buggies and cots and around 80 guests joined us to welcome a royal visitor. HRH The Duke of Gloucester presented the team with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (QAVS). Accompanying His Royal Highness on the visit was the Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey, Mr Michael More-Molyneux.

The QAVS recognises outstanding contributions made to local communities and was introduced in 2002 in honour of the Queen's Golden Jubilee. It is the equivalent of an MBE for voluntary groups. Stripey Stork was awarded the QAVS in recognition of our volunteers and the valuable help we provide to local families in need. During his visit, His Royal Highness had the opportunity to meet some of our volunteers, corporate partners, supporters and some local dignitaries. He also heard from a selection of the referral partners who use and value our service. A group of junior volunteers from local schools were in attendance – Caitlyn (aged 9), Dylan

(aged 10) and Sara (aged 13). They had the opportunity to talk enthusiastically with His Royal Highness about why Stripey Stork means so much to them, explaining the ways in which they had made their own contribution. Caitlyn presented a mini version of the mascot Stripey to His Royal Highness which he proudly placed in his suit jacket pocket.

It was a memorable day for Team Stork, a chance to put down our usual aprons and reflect on all we have achieved together. It was wonderful seeing so many of our friends in one place and we were grateful to the team at Hartsfield Manor who kindly catered for the event. The formal presentation ended with His Royal Highness extending his congratulations to the group. He finished his speech with the lasting comment:

"May I congratulate you all for what you do and for the recognition that you now have and I hope that you will all feel both individually and collectively extremely proud of what you have achieved and how it has been recognised this way." Team Stork - by Royal Approval!



SANTA STORK



2019 was our sixth Santa Stork and a total of 3,323 brand new gifts (for 2,276 children and 1,047 of their parents/carers) were distributed to local families in need. With an estimated value of £65,000, it was nearly 1,000 more requests than we received last year.

One of our challenges was to find a secure space that could accommodate the growing numbers and we were thrilled to partner with new luxury care home Reigate Grange, who allowed us to use some of their empty suites to run the project from. The staff and residents made Chief Elf Elaine and her team of volunteers very welcome and thoroughly joined in with the spirit of Santa Stork.

The culmination of Santa Stork and a festive favourite – our Giving Day – was held at Reigate Baptist Church. Teams of Christmas jumper-clad volunteers wrapped all the gifts, before our referral partners collected them for the families they were supporting. Lots of our corporate and community partners took part, along with That's Surrey TV and the Mayor and Mayoress of Reigate & Banstead, Cllr and Mrs Keith Foreman.

A campaign of this magnitude is only possible because our wonderful community comes together to make it happen. We are so grateful to our funders, corporate and community partners and schools for their support, and the hardworking project team. Santa Stork is made up of thousands of individuals who donate a gift, share our social media posts and organise fundraisers. Together, we made sure that every child referred to us had a gift to open on Christmas Day.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



The Gould family adorned their Caterham home with thousands of fairy lights and illuminated Christmas decorations to raise funds for Stripy Stork. They held two events with Santa, snow, mince pies and carols to bring in the crowds. As well as spreading Christmas cheer, they raised a fantastic £2,408!





This year there was a special request that was particularly memorable. One of our referral partners told us about a family who'd had a challenging year and money had been particularly tight. The 4-year-old daughter wished for a giant unicorn for Christmas.

Stripey Stork was invited to the Belfry Shopping Centre's Christmas lights switch on and we had our Christmas 'giving tree' hung with gift tags, each one with a special present request for a local child in need. The giant unicorn tag caught someone's eye, they went off to the toy shop and returned with a gorgeous, fluffy giant unicorn.

Back at Santa Stork HQ, the giant unicorn was quite distinctive and quickly became a favourite with the elves! On Santa Stork Giving Day, he was given to our skilled wrappers to prepare him for his forever home.

When Mum received the wrapped present, she was thrilled that her daughter's wish had come true, and she was now going to be able to give her the Christmas she deserved. She sent us this message:

"Thank you so much for our Christmas gifts.
My outreach worker passed them all on to us today.
I could cry. We think it is a giant unicorn for my
four-year-old. Which is exactly what she asked me
for. Thank you so so much. My year has been a tough
one and your charity have just been a lifeline for my
daughter and me. Please all have a merry Christmas.
And know you are all the best of humanity.
Thankyou xxx."



Wrapping challenges accepted
by our Stripey Stork Elves!



We were so touched to hear how this was going to make this little girl's Christmas. This is exactly what Santa Stork is all about and it was lovely to be able to share this with our wonderful supporters, and the team who work hard to make these children's wishes come true.

On Christmas morning, Mum sent us a thank you message with a photo of her daughter, absolutely beaming with her arms wrapped tightly around her much-wished for new best friend:

"Thank you so much to the wonderful angels
at Stripey Stork (sic) and to the amazing person
who donated this. We LOVE our presents.
Merry Christmas to you all xx."

MUM2MUM 2020



Our Mum2Mum campaign provides a pamper gift and a handwritten card for Mums to open on Mother's Day, to thank them for the amazing job they do every day.

Our **Mum2Mum** campaign provides a **pamper gift and a handwritten card** for Mums to open on Mother's Day, to thank them for the amazing job they do every day. It really strikes a chord with our community, who understand that whilst being a parent is incredibly rewarding, it can be equally challenging even under the best of circumstances.

The Mums we support may be living in a refuge, or full-time carers to their sick or disabled children. We regularly hear stories of Mums going without to ensure that their children are provided for and Mother's Day is our chance to show them that what they do is appreciated.

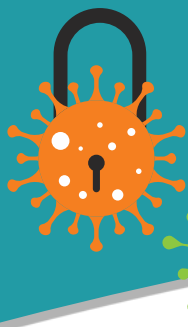
Pamper items and gift sets were donated by supporters and partners, and our volunteers assembled **gift bags full of treats**, along with a beautiful card designed by local artist Nicola B.

In March, as the **COVID-19 pandemic** dominated the news, the first lockdown began and the schools closed, we were pleased to be able to provide **gifts for 565 local Mums** in need, nominated by our referral partners. We could not have known what the year ahead would bring, but we did know that these Mums deserved recognition on their special day. Presented to the Mums on Mother's Day by the little person/people in their life,

a Mum2Mum gift is a gesture which tells Mums they are not alone and their community cares.

"All three mothers I handed the bags out to were overwhelmed, very grateful and tearful and two responded with big hugs. None of these people have any support in their life and all are parenting challenging situations and children alone. Without these gifts they would not have been remembered on Mother's Day. Thank you so much on their behalf."





LIVING WITH LOCKDOWN



In March 2020, as the Coronavirus pandemic spread across the world, the country went into lockdown. Many businesses had to lay off staff, furlough them or cut their hours as a result.

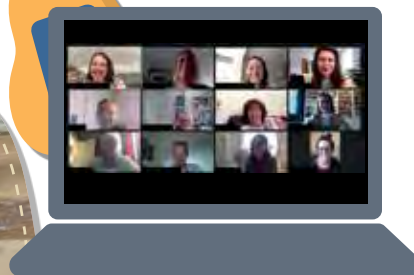
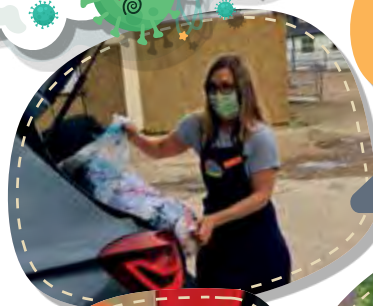
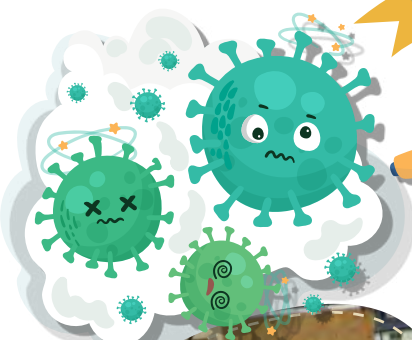
The families we help were already struggling to make ends meet and the situation had a disproportionate effect on them, as well as creating difficulties for new families who, previously, had been coping. We knew how important it was that we were able to continue helping vulnerable families through this difficult time.

Immediately we started to hear about families struggling to buy essentials such as toiletries and nappies. With the schools closed, there were families unable to afford stationery for home-learning, or toys to keep children entertained for long periods at home. We were well-stocked and knew that the priority was to get these essentials out into the community where they were needed.

Whilst we could no longer welcome volunteers like before to the warehouse, our core team continued to work behind the closed shutter doors to meet every single request for help. By working in partnership with our referral partners and other frontline organisations in the community, we were able to provide bulk supplies to be passed on to families in need.

We were unable to take the pre-loved donations that we usually relied upon, but we launched an appeal to enable us to buy new items to keep our shelves stocked. Once again, we were overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of our community – so many people got in touch to ask how they could help. Volunteers undertook tasks from home, sourcing items we needed and negotiating the best prices and discounts. Businesses

looking to make in-kind donations contacted us, knowing that they could trust us to pass those on to people who needed them most.



As the guidelines changed, we adapted to new ways of working, introducing an appointment system for referral partners, enhancing cleaning practices, volunteer bubbles, drive-through donation sessions, and a process for quarantining donations. As lockdown became our new normal, we continued to respond to individual and bulk requests. Our referral partners continued to work on the frontline to support the most vulnerable members of our community and this continued throughout the second half of the reporting period.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH REIGATE & BANSTEAD WOMEN'S AID

CASE STUDY



RWBA provide a refuge for women and children fleeing from domestic violence and support them in rebuilding their lives.

Finding sanctuary in a refuge is only the start. The children have already had to leave everything they know – friends, family, possessions, home – and, depending on their age, may have little comprehension as to why, or even worse understand all too well.

Stripey Stork regularly supports RWBA, providing them with the practical items their families need when they arrive, and continue to need as they settle into this temporary life. The refuge know that they can rely on our ability to be responsive to their needs.

The **COVID-19 crisis** was particularly tough for the children living at the refuge. Lockdown meant that they had to remain within the walls of the refuge and could no longer go to school, where they had just started settling in and seeing their new friends. Children's Advocate, Emma B explained:

"When children feel stressed and overwhelmed, they almost always regress. They may burst into tears more frequently. They may be crankier than usual, needing reassurance more frequently and having angry outbursts. They may well struggle to sleep and have nightmares."

11.8 %
of our referrers
cited Domestic
Violence as
the primary
reason for the
referral.



We were asked to prepare some **'calming boxes'** that the children could turn to when they were feeling anxious or distressed. Emma suggested a list of items that would help the children to relax or provide them with coping strategies.

The toolkits we put together contained cuddly toys, snuggly blankets, and calming books with a rhyming or soothing story to provide comfort, bubbles to encourage deep breathing and water bottles to encourage the children to stay hydrated. Gibsons Games kindly donated a variety of jigsaw puzzles and games, and Nelsons donated some Bach Rescue Remedy pastilles. Our talented and crafty Jenny, aka the Stripey Stork Treasurer, produced beautiful lavender filled mini pillows.

We were able to use some of the funds from our COVID-19 Appeal to source the remainder of the suggested items: journals and pens, colouring books/pens/pencils, colour changing stress balls, putty – for fidgeting and stress relief, playdough and tools, playing cards and a book about coping with feelings.

A few weeks on, the refuge got in touch to tell us how the boxes had gone down with the families living there:

"Thank you ever so much for the amazing boxes. They are beautifully presented and hold so many wonderful and helpful items. We've been able to give them out to a number of children so far, who have recently left us to move into their new homes, to help not only with Covid anxieties but the transition of moving from Refuge to their new home which can be very difficult and scary for the children."

One of the boys in our care has used his so much to calm and relax him through all the changes, he especially uses the lavender cushions to help him go to sleep. He also loves the squishy ball as it helps with his constant need to fidget. His sister enjoys the colouring to escape from her brothers and their craziness. The boxes are such a healing and supportive aid to our children, and it means so much to have these items to support the children through this massive change."

WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILY HEALTH SURREY

CASE STUDY

"With the children in lockdown and not going to school, the families are all stuck in one room, going stir crazy. It is affecting their mood and their sleep."



Lisa Gavin and her amazing team asked us for support



300%
increase in people claiming Universal Credit or Job Seekers allowance in Surrey

During lockdown, Lisa Gavin and her community nursing team contacted us asking for supplies for over 100 families that they were supporting - to help alleviate some of the boredom, and to support homeschooling during this difficult time. We were happy to help by providing books, games, and stationery, as well as baby and hygiene essentials.

The team also supports homeless families who have been placed in temporary accommodation until something more permanent is found. This is usually just one room with a shared bathroom and kitchen facilities. Sadly, lockdown meant that the families are having to live in these very confined conditions for extended periods of time.

Lisa says that when she calls a family, the initial response may be "we're fine", but as they get talking sometimes other issues are revealed, such as poor mental health or domestic violence. She explains how working with Stripey Stork makes her team's job so much easier:

"...by being able to take some of the families' stress away. Giving them something nice and making them feel a bit special is very valuable. Apart from fulfilling the obvious practical needs that the families have, it opens the door and helps to build trust."

The number of people claiming Universal Credit or Job Seekers allowance increased by over 300% in some areas of Surrey. Source: "Child Poverty in Surrey" report from Surrey County Council February 2021

FACE MASK SALES



Our **lockdown heroes** came in many different forms. One of these was Janet and her trusty team of sewers from a local **Scrubs for Heroes** group. They were working around the clock to make face masks from donated duvet covers. We were fortunate enough to be one of the chosen charities supported by their sales and during the first national lockdown an **incredible £2,000 was raised for Stripey Stork**. They wanted to use their skills to help during the crisis and they certainly did! Another was from **Gerrards**, a local fashion boutique, who wanted to use their industry contacts and the surge in demand for face masks, to support a local charity working to alleviate the consequences of COVID-19.



Janet and her team made masks from hospital scrubs, raising £2000!



Gerrards Boutique in Reigate donated all their mask profits, amazing!

They pledged to **donate all profits** to Stripey Stork and raised nearly £2,000 in just three weeks, after making a personal donation of their own. At the time, their high street shop was closed due to government restrictions, so all sales needed to be processed remotely, something which they weren't setup for at the time. To show this level of support at what must have been an extremely worrying time for small businesses like theirs, makes this contribution even more special. We feel extremely proud to have them on Team Stork.

Stripes 4 Stripey

1592 CLOTHING PACKS DISTRIBUTED

On Thursday 18th June we once again asked our supporters to wear their stripes and help raise funds to buy new socks, pants and pyjamas to use in our clothing packs all year round.

Due to Covid restrictions, this year was no ordinary Stripes4Stripey, it was the year we went virtual. We all had to be a little more creative, but everyone was keen to make this the most successful yet!

The festivities started on the 1st of June with a 'countdown to Stripes4Stripey' devised by a team of our talented volunteers and young supporters. Free daily children's activities were posted online including a colouring sheet designed by Nicola B, a reading of "While We Can't Hug" by local author Eoin McLaughlin, an active challenge with the Run Reigate Team, crafts, den building and quizzes to keep little ones occupied during lockdown. All activities were free and using materials that most would already have at home.

Some of the talented musicians in the community showed their support - Boogie Monsters hosted a **virtual concert** and Unison Choir released a cover version of the classic song 'I'll Stand By You' to raise money. Local teacher and musical legend Mr Scullin wrote and **recorded our very own song – all about pants!**



Our corporate partners always have Stripes4Stripey marked in their calendars and this year we loved seeing the **virtual fundraising ideas** they came up with – a great way to stay connected while everyone was working remotely too. There was a **stripey bake-off and afternoon tea, virtual bingo, stripey sales promotions, quizzes and karaoke!** Thank you to Pfizer, Willis Towers Watson, Grant Thornton International, Gibsons, Reigate Grange, Natural Baby Shower and Redhill Confetti for once again being part of Team Stork.

Despite learning from home, pupils and staff from Reigate St Mary's, Royal Alexandra & Albert School, Lime Tree Primary School, Downsends Pre-Prep School and Reigate Parish School all joined in the fun. We were grateful to Reigate Grammar School who took the opportunity to arrange a **drive-through donation session** too, collecting generous donations of nappies and stationery items.

Reigate Hill Golf Club's members took to the course sporting their stripes and donations were made spanning the whole weekend. Merstham Cricket Club, chaired by local fundraising legend Richard Feist, also got involved.

Our talented Treasurer, Jenny, made some limited edition Stripey chicks and a silent auction was held to find one of them a new owner. The winning bid went to long-standing supporters the Whyte family and they could not have gone to a better home.

With everyone being apart, this was the year of the selfie and we loved seeing everyone's stripey photos - including our wonderful volunteers and supporters, referral partners at The Red Oak Family Centre, First Community Health Care and Alliance for Better Care, and our friends at Kemp Marketing, Bailhache Linton, Horley Tangent and Celtic Contractors.

Thank you for getting stripey with us!



WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH VIRTUAL SERVICES DURING LOCKDOWN



Lots of organisations had to take their support online during lockdown. SE Surrey Specialist Education Service supports children age 0-5 who have additional needs – these may be children living with physical disabilities or illnesses, autism or multiple learning disabilities. Some of the children have life changing, or life limiting conditions.

Regular referral partner Michelle contacted us to ask for the resources to enable her to make 80 **'play packs'** for the families that she was supporting during lockdown, including **stationery, games, books and puzzles**. We were pleased to be able to help, and included some items for siblings too, along with a selection of treats (gifted to us from Jurlique) for the Mums.

Michelle dropped them on their doorsteps, and she told us how much it helped to stay connected to these families, giving them a much-needed boost as well as practical tools that they could use for the online sessions to help continue their development.

The activities have offered parents a **lifeline** – something to **break up the monotony** and to give parents resources so that they could keep supporting their **child's development** through lockdown. It also provided an opportunity to stay connected with their children through playing and reading with them.



Michelle explained that being able to access the resources that Stripey Stork distributes adds a more practical dimension to the support that she is able to give the families. Instead of taking the toys, books and games away at the end of each play session, a somewhat negative note to leave on, families can keep them and continue to benefit from them.

"Lockdown is relentless, the days are long for both parents and children. Many families are experiencing financial difficulties as a result of lockdown, adding to the already challenging situation of caring for a child who needs extra support. These children usually thrive on routine so are finding the disruption especially hard to deal with."



Without Stripey Stork, she says that the help that she is able to give families would look very different. Many of the families are not able to afford these resources and there simply wouldn't be the funds to be able to provide them. While Michelle values this all year round, she stresses how incredibly important this was during lockdown, enabling her to stay connected to families who are really up against the odds.

Michelle describes Stripey Stork as a ray of light, and we're sure the families that she and the team support would say the same about her.



★ WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SCHOOLS

CASE STUDY



Many schools had to become a 'one stop shop', supporting their vulnerable families through lockdown and filling any gaps that were left by the closure of other services.

Victoria Kelsall, a homeschool link worker in the **Dorking Schools Partnership** told us how hard it was for families – financial concerns, worries about the virus and the demands of homeschooling were taking their toll on mental health.

Victoria works between two different primary schools; her role is to support the children and families with a wide variety of issues – children's behaviour, night terrors, feeding, family bereavements or separation, as well as ADHD and autism. She believes that the parents and school working together is **key to children thriving at school**, but there can be a number of barriers. Parents may have other pressing concerns – many families are living hand to mouth each month.

When lockdown started, Victoria, along with the Head and the school's safeguarding leads, was calling their vulnerable families once a week to check in on them. She told us that for these families the COVID-19 crisis made things incredibly difficult. Many of the families she supports were already struggling financially, working minimum wage jobs. Lockdown means that many have had their income cut or lost their jobs and were experiencing high levels of anxiety.

Victoria and the team were listening to their concerns, providing advice on how to create healthy routines during lockdown, and giving support and reassurance about homeschooling.

Victoria explains how beneficial it is to be able to access the essential items that Stripey Stork provides:

"When I give advice, often parents can't take it in because they are struggling with day to day practicalities. By offering assistance with essential items through Stripey Stork, they are more likely to take advice on board, both because I have proven



to be someone who genuinely wants to help and also because they have more headspace to think clearly."

One of the families Victoria was supporting was a single mum who has a two bedroom flat without a garden. She was waiting to be re-housed, but she and the children – the youngest a 2 year old who naturally wants to explore and the oldest a 12 year old who is homeschooling – were all living together in this small space. Victoria contacted Stripey Stork, and we were happy to provide some much-needed summer clothes for the children, along with age appropriate activity bags too. Victoria tells us how this made all the difference in the world and really "brightened their days up".

Victoria describes Stripey Stork as a "lifeline": "Stripey Stork is always top of my list when I have a family who needs help... and the benefit to my role is immense. If Stripey Stork wasn't there, I would have to apply for individual grants on behalf of each family – filling in lots of paperwork and waiting a long time for decisions, and not every application would be successful."

She concludes with how important it is that she is still able to support the families during lockdown:

"There were a couple of families who were very reluctant to engage with the school before, but thanks to Stripey Stork I've been able to help with things that they need. If I can stay part of their lives, then this is a very positive thing to come out of all of this. Getting parents on board and working together to support the child's education is the way to break the cycle."



HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS



As the first lockdown eased and the summer holidays loomed, we wanted to alleviate some of the financial pressure for vulnerable families that were going to struggle to keep their children occupied over this extended period of time.

The consequences of **holiday poverty** was identified as a key concern following discussions with local schools and support workers. We started taking pre-orders for summer activity bags – reusable waterproof drawstring bags which would be filled with age-appropriate **boredom buster** items and activities, such as colouring and reading books, stationery, puzzles, indoor and outdoor games. Over 500 bags were distributed in total for a mixture of pre-schoolers, primary school and secondary school children.

We were delighted that HM Lord-Lieutenant of Surrey and The High Sheriff of Surrey could join us for a packing session to make up a selection of these holiday bags.



Bags4School Campaign

August is always a busy month with back to school requests as we like to ensure the children we are supporting have the necessary kit, but also the items which are going to help them fit in, hence our ongoing **Bags4School campaign**. We gave out 346 age-appropriate school bags filled with stationery, a water bottle, books and toiletries.

"I am only too aware of the outcomes for young people who find themselves outside education. Anything that can be done to keep them there and give them the confidence and belief in themselves is always welcome."

A VOLUNTEER'S PERSPECTIVE

A different perspective on what helping at Stripey Stork has been like for one of our long-term volunteers.

VOLUNTEER LOCKDOWN POEM
BY LOIS SHRIMPTON, JUNE 2020



I volunteer at Stripey Stork
I've done it for some time
It started with Run Reigate
When I fell across the line!

My work had been with families
For many, many, years
I felt I understood the need
For services like these

When lockdown came the world went quiet
"Stay home, stay safe" they heeded
Not the case at Stripey Stork
Lots of help was needed

After I'd been home a while
And all my jobs were done
Charlotte called to ask me back
"Yes, Yes," I said, I'll come!

When I first went in to help
I missed the usual chatter
No-one even made me tea
But that didn't really matter!

We all worked at a distance
A quick response to questions
Sorting out and packing up
Ready for collections

Many families needing help
For lots of girls and boys
Life was really difficult
They needed clothes and toys

When Jo came from the health team
She told us of the plight
Many more families fleeing abuse
To a safe place, day and night

Referrals kept on flooding in
More and more each day
We quickly made-up clothing packs
And sent them on their way

I also help in Merstham
And from there I heard a shout
A mum with kids, stuck in a flat
Who needed helping out

I knew that Stripey Stork could help
With clothes, soap and shampoo
All were packed into my car
And some treats for them too

The service Stripey gives
To families, it is clear
It really makes a difference
And deserves a great big cheer!

VOLUNTEER LOCKDOWN POEM

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS

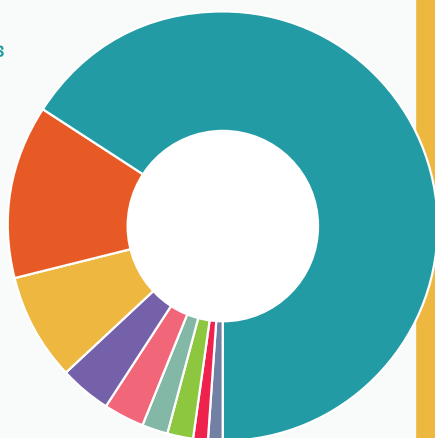
1ST SEPTEMBER 2019 TO 31ST AUGUST 2020



Stripey Stork's total income for the year ending 31st August 2020 was **£774,558** and total expenditure was **£687,616**. **£647,345** of our expenditure was on charitable activities, **£40,271** on raising charitable funds.

Stripey Stork Income 2019/20

66% Donated Goods for Beneficiaries
13% Individual Donors
8% Trusts & Foundations
4% Corporates
3% Events & Sponsored Events
2% Local Council
2% Community Organisations
1% Gift Aid
1% Other



Value of Stock Distributed to Beneficiaries 2019/20

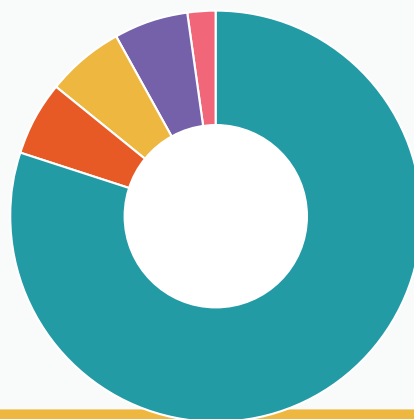
55% Preloved Items Given in Referral Packages for Individual Families
31% Inkind Donations Given in Referral Packages for Individual Families
11% Santa Stork Gifts Given to Individual Families
6% Preloved items Given to Referral Partners to Maintain Stock of Essentials



Our unrestricted reserves at the end of the year are **£160,622** which is broadly in line with our reserves policy to hold **£145,000**.

Stripey Stork Expenditure 2019/20

80% Items Distributed to Beneficiaries:
Donated & Purchased
6% Cost of Raising Funds including Staff, Accommodation, Office, Governance and Support Costs allocated to this
6% Staff, Volunteers, Consultants, Freelance
6% Office Costs
2% Governance, Support Costs & Depreciation



During the year, our cash income exceeded £250,000, hence we were required to move to the accruals basis of accounting. The main change is that a value is placed on donated goods for beneficiaries (£513,676) and this is included in both income and expenditure which increases these values considerably in comparison to last year. Figures for the prior year have been restated so that they are line with accruals accounting and further changes are explained in note 1(o) of the full Trustees' Report and Financial Statements.

The above information was extracted from the full Trustees' Report and Financial Statements which comply with current statutory requirements, the governing document and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in

accordance with FRS 102. For further information, the full financial statements together with the Trustees' and Auditor's reports should be consulted. Copies are available from The Charity Commission or info@stripeystork.org.uk.



THANK YOU

Stripey Stork wishes to pass its sincere thanks to the following individuals, businesses and funding sources that have supported us this year.



1st Chaldon Brownies
AIG Life
Airport Parking and Hotels (APH)
AJs Run school
Albert Hunt Trust
All Things Chic
Amazon Smile
Amelia, St Wilfrids School, Crawley
ASD Harrison Transport
Baby Sensory East Surrey
Baillache Linton LLP
Bargains4Ever
Bathing Bunnies
Batitude Leatherhead
BBC Radio Surrey
Beaufort Group
Becky Pearce Designs
Bed-e-byes
Belfry Shopping Centre, Redhill
Boogie Monsters
Booktrust
Boss Dog
Canon UK & Ireland
Caterham Round Table
Celtic Contractors Ltd
Charities Aid Foundation
Charles Lewis Foundation
Churches Together
Cllr Keith & Mrs Helen Foreman,
The Mayor & Mayoress of
Reigate & Banstead.
Cllr Mrs Barbara Thomson
Cllr Zuliy Grant-Duff
Comfy Quilts Ltd
Community Foundation for Surrey
Cook, Reigate
Co-op Community Development Fund
Cophorne WI
Crown Brushes
Croydon and East Surrey Baby Sensory
Croydon Whitgift Rotary
Crumbs Brewery
Daisy First Aid Redhill and Croydon
Dayspace
Deli on the Hill
Disney Store UK
Downsend Pre-Prep School, Ashtead
Dunnottar School
Earlswood Junior School
East Grinstead Foodbank
East Surrey College
Ecclesiastical Insurance
Esure
Fidelity
First Community Health & Care
First Steps Nursery, Merstham
Fishers Farm Park
Foresters Financial UK
Frugi
Garfield Weston Foundation
Gatwick Airport Community Trust
Gatwick Foundation Fund
Gerrards Ladieswear

Gibsons Games
Give A Car
Give As You Live
GLF schools
Grant Thornton International
Greensand Multi-Academy Trust
Halliwell Marks Estate Agents
Harlequin Theatre and Cinema, Redhill
Hartsfield Manor
High Sheriff of Surrey,
Mr Shahid Azeem DL
Holmesdale Community Infant School
Horley Lions
Horley Tangent
HRH The Duke of Gloucester
Huntress Recruitment
IHS Markt
In Kind Direct
Independent Growth Finance
Infinity - Space to grow
Jake Coates Art
John Lewis Brent Cross
JoJoMamanBebe
Jurlique
Just
Karl Hyder 'Man With A Van'
Kemp Marketing
Kingsley Napley
Kuoni
Lee from E8syU
LETS Explore
Lime Tree Primary School
Little Harts Music
Littleport Craft Group
LNRS
Lord Lieutenant of Surrey,
Mr Michael More-Molyneux
MAM Baby UK
MamaRun
Maraya photography
Marks & Spencer, Redhill
Mercer
Merino Kids
Merstham Cricket Club
Merstham Women's Group
Millar and May
Mini Melton
Miss Ava-May Malik
Miss Caitlyn Lawrence
Mole Valley District Council
Mole Valley Family Centre
Moore Kingston Smith LLP
Morrisons Solicitors
Morrisons Supermarket, Reigate
Mr Eoin McLaughlin
Mr John Smith
Mr Paul Collier
Mr Richard Feist
Mr Scullin, Earlswood School
Mrs Caroline Brecknell MVO DL
Mrs Emily and Jo Kennett
Mrs Feist
Mrs Jane and Catherine Babbage

Mrs Janet Aslett
Mrs Joan Hodge
Mrs Peta Rooney
Ms Marta Skorupska
Mstr Oscar Scott
Muffin Break
Mum of Rascals / The Williams Family
National Emergencies Trust
National Lottery Community Fund
Natixis
Natural Baby Shower
Neighbourly Community Fund
Nelsons
Nestle UK
Nicola B Designs
Nuxe
Oh Creative
Old Reigatians Rugby Football Club
Osborne
Outwood WI
Peter Harrison Foundation
Pfizer UK
Piccalilly UK
Pistachios in the Park
Printmates
Puzzler
Rachel Thornhill Photography
Radio Redhill
Ralph James Estate Agents
Raven Housing Trust
Red Oak Family Centre
Redhill Confetti
Redhill Rotary
Redsbaby UK
Redstone WI
Reed Business Information
Reigate & Banstead Borough Council
Reigate & Redhill Round Table no 119
Reigate Baptist Church
Reigate Duct Manufacturing
Reigate Grammar School
Reigate Hill Golf Club
Reigate Ladies Joggers
Reigate Manor Hotel
Reigate Methodist Church
Reigate School
Reigate School of Ballet and
Commercial Dance
Reigate St Marys Preparatory & Choir
School
Rotary Club of Reigate
Rotary International Covid-19 fund
Rowan Preparatory School, Esher
Royal Alexandra and Albert School,
Reigate
Run Series
Sal's Shoes
Salfords School
Scrubs for Heroes - Redhill, Reigate and
Horley
SES Water
Shona Gow Designs
Signature @ Reigate Grange

Sonrisa Photography
SOS Painter
Southern Co-op Love your
Neighbourhood
St Faith's Trust
St George's Church
St Johns Primary School, Redhill
St Joseph's Primary School
St Mary's Toddler Group, Reigate
St Mary's School
St Matthew's Church
St Peter and St Paul School
Suffolk Baby Bank
Surrey Sands
Sutton and Nonsuch Rotary
Tandridge District Council
Tandridge Together Lottery
Tesco Bags of Help
Tesco Gatwick Community Champions
The All-In-One Company
The Beauty Bank
The Family Grapevine East Surrey
The Girl Who Gardens
The Gould Family
The Hygiene Bank Carshalton and
Sutton
The Hygiene Bank Oxted, Hurst Green
and Edenbridge
The Petts Family
The Plan Group
The Shoe Tree
The Sparber Family
The Staff on Buckland Ward, East
Surrey Hospital
The Whyte Family
The Yates Family
Total Gas & Power
Toyota Foundation
Trinity Church Sutton
Tropic Skincare
TSB, Redhill
TUI
Unified UK
Unison Choir
Volks Autos, Sutton
Voluntary Action Reigate & Banstead
Wacky Kingdom
Walter & Mair Estate Agents
Wilko
Willis Towers Watson
Woodhatch WI
Woodmansterne Primary school
YLB
Yogamoo



Thanks also go to all our regular volunteers who give their time so generously, and to the local families who pass to us the items their families no longer need.



HOW YOU CAN HELP



There are so many ways that you can become part of Team Stork.

TAKE PART IN STRIPEY'S VIRTUAL CHALLENGE

Set yourself a challenge, at a time and place convenient for you. It may be **physical – outdoors, indoors, running, swimming, on your bike, up a mountain** – whatever floats your boat!

You may want to get the kids or whole family involved – the more creative and crazier the better, remember you make the rules. There are lots of ways you can help to raise funds for our vital charitable work and on completing the challenge, you will receive an **exclusive Stripey Stork medal**.



VOLUNTEER WITH US

Either as an individual, with a group of friends or as part of a community group, regularly or on an ad-hoc basis. Our HQ is conveniently located near Reigate town centre and we have parking available.

You will be able to make a real difference and contribute to an organisation with ambitious plans. You will have the opportunity to use your existing skills and learn new ones. Training and support will be provided.

Our volunteers are the heart of Team Stork and we'd love to hear from you.

FAMILY SUPPORT RECYCLED

OUR AMAZING TEAM STORK



"May I congratulate you all for what you do and for the recognition that you now have and I hope that you will all feel both individually and collectively extremely proud of what you have achieved and how it has been recognised this way."

TEAM STORK - BY ROYAL APPROVAL!



LOCAL FAMILIES
HELPING
LOCAL FAMILIES

www.stripeystork.org.uk

SIA ALBERT