Stripey Stork

FAMILY SUPPORT. RECYCLED.

IMPACT REPORT 2013-2023

A DECADE OF LOCAL FAMILIES HELPING LOCAL FAMILIES

FAMILY SUPPORT RECYCLED

WWW.STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK

Registered charity in England and Wales (1161613)

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

OUR MISSION & VALUES

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:

LOCAL FAMILIES HELPING LOCAL FAMILIES

- We aim to alleviate the impacts of material poverty in a meaningful way.
- At its core, our service is about facilitating local families to pass on the items their children have outgrown to another family who need a helping hand.
- Our service might grow in terms of scale and geography, but it will remain anchored to that simple process of allowing families to 'waste less and share more' with kindness.
- Although we retain the phrase 'baby bank', we offer much more than just the items typically associated with birth or young babies. Our support is available for children 0-16 years.

FAMILY SUPPORT, RECYCLED

- Sustainability is a key feature of our service, supporting the circular economy. We promote reuse and aim to change perceptions about giving and using second-hand items.
- We aim to find a new home for pre-loved items, but we also distribute new items ensuring that our waitlists are low and that families get the help they need in a timely manner.
- We want items to have a second life, but we have an equal focus on safety and quality - we are comfortable to decline or dispose of items that don't meet our rigorous safety and quality standards, and we are active in remaining up to date on safety guidance.

AT THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

- Our volunteers are welcomed and appreciated, and opportunities to support us are rewarding, inclusive and safe. Being part of Team Stork is something to be proud of.
- We are active in the community and offer practical and rewarding opportunities for individuals, groups, businesses and schools to get involved.
- We value our partners and the support they give us as their 'charity of choice'. We are professional and dependable, and our team will always go the extra mile to make the partnership mutually beneficial.

A PIECE OF THE JIGSAW OF CARE

- We offer a unique and essential service, and we are good at what we do. Our service has always been consistent and reliable, and our partners know they can count on us.
- We avoid duplicating work and seek to work in partnership with those who understand their local communities and the serious and complex issues that families are facing.
- We play to our strengths and believe we can do that best by supporting the health and social care partners who are working directly with families. We focus our efforts into ensuring we have the right items available at the right time to meet the needs of the families they are supporting.

READY TO RESPOND

- Our vision is to be available to every family in Surrey who needs our help, but we are flexible and adaptable, and our help often extends beyond the county borders.
- We can operate at scale, but we never forget that there is a family behind every referral. We will always take account of special and unique requests and know that even the simplest referrals can have a significant impact.
- We are agile and responsive and have consistently demonstrated that we can flex our service in response to social, economic and political events.
- We are responsive to the strategic aims of our health and community partners and actively look for ways to ensure our service complements their work.

REFLECTIONS FROM OUR FOUNDER AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

I can clearly remember dropping off the first referral package back in October 2013 to Welcare in Redhill. A lovely buggy with a bundle of toys, books and a treat for Mum. So much thought went into making sure it was clean, safe and well presented, and I carried it with care into the reception area of the family centre. In some ways so little has changed in the last ten years but of course so much has. Stripey Stork now operates at scale, and it is not uncommon to help over 200 families in a week from our busy Reigate warehouse and our new second site in Redhill. What has not changed is the care and attention that goes into every referral that the team prepare.

IT IS NOT UNCOMMON TO HELP OVER 200 FAMILIES IN A WEEK

There are some impressive statistics in this report - big numbers and percentages - but we never forget that behind every referral there is a family who has been brave enough to ask for help and trusted Stripey Stork to find the right items for their children.

Stripey Stork might have started as my idea, but for a long time now it has been lifted and powered by the quite incredible Team Stork. From the first time I mentioned the concept to my neighbours, and my dining room was filled with wonderful donations, I was confident that the community would support the idea. What continues to take my breath away though is the support from those who volunteer regularly or support our work in other ways. It has been humbling to work alongside them over the last ten years and I can never express how grateful I am to them. I'll introduce you to some of these amazing people in this report, but I invite you to visit either of our sites on any working day and you will meet a group of heroes who give so much love and care to their community.

As an organisation we are resilient because we are collaborative and adaptive. We have shown that through the years in how we have adapted to austerity, COVID-19 and the cost-of-living crisis. I am proud that referral partners could continue to rely on our service, and we have adapted and developed the service to suit the needs of families and partners. It has always been about the power of acting together.

While this report has prompted me to look back, I have never been more focused on looking forward. This year we have been trusted with this amazing opportunity from the National Lottery Community Fund to 'Spread Our Wings' and to be there for even more families who need us. To scale our service and extend our work across the county and beyond.

We have so much to do, but I have the right team with me – TEAM STORK.

With my deepest thanks,

Nicola Dawes DL

REFLECTIONS FROM OUR CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

I first met Nicola on a course to support new businesses (and charities) run by Reigate & Banstead Borough Council. I'm a commercial lawyer and was giving a presentation about legal issues for start ups. Nicola talked about her vision for Stripey Stork – I was hooked! From helping by initially providing storage space at our office (so Nicola and others could have their dining rooms back) to then being involved in registering the charity, I was thrilled and honoured when Nicola invited me to join the Trustee team. And I am still just as proud to be part of Team Stork.

Being a Trustee gives me the opportunity to work with a group of passionate individuals who are committed to making a difference and to use my experience and skills for good. It is incredibly rewarding to know that the time I and the rest of the Trustees and all of the other Stripey volunteers give to Stripey Stork helps to ensure that we can continue to achieve Nicola's vision to allow families to help other families with kindness.

The stats in this report speak for themselves. Stripey Stork has grown year-on-year since it first started, but we are not resting on our laurels. We have ambitious plans to expand our reach further and those plans to 'Spread Our Wings' are now becoming a reality thanks to the generous support of the National Lottery Community Fund and of our many other champions.

The way ahead for us is not without its difficulties but it is exciting and Team Stork is always up for a challenge.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every person who has supported Stripey Stork over the last ten years for their generosity, commitment and kindness. Every contribution, in whatever way and however big or small, whether as a donor, as a volunteer or as an employee, makes Team Stork what it is and ensures that Stripey Stork will continue to do what it does best – work towards the goal that every child has the same start in life.

So here's to the next 10 years – onwards and upwards!

Karen Lord

10 YEARS OF IMPACT...

A DECADE OF STRIPEY STORK

HELP

REQUESTS FOR HELP:

48,288 children helped

36,642 families helped

VALUE OF ITEMS:

£4,590,807 OVERALL VALUE

£2,644,838 PRELOVED ITEMS

£1,378,334 INKIND DONATIONS

£547,635 NEW ITEMS PURCHASED

SUPPORTED BY:

14 PART TIME STAFF

8 TRUSTEES

7 ADVISORY PANEL MEMBERS

2013

Our first base, a space in the Furnistore warehouse.

2014

Moved into first permanent home, Project House on the Quarryside Business Park.

Our first Santa Stork campaign.

2015

Moved into second home, Trafford Building (which was just opposite Project House).

2016

Our first paid staff - Sonya (Referrals Coordinator) and Lydia (Donations Coordinator) are still with us today.

2018

5,000th referral milestone.

2019

Moved into our current home, Albert Road North in Reigate.

Received The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (QAVS), the highest Award given to voluntary groups in the UK.

2020

10,000th referral milestone.

2022

Expanding our service - started Duke of Edinburgh volunteering scheme and a delivery service to our Surrey partners.

"I feel like I'm making a difference by supporting those in the community that need help. I have even gotten better at organising myself and keeping my room tidy."

Duke of Edinburgh student

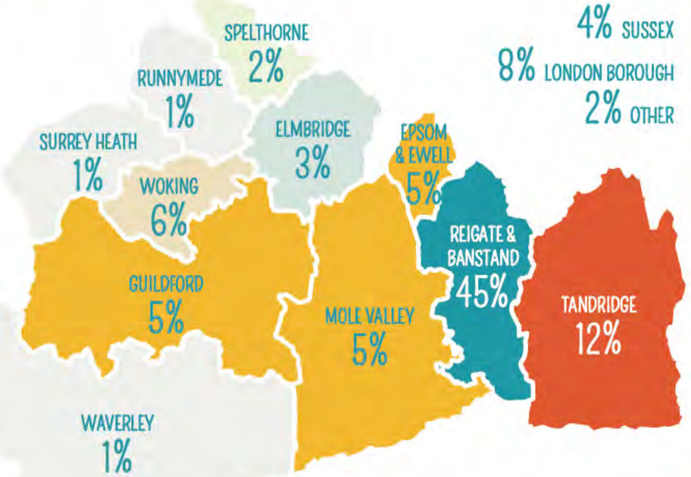
2023

Secured National Lottery Community Funding to 'Spread Our Wings'.

Signed a lease on a second home, Raven House in Redhill.

REACHING ACROSS SURREY & BEYOND...

Percentage of referrals made (2017-2023)



419 ORGANISATIONS WHO REGULARLY REFER

1,225 INDIVIDUALS WHO REGULARLY REFER WITHIN THESE ORGANISATIONS

"We had booked a hall and set up tables to sort donations, but would anyone turn up? Bryn was the first person through the door with a car full of things we really needed – he was followed by so many others with equally lovely donations. Our worries quickly changed from 'would anyone turn up?' to 'where would we store it all?'"

Nicola Dawes DL, 2013

WHY WE'RE NEEDED

We know that the situations of families experiencing poverty are often complex, and there are many reasons that families need our help. This is reflected in both our referrals data and the feedback we receive from our partners, and from families.

OF THE FAMILIES WE HELP...

23% ...are refugees or seeking asylum

16% ...are affected by domestic abuse

25% ...are in receipt of Universal Credit, or in debt

22% ...are affected by ill health, disability or poor mental health

71% ...said that receiving items from us meant they could spend their money on other things their family needed

IN THE LAST 6 MONTHS*

74% of referral partners say that an increasing number of families they support are unable to afford the basics despite having one parent/carer in work

67% say more families are in debt, or going into debt

59% say more families are coming forward for support for the first time

AVERAGE FAMILY HELPED by us has 2.1 CHILDREN

95% of referral partners say families find our service 'EXTREMELY VALUABLE'*

"My daughter and I escaped domestic abuse and Stripey Stork have been our saving grace. Never did I think I'd have to rely on preloved clothes, but the look on my daughter's face when she receives items from them! I'm so grateful for all you do, thank you from the bottom of my heart."

*Results from our latest 6 monthly referral survey sent to all referral service users in last 6 months, with 93 respondents.

Domestic abuse

These referrals are often urgent and substantial, and reflect the reality of families being forced to leave home suddenly, bringing little or nothing with them, and being cut off from family support, schools and friends for their own safety.

Referral partners often cite domestic abuse as a concern even if it is not a known factor, and delivering items from Stripey Stork can give them a valid reason to check in on the family.

"As soon as we have a new family arrive, within hours we'll have packages of beautiful clothes and equipment for the children. We know that it can be these small things that make the difference between a woman staying and going back to an abusive relationship."

Charlotte Kneer MBE DL, Chief Executive, I Choose Freedom

Refugee support

We work with health and voluntary sector partners supporting families seeking refuge or asylum, providing emergency and longer term response, supplying clothes and hygiene packs, and addressing urgent needs for babies and those due to give birth.

"A breastfeeding Mum had been separated from her baby and husband in Calais. A breastpump was urgently needed to relieve her discomfort, with the hope that she would be able to resume breastfeeding once reunited. The time between the request being made and the pump being used was three hours!"

Lena Abdul, Head of PCN Development, Alliance for Better Care

Health and disability

For families looking after children with a disability, the high cost of adaptive but essential items can be a barrier. Providing the right items at the right time can be transformational for the whole family. Having an adaptive buggy, sensory toys, or clothing suitable for tube feeding can help them get out and about, access education and vital services.

Experiencing poverty can be both a cause and a consequence of poor mental health. Adults in the lowest income households are more than twice as likely to experience poor mental health – children are four times as likely*. By providing support we can help improve wellbeing, like giving slippers and pamper sets to teens to make their inpatient stay on a mental health ward more comfortable.

"We cannot thank you enough for the lovely items to enhance these young people's stay in our ward. Many come into hospital under difficult circumstances and have no option but to remain in their school uniform or hospital gown for days. To be able to offer them some cosy PJs and nice clothes goes a long way to making them feel cared for and like they fit in."

Maria Digby, Paediatric Mental Health Liaison Nurse, East Surrey Hospital

*Source: Mind.co.uk

Debt and the rising cost of living

We receive a significant number of referrals where one or more primary carers are working but still struggling to make ends meet.

Since the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis, many more families are facing rising costs of basic essentials, energy and housing costs, and increased levels of debt. In 2023, four in five UK adults are in (non-mortgage) debt, with almost half (46%) in debt as a result of the cost-of-living crisis.**

We work with Citizen's Advice centres across the region to support families in debt, with many now being in a negative budget making debt unavoidable.

"For a family to be able to clothe their children, give them school supplies and toiletries so they can have their basic care needs met is invaluable. Stripey Stork is a light for families in these difficult times."

** Source: Money.co.uk.

WHAT OUR PARTNERS SAY

85% said delivering items from Stripey Stork strengthens the trust and relationship they have with the families they support.

"Being able to tailor the support to the individual rather than a blanket response has so much more bearing on the help we are able to provide thanks to Stripey Stork and the amazing team and volunteers behind it."

"You'll never know how important it is to be able to say to someone in desperate need that we can help and this will get sorted. It breaks down barriers, builds trust and keeps the communication going."

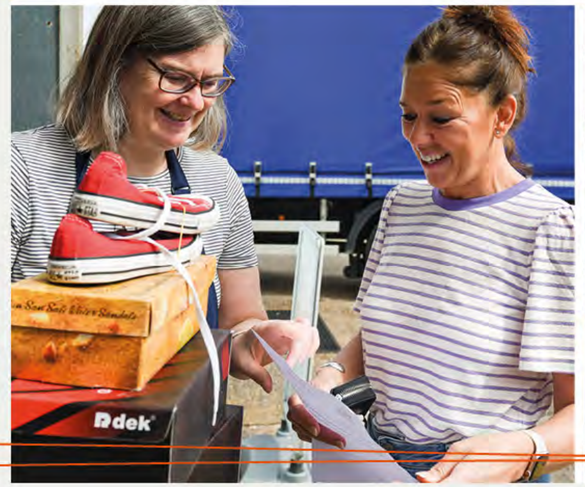
89% of referral partners would struggle to fund the items needed for the family without our support.

82% said that receiving items from Stripey Stork helped address a significant concern for a family

e.g. not having a safe place for a baby to sleep, children not attending school due to lack of uniform or shoes, parents unable to get children to medical appointments due to lack of a suitable buggy.

"The fidget toys you supplied to reward children with low attendance who are making an effort to improve, have had a positive impact on overall school attendance, and we are now above the national average which will have a life long impact on these children and their future success."

"The referral process is simple and quick, meaning I can collect necessary items within days. If there is something specific that a family needs then they will always put out a request for this, signpost to another agency if relevant or try and find additional funding themselves to make the purchase. The items are of such good quality that it genuinely does feel like a gift."



"Stripy Stork is geographically distant from our offices, so we used to only order when there were several of us in the team needing items to justify the travel. Since we have been able to collect from a distribution hub we have been able to respond much quicker."

71% are more open to using second hand items after using our service.

74% said that being able to support families with items from Stripey Stork improved their own wellbeing and had a positive impact on how they felt about their work.

"Taking items to a family most in need feels like an act of simple kindness. The fact they don't look like hand-me-downs conveys a sense of 'this is for you... a bit of support until you get on your feet, and you will'. Many respond with a smile when told 'this is for you today but in the future, you'll be able to help someone else."

HOW THEY USE OUR SERVICE:

34% of referral partners use us at least once a month

10% have used us for the first time this year

33% of our referral partners have been using our service for more than 5 years.

6% use us more than 5x a month.

Results from our 2023 referral survey emailed to over 900 active referrals, with 181 respondents.

10 YEARS OF PRACTICAL HELP

36,642
REQUESTS FOR HELP OVER PAST 10 YEARS!

748 baby gym/ play mats

382 baby carriers /slings

1,876 buggies/prams

2,856 bedding bundles

1,088 moses baskets

3,339 activity packs

15,871 clothing packs (prepacked by age/gender)

2,640 new mattresses

12,788 toiletry packs

836 highchairs

1,038 stairgates

7,667 toy bundles

4,201 book bags

6,193 pairs of shoes and trainers

16,511 packs of nappies and wipes

823 newborn baby packs (average of 20 items per pack)

1,306 cribs/cots/cot beds/ toddler beds/travel cots

4,964 new school bags filled with stationery

1,859 school uniform bundles

DID YOU KNOW...

...each school bag bundle typically contains:

- ☑ Water bottle
- ☑ A4 drawing/ruled pad
- ☑ Pencils and pencil case
- ☑ Rubber and sharpener
- ☑ Colouring pens/pencils/crayons
- ☑ Colouring/puzzle book

We cover a range of ages, from preschool to teenagers. For the older children we include handwriting pens, highlighters, a maths set, ruler and scientific calculator. For the younger children we like to include a keyring or small beanie baby/teddy.

"Thank you for the clothes and school supplies, I've named my bag 'Strawberry' because it's red. I LOVE EVERYTHING!! And I mean everything!! You're really amazing and helpful." Little girl, age 11

...each newborn baby pack typically contains:

- ☑ Clothes pack – for newborn and 0-3 months
- ☑ Moses basket, new mattress and stand
- ☑ Bedding (sheets x6 and blankets x3)
- ☑ Toys
- ☑ Baby gift e.g. photo frame, cuddly toy
- ☑ Sleeping bags x2, with safe sleeping guidance leaflet
- ☑ Baby bath, top and tail bowl
- ☑ Nappies and wipes
- ☑ Changing mat
- ☑ Toiletries (baby bubble bath, shampoo, nappy cream)
- ☑ Nappy bag
- ☑ Hooded towels x2
- ☑ Items for Mum (breast pads, maternity pads and a range of toiletries)
- ☑ New baby card handwritten by one of our volunteers

Thank you to our key partners for their in kind stock support:

TROPIC · THE HYGIENE BANK · Jurlique · SALSO SHOES · ComfyQuilts

SCALING UP TO MEET THE GROWING DEMAND

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
=100 CLOTHES PACKS	252	534	646	737	1,272	1,637	1,814	2,225	3,079	3,675
=100 TOY BUNDLES	228	312	511	376	809	967	1,212	1,185	1,057	1,010
=20 PRAMS & BUGGIES	39	48	79	135	140	225	180	273	363	394
=20 HIGHCHAIRS	37	40	51	54	88	87	105	97	125	152
=20 BEDS	47	45	57	63	91	145	137	174	164	383
=200 REFERRALS	356	534	815	1,498	1,956	2,641	4,023	6,159	10,130	8,530

10 YR TOTAL: 15,1871

10 YR TOTAL: 7,667

10 YR TOTAL: 1,876

10 YR TOTAL: 836

10 YR TOTAL: 1,306

Plus the many other items which make up the **36,642 requests for help over the past 10 years...**

10 YEARS OF Team Stork

A DECADE OF SUPPORTING LOCAL FAMILIES

FOCUSED SUPPORT IN TIMES OF NEED

In total we have given out 3,543 Mother's Day gift packs

MOTHER'S DAY

Sadly, for a lot of the Mums we support, celebrating Mother's Day is just not a priority. We've seen first-hand how many Mums are struggling to make ends meet, **putting their needs last and regularly going without** so that they can provide for their children. Our **'A Gift for Mum' campaign** is about recognising and appreciating those Mums. **A gift with a handwritten card; a gesture that says you matter and you're doing a good job.**

Our Mother's Day gift bags are filled with brand new toiletries and pampering gifts that bring a little bit of joy and give Mums permission to take a little time out and put themselves first. Over the years we have been running this popular campaign, we have received some beautiful donations from people within the community, from local Brownie and Guides groups and numerous beauty brands and companies.

"I was quite tearful to receive such an amazing gift. As my daughter is only 3, I had come to the conclusion any Mother's Day gifts I received would be ones I paid for. This just changed it all! Knowing there are people empathising with your struggles and offering kindness and support is just so uplifting and heart-warming."

"One Mum that I worked with broke down in tears, she gave me a big hug. She said that she is having a really hard time at the moment and the gift she received gave her the boost that she needed, to carry on."

SCHOOL DAYS

Through our 'School Days' appeal we aim to support as many families as possible with the school supplies that children need to embrace school life and make the most of their education. We believe that a child thriving at school should not be dependent on their family's circumstances.

The items we offer range from the basics (non-branded school uniform, school shoes and school bags and PE kit) to the more bespoke (non-branded sports kit, exam pencil cases, World Book Day costumes, teen care packs, forest school wellies and items for school trips). We recognise that the true cost to families of a school day includes the extras.

As more families struggle to make ends meet due to the cost-of-living crisis, we are seeing schools take a more prominent role on the frontline, identifying families that are now struggling. Therefore, we will also offer items that we know many families are struggling to afford such as period products, hygiene packs, coats, and waterproof 'puddle' suits.

The School Days campaign has become such a significant part of our work that in July 2023 we took a lease for space in the Raven Housing Trust offices in Redhill. We will use this space to run campaigns like School Days and Santa Stork at greater scale.

"The relief from the worry of providing school uniform is tangible. Families always put this expense before anything else so the money this saves them is amazing."

"I love how items enable families to feel included - school shoes/trainer, school equipment, stationery and fantastic designer toiletries allow our young people to feel valued, nurtured and not stand out from their peers."

GIFTS FOR EID

Eid al-Fitr marks the end of Ramadan fasting and is one of the most important celebrations in the Islamic calendar. It is traditionally celebrated by spending time together exchanging gifts and creating feelings of goodwill. Over the last couple of years, we have been able to support partners working with asylum seeking families and those supporting families fleeing domestic abuse with **gift bags filled with new toys for the children and gift sets for the parents.**

Our Team Stork volunteers welcome the opportunity to participate in this sharing of goodwill, especially as the recipient families had been going through a particularly difficult time and being on the receiving end of such kindness is all that more meaningful.

"Stripey Stork have been amazingly supportive with all our refugee clients. They even provided us with Eid Celebration presents which made the families so happy to know that their faith celebrations are respected by the local community and agencies."

SANTA STORK

Santa Stork is our annual campaign that brings the community together to ensure gifts are given and memories are made for local children in need. We provide gifts for those who really need a helping hand at this difficult time of year. It has become one of the highlights in our calendar. **We believe there are three things that make Santa Stork unique:** CHOICE, DIGNITY AND CARE.

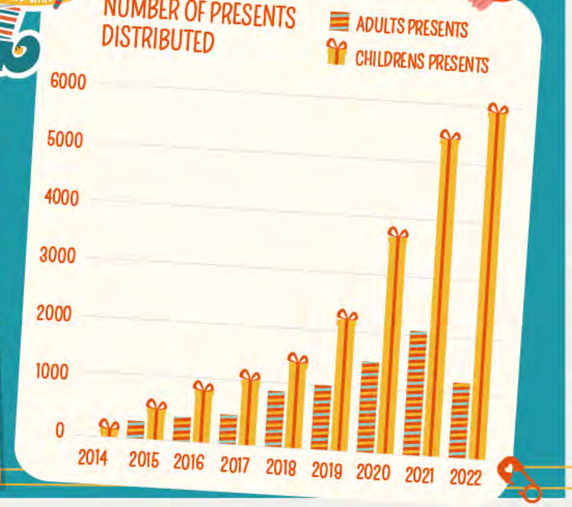
"I received presents for my three children today through my Early Support Worker and I was taken aback by how special and thoughtful your charity is. To also include the wrapping paper, batteries and Sellotape is brilliant and very much appreciated. I can't thank you enough, the presents will make my children so very happy on Christmas Day."

CHOICE: Our catalogue of gifts means that parents can choose what their child will really like, something which reflects their child's unique personality and interests rather than whatever happens to have been donated. We're told that for many of the families referred to us, the gift from Santa Stork will be the only or main gift the child receives so we want it to be something that they will really love.

DIGNITY: We include a roll of wrapping paper, tape and gift tags so that parents/carers can wrap the gifts for their children. This was something which started because of COVID-19 restrictions, but we received feedback that families loved being involved in the process in this way, so it is something we have continued.

CARE: there are lots of thoughtful details that go into Santa Stork – the sticky labels on each of the gift bags peel off cleanly so that families can remove all traces of Stripey Stork's admin and give the gift from the big man himself! We consider the ongoing cost of the gift – if it needs batteries, we provide them; every football comes with a pump so that it can be re-inflated and art sets come with a sketch pad. We like to include a wrapped gift for the parents/carers where our referral partners feel this is appropriate, so that everyone has something to open on Christmas Day.

The community really get behind this important campaign and help us to provide help on an incredible scale.



POWERED BY VOLUNTEERS

40% OF OUR CURRENT VOLUNTEERS...

...have been with us for more than two years, with half of those being with us for over 5 years

"Stripey Stork is my happy place! I always come away feeling valued, that I have done something purposeful and helped others. The tea, chats and laughter are the icing on the cake!"

97% are proud to be part of Team Stork

96% feel their time and contribution are valued at Stripey Stork

"Stripey Stork reaffirmed the power of compassion and the incredible potential we have to create change one small act of kindness at a time."

"I fully understood the need for the service provided by Stripey Stork and I'm very pleased to be involved. We will never know what we might have prevented for some families by offering support when their lives are in crisis."

68% of volunteers have made new friends while volunteering at Stripey Stork

"It automatically made us as a family more aware of the struggles of others in our community. My children became interested in figuring out ways they could help those less fortunate than us. They were only young when I started at Stripey Stork and I feel it had a really positive impact on the way they view the world."

93% say their time at Stripey Stork has made them more aware of the challenges that families in Surrey face.

43% are more likely to consider buying preloved items for their own families after seeing the quality of items donated to Stripey Stork

"I feel so honoured to be part of Team Stork and see the amazing work they do. From my first day at the warehouse in Redhill, I have felt welcomed. No matter how much or how little you do, it is always so appreciated."

95% would recommend volunteering at Stripey Stork to their family, friends or neighbours

32% have learned new skills

"Every volunteer brings different skills which are celebrated. Great to meet new people of all ages. Makes me feel involved in the local community."

"Volunteering at Stripey Stork has been a truly transformative and rewarding experience. Witnessing the impact we make on the lives of families fills my heart with joy and gratitude."

Every week at Stripey Stork we welcome over 100 volunteers: 20 Duke of Edinburgh students, 12 corporate volunteers, 1 school group and our regular weekly volunteers.

Between them they give over **265 hours a week to support Stripey Stork** and drink over 200 cups of tea and coffee!

Results from our 2023 volunteers survey sent to 250 active volunteers, with 76 respondents.

OUR 10 YEAR HEROES

Throughout the last decade there's been so many amazing contributions from our supporters, volunteers, corporate partners, community groups and funders. It's a difficult task to create a top ten and this list is by no way exhaustive. We hope you agree that the following people and organisations deserve a special mention because of their significant efforts in going above and beyond for Stripey Stork and for being such valuable members of Team Stork.

CORPORATE PARTNERS - THE CELTIC CONTRACTORS FAMILY

Local business Celtic Contractors truly do have family at the heart of their business, and we genuinely feel like they are part of ours. They've been with us since the early days and are a shining example of how businesses can use their energy, resources and contacts to make a difference in their local area. They have donated gifts to every Santa Stork campaign as well as volunteering and making Christmas deliveries for us. They wear stripes to raise funds, have been on our Run Reigate team many times, as well as finding a whole host of other ways to promote and support us.

Corporate Social Responsibility at its best!

#BeMoreTangent

REGULAR VOLUNTEERING - HORLEY TANGENT

We are so grateful to the Horley Tangent ladies, in particular Ann, Gill, Chris and Susan, for being such fantastic supporters of Stripey Stork. They team-up time and time again to help with events and campaigns, as well as being longstanding weekly volunteers at the warehouse. They've never let us down and are reliable to the core be it setting up the Run Reigate stall at 6am or helping manage a whole warehouse move. When we have a special task that needs doing, they are first in line. Their determination is fuelled by kindness (and tea). They've even earned their own hashtag at Stripey Stork - #BeMoreTangent, because of the inspiration they are to us all at Team Stork.

We'd like to thank them for everything they do and the special contribution they continue to make.

CAMPAIGN SUPPORT - EMILY AND JO KENNETT

There are so many good, kind people who make our work possible, and Emily and Jo are at the top of this list. It takes some very special people to make sure that Santa Stork is a success and there are few more special than long term supporters Emily and Jo. Every year they start their Christmas shopping super early so they can donate a generous amount of gifts. They always seem to know what children love and how to make dreams come true.

Their Christmas generosity means so much to us and to the many children whose Christmas wishes are granted because of them.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT - ANDY NASH AND THE BELFRY SHOPPING CENTRE

We love working with Andy and his team who do so much for the Redhill community. We are so grateful to have been given the opportunity to be involved in so many of their special events and campaigns over the years. They always give 110% and are a big supporter of Stripey Stork as well as other deserving charities. A particular highlight in the calendar year is their Christmas lights switch-on event – mascot Stripey's never one to miss being on stage with Andy and his crew. We feel at home in the Belfry and its always a great way to promote the work we do.

They are a wonderful example of local organisations working together for the good of the communities they serve.

CAMPAIGN SUPPORT - JANE BABBAGE

One of the best things about being involved with Stripey Stork is that you get to see so many acts of kindness and Jane is one of those unique individuals who has shown us such kindness in action. Jane started the Bags4School project back in 2017 which provides brand new school bags filled with stationery and useful items for local school children of all ages. Her motivation has always been that she doesn't want children to start school, or a new school year, with little or no supplies and suffer the social exclusion and knock in confidence which comes with this, especially at such an influential time.

These filled school bags have continued to be one of our most popular items and it's because of Jane's passion and commitment that we've been able to deliver on these year-on-year.

CHARITY PARTNERS - CJ BOWRY FROM SAL'S SHOES

CJ Bowry also founded Sal's Shoes in 2013, for the same reason that Nicola started Stripey Stork - to find new homes for pre-loved items, in this case shoes, her children had outgrown. This shared vision and passion has meant a close working relationship between the two charities ever since. We share stock between us when necessary or the opportunity arises. CJ has used her contacts over the years to help us out countless times. And it's not just shoes, she's been able to give us access to brand-new children's clothing she's received as part of her Clemie's Clothes initiative, resulting in us receiving thousands of items. Or when she's used her contacts to supply us with thousands of rolls of tape for Santa Stork.

She comes up trumps for us every time. CJ is a great believer in working together to achieve more and it's certainly a mantra she lives by.

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING - JULIE LEVER

Julie has been instrumental in drumming up the support we've received over the years from corporate partner Lexis Nexis (formerly Reed Business Information). Now retired, her legacy lives on. She took her role as Charity Development Executive to the next level and because of this it's set the scene for what Lexis Nexis also gain from their volunteering days and campaign involvement, especially Santa Stork. Like during lockdown when she organised a virtual wrapping session over Zoom of adult Christmas gifts that her trusted team of elves had donated. We've been their Charity of the Year on more than one occasion and as a result they've raised thousands, often exceeding their targets. They've fundraised through quizzes, music nights, sports tournaments, raffles and cake sales.

She brings a spark to everything she touches and has certainly raised the bar for our ongoing relationships with corporate partners. In her retirement, we are so pleased to see her smiling face in the warehouse as one of our regular volunteers.

FUNDRAISERS - SAM WEST AND JACKIE WILSON

They say a photo speaks a thousand words. Since 2017, when Sam and Jackie first ran on Team Stork for Run Reigate, they've put their heart and soul into their costumes and fundraising for this annual event. Run Reigate simply wouldn't be the same without them. Every year, in the build up to Run Reigate, we eagerly await their costume reveal and they never disappoint.

They've raised thousands for us over the years and stay motivated by being avid followers of our activities through our social media channels. Sam's even involved her rescue dog Archie in the fundraising fun.

FUNDERS - ST FAITH'S TRUST

We are grateful to all the trusts and foundations who support our work, but St Faith's Trust really stand out for having that personal touch. And their timing just couldn't be better. Back in 2019 they asked to come and meet us to discuss our future plans. At the time we'd been given notice on the premises we were based in and whilst we'd been to view a warehouse in Reigate that was perfect for our needs, it was way beyond our budget. But St Faith's Trust believed in our plans and ambition, and less than a week after our meeting they made a commitment to support our rental costs for three years. We could move to our dream home! They continue to visit us regularly, take an interest in our work and have even introduced us to other funders and contacts.

Not a day goes by that we don't feel appreciative of the wonderful space we now have and how it continues to work hard for the community.

YOUNG VOLUNTEER – CAITLYN LAWRENCE

We always say that when kindness starts at a young age it sets you up for life and Caitlyn is living proof of that. She not only has a heart of gold but the drive to make things happen. Like the time she wanted to raise funds to help with a project to fill bags with boredom buster items to keep children entertained and stimulated over the Easter holidays. It was her birthday coming up so in true Caitlyn-style she asked friends and family for monetary donations instead of gifts. It didn't end there; she took it upon herself to source such wonderful items and lovingly pack them into bags so they were ready to be distributed. She's also had many volunteering sessions with us at the warehouse and who could forget her first appearance as Stripey the Stork at Run Reigate.

Over the years she's been one of our biggest fans, and it's safe to say that the feeling is mutual.

STORK STORIES

THE DRESSING GOWN GIFT

"I went to visit with him last week and he showed me his room. He has nothing in it except for a little rucksack which he packs a few clothes in for his stay each week."

This came from a request we received from a social worker we work with regularly. She was supporting a 10-year-old-boy from a family with a history of domestic abuse and chronic neglect. The boy was moved to boarding school and was loving it. It was calmer, more restful and he was flourishing.

But he had so little in his room. Nothing to show his personality and not a place that he could proudly hang out with his friends.

We set to work, finding out a little more about him. Thanks to our amazing supporters we quickly gathered clothes, toys, books, toiletries, Lego, a new desk lamp and bedding for his room and we even supplied a reconditioned iPad mini.

The son of one of our Trustees – a boy of the same age – found posters and trading cards from his own collection which featured this boy's favourite football team and asked for them to be passed on.

We caught up with his social worker afterwards who was able to give us an update.

"He was so thrilled with all the things he received and his bedroom at boarding school is now looking very homely....His response when he saw the iPad was lovely but the thing that won him over the most was his very own dressing gown! He told me that he had never had one before and that he was looking forward to having a shower that night and wearing it from the bathroom to his bedroom!"

...THE THING THAT WON HIM OVER THE MOST WAS HIS VERY OWN DRESSING GOWN"

THANK YOU...

Stripey Stork wishes to pass its sincere thanks to the following individuals, businesses and funding sources that have supported us over the 10 years...

SUPPORTING LOCAL FAMILIES SINCE 2013

10th Redhill Brownies
1st Chaldon Brownies
3FEV
52 Lives
5th Reigate Rainbows
6th Reigate Brownies
A Moment Of You
Aberdour School
ACC Aviation
Adrian Burr Plumbing
AIG Life
Airport Parking & Hotels (APH)
AJs Run School
AKM Hair
Albert Hunt Trust
Alex English (Author)
Alexander Associates
All Things Chic
Allianz Croydon
Amazon Smile
Amelia, St Wilfrids School, Crawley
Antipodes Merino
Apple Tree Nursery
Aquaint
Arnold Clark Community Fund
ASD Harrison Transport
ASDA (George)
Asda Burgh Heath
Asda Foundation
Ashcombe School
Ashford House Consultancy Ltd
asos
Avent
Aviva Community Fund
Baby Bank Windsor
Baby Duet
Baby Sensory East Surrey
Bailhache Linton LLP
Barclays Bank
Barclays Bank, Canary Wharf
Banstead Prep. School
Barclays Bank, Redhill
Bargains4Ever
Barry Snel's Mobile Valet
Barts
Bathing Bunnies
Batitude Leatherhead
BBC Radio Surrey
BBC Surrey & BBC Sussex
Bear & Bunny Nursery, Charlwood
Bear Snacks
Beaufort Group
Beauty Banks
Becky Pearce Designs
Bed-e-byes
Belfry Shopping Centre
Benefact Group's Movement for Good Campaign
Betty Bugg
Bircham Dyson Bell
Black & Veatch
Blue Sky Medical Aesthetics
Boogie Monsters
BookTrust
Borrows Charitable Trust
Boss Dog
Brickfield House staff, East Surrey Hospital
British Airways Better World Community Fund
Bryn Siriol Fund
Bugaboo
Bumps2Babies Nearly New Sales
BusyLizzy Reigate
Bytes Software
CAF Keystone Fund
CAF Resilience Fund
Canon UK & Ireland
Capsticks UK
Carrington School
Carshalton Inner Wheel Club
Cash for Kids
Caterham Children's Centre
Caterham Food Bank
Caterham Rotary Club
Caterham Round Table
Caterham WI
Caytons Law
Celtic Contractors Ltd
CGG Company
Chalk PR
Charities Aid Foundation
Cheeky Rascals
Chemigraphic
Chloe Bridge Photography
Christ is King Church, Salfords
Churches Together
Clarion Housing
Cllr Barbara Thomson
Cllr Chris Stevens
Cllr Christopher Whinney
Cllr David Pay
Cllr David Powell
Cllr Graeme Crone
Cllr James King
Cllr Jonathan Essex
Cllr Mark Brunt
Cllr Jill Bray
Cllr Victor Lewanski
Cllr Paul Chandler
Cllr Rebecca Paul
Cllr Sue Sinden
Cllr Zully Grant-Duff
CMS Social Impact Fund
Comfy Quilts Ltd
Comic Relief
Community Foundation for Surrey
Conchus Life
Cook, Reigate
Co-op Community Development Fund
Copthorne WI
Co-Tribe
Country Kids
createselect
Crowdfunder
Crown Brushes
Croydon & East Surrey Baby Sensory
Croydon Crocuses WI
Croydon Whitgift Rotary Club
Crumbs Brewery
Cuboid Consulting
Dadland Podcast
Daisy First Aid Redhill & Croydon
Dayspace
DC Thompson & Co
Deli on the Hill
Delight charity
Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport
Department of Work & Pensions
Derek Paravacini Quartet
Disney Store UK
Dom Balls Production
Dorking Inner Wheel Association
Downsend Pre-Prep School, Ashtead
Dunottar School
Earlswood Methodist Church
East Grinstead Foodbank
East Surrey College
East Surrey Pharmacy Dept
Ecclesiastical Movement for Good
Ellipse - you quote we donate
Elmbridge Food Bank
Embassy Electrics
Emilia Hunt Designs
Emma Merrell, Weleda UK
Eoin McLaughlin, Author
Epsom & Ewell Foodbank
Esure
Fab Women networking
Fairclough & Dyer Ltd
Federation of Earlswood Schools
Fidelity International
Fidelity UK
Fifi & Friends
Finest for Baby
First Community Health & Care
First Steps Nursery, Merstham
Fishers Farm Park
For Common Good
Foresters Financial UK
Friends of Hatchlands School
Frugi
Furnistore
Furzefield School
Galaxy Hot Chocolate Fund
Gamely Games
Garfield Weston Foundation
Gary's Gardens
Gatwick Airport Community Trust
Gatwick Foundation Fund
Generation Redhill
Gerrards Ladieswear
Gibsons Games
Give A Car
Give As You Live
Glam Your Pram
GlaxoSmithKline
GLF Schools
Global Baggage Solutions, London Gatwick Airport
Godstone Church
Gorgeous Gem's Bakery
Grant Thornton International
Greensand Care Home
Greensand Multi-Academy Trust
Greensleeves Florists
Greggs Foundation
Groundworks UK
Grow Baby, Surbiton
GXH Barber Studio, Horley
Halliwell Marks Estate Agents
Handa UK
Handpicked Hotels
Harlequin Wallpaper & Fabrics
Harrow Inn, Warlingham
Hartsfield Manor Hotel
Hatchlands School
Haul & Store
Hazelwood School, Oxted
Healys LLP
Hearts of Hope UK
Hendy Foundation
Hey Girls
High Sheriff of Surrey, Dr Julie Llewelyn
High Sheriff of Surrey, Mr Shahid Azeem DL
Hive Dynamics
Holman Fenwick Willan
Holmesdale Community Infant School, Reigate
HomeStart East Surrey
Horley Evening WI
Horley Food Bank
Horley Lions
Horley Rotary Club
Horley Tangent
HPS
HRH Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, Mr Michael More-Molyneux
HRH The Duke of Gloucester
HSBC
HSS Hire Redhill
Huntress Recruitment
Hurst Green Methodist Church
I Choose Freedom
ICG Foundation
Ideorganic
IGF
IHS Markit
ILG & Newbie Store UK
Independent Growth Finance
Infinity - Space to Grow
InKind Direct
InToto Kitchens
Issie Loves Books
ITW Construction Products
Jake Coates Art
Jane Harcourt
Jaycee Baby
Jigsaw group, St Mary's Church Reigate
Jigsaw Woking
JK Interiors
JLT Group
John Lewis, Brent Cross
JoJo Maman Bebe
Joseph Levy Foundation
JPA Commercial Properties
Jurlique UK
Just
Karen Gray Photography
Karl Hyder 'Man With A Van'
Kate Hutchings Photography
Keekaroo Ltd
KF Flooring
Kimberley Clark
Kingsley Napley
Kirstin Wood Artist
Kuoni
Langshott Primary School
Le Toy Vans
Leafy Learners
Lee from E8syU
Legacy Sportswear
Legal & General
LETS Explore
Lexis Nexis Risk Solutions (formerly Reed Business Information)
LG Logistics
Like2Box
Like2Lift
Lime Designs Kitchens & Joinery
Lime Tree Primary School
Little Harts Music
Littleport Craft Group
Localgiving
Love Reigate
Loveworks
Lucy Hilton
M&S, Redhill
Mam UK Ltd
MamaRun
Manorfield Primary School
Maraya photography
Marks & Spencer, Redhill
Masonic Charitable Foundation
Matthew Douglas Ltd
Mayor & Mayoress of Reigate & Banstead, Cllr Keith & Mrs Helen Foreman
Mercer
Merino Kids
Merstham Community Facility Trust
Merstham Cricket Club
Merstham Football Club
Merstham Millenium Trust
Merstham Park School
Merstham Women's Group
Metrobank
Micklefield School
Micro Scooter UK
Mila & Mateo Mavronicolas
Milk & Poop
Miller & May
Mini Melton
Miss Ava-May Malik
Miss Caitlyn Lawrence
Miss Jessica Stock
Miss Natalia Vesala
Miss Phoebe Dunderdale
Miwk, Reigate
Mole Valley District Council
Mole Valley Family Centre
Monkey Moo
Monty's Bakehouse
Moore Kingston Smith LLP
Morr & Co LLP
Morrisons Supermarket, Reigate
Mr Bryn Parsons
Mr Ed Baker
Mr Eoin McLaughlin
Mr John Smith
Mr Josh Kelly
Mr Oliver Firth
Mr Ortis Deley
Mr Paul Collier
Mr Richard Feist
Mr Richard Scantlebury
Mr Russell Brett
Mr Scullin, Earlswood School
Mr Simon Bashford
Mr T R Hunter
Mr Tim Armitage
Mr Tony Tobin
Mrs Andrea Canning
Mrs Ann Taylor
Mrs Annabelle McFeeters
Mrs Caroline Brecknell
MVO DL
Mrs Caron Epps
Mrs Claire Feist
Mrs Corinne Yates
Mrs Emily & Jo Kennett
Mrs Emma Wilson
Mrs Gaynor Goss
Mrs Jane & Catherine Babbage
Mrs Janet Aslett
Mrs Joan Hodge
Mrs Kate Archer
Mrs Lois Shrimpton
Mrs Louise Nicholls
Mrs Marion Dean
Mrs Penny Kirk
Mrs Peta Rooney
Mrs Sarah Sproston
Ms Chloe Dunn
Ms Emma-Louise Smith
Ms Jess Allen
Ms Marie-Therese Dawes
Ms Marta Skorupska
Mstr Callum McBride
Mstr Oscar Scott
Muffin Break
Mum of Rascals / The Williams Family
National Emergencies Trust
National Lottery Community Fund
Nationwide Building Society, Redhill
Natixis
Natural Baby Shower
NCT Branch Nearly New Sales
Needles & Hooks Angels & Preemies
Neighbourly
Nelsons Healthcare Products
Nestle UK
New Look
NHS Surrey Heartlands
Nicola B Designs
Nutfield Church of England Primary School
Nutfield Gals WI
Nuxe
Oakhyrst Grange School, Caterham
Oh Creative
Old Reigatians Rugby Football Club
One Premium Fitness, Reigate
Opus Tech
Osborne
Our Baby Club, Epsom
Outwood WI
Overbury
Oxted Classic Cars
Pampers UK
Partners Group
Peanut PR
Penguin Random House
Persimmon Charitable Foundation
Peter Harrison Foundation
Pfizer UK
Piccalily UK
Pillage in the Village
Pip Organic Juices
Pistachios in the Park
Plum Pudding Agency
Printmates
Priory Farm
Proud Couture
Puzzler
RAC Club Epsom
Rachel Thornhill Photography
Radio Redhill
Ralph James Estate Agents
Raven Housing Trust
Ray Brown (Decorating Specialist)
RBBC Greenspaces Team
Red Oak Family Centre
Redhill Baptist Church
Redhill Business Guild
Redhill Confetti
Redhill Methodist Church
Redhill Redstone Rotary Club
Redhill Rotary
Redhill Summer Festival
Redsbaby UK

Redstone FM
Redstone WI
Reigate & Banstead Borough Council
Reigate & Banstead Business Awards
Reigate & Redhill Round Table no 119
Reigate 10th Rainbows
Reigate Baptist Church
Reigate College
Reigate District Cubs
Reigate Duct Manufacturing
Reigate Grammar School
Reigate Heath Golf Club
Reigate Hill Golf Club
Reigate Ladies Joggers
Reigate Manor Hotel
Reigate Methodist Church
Reigate Parish Church Primary School
Reigate Priory School
Reigate Probus Group
Reigate School
Reigate School of Ballet & Commercial Dance
Reigate Soroptimists
Reigate St Marys Preparatory & Choir School
reigate.uk
Resolution, First for Family Law
Revive Reuse Shop, SUEZ recycling
RH Networking
RH Uncovered Magazine
RHA Furniture
Rotary Club of Redhill, Reigate & District
Rotary Club of Reigate
Rotary International Covid-19 fund
Rowan Preparatory School, Esher
Royal Alexandra & Albert School
Ruby & Freddies
Run Series
Russell & Bromley
Russell Cooke Solicitors
Sainsbury's, Redhill
Sal's Shoes
Salfords Primary School
Saltwater Sandals
Sandcross School
Santoro London
SBS Building Services
Scarlett & the virtual cycling team
Schleich toys
Scholastic Books
Screwfix Foundation
Scrubs for Heroes - Redhill, Reigate & Horley
Seasonal Kids Surrey
Serene Spaces
SES Water
Sevenhill
Sevenoaks Prep Nursery Class
Seymour Estate Agents
Shanly Foundation
Shona Gow Designs
Signature @ Reigate Grange
Silverback Guerrilla Productions
Skipton Building Society
Skylark Charity Support Network
Smalls Charities Week
Sonrisa Photography
Sophie Loosveldt, children's author
Southern Coop (London Road, Reigate store)
Southern Coop (London Road, Reigate store)
Southern Co-op More Inclusive Neighbourhoods Local Funding
Southern Housing Group
Spelthorne Borough Council
Squires Garden Centre, Reigate
St Faith's Trust
St George's Church
St Johns Primary School, Redhill
St Joseph's Primary School
St Kilda Mums
St Margaret's Church, Chipstead
St Mary's School
St Mary's Toddler Group, Reigate
St Matthew's Church
St Matthew's Foodbank
St Peter & St Paul School
St Stephens Church, Godstone
Stanwell Food Bank
Star Steppers
Stokke AS
Stowe Family Law
Styled by Susie
Suffolk Baby Bank
Summer Day Media
Supermum Surrey
Surplus to Supper
Surrey Choices
Surrey Community Action
Surrey County Council
Surrey Life Magazine
Surrey Mirror
Surrey Office Supplies
Surrey Sands
Sutton & Nonsuch Rotary Club
Sutton Soup
SWOTS Uniform Shop
Tandridge District Council
Tandridge Together Lottery
Tesco Bags of Help
Tesco Extra, Redhill
Tesco Gatwick Community Champions
That's Surrey TV
The All-In-One Company
The Beauty Bank
The Belfry Shopping Centre
The Bell, Reigate
The Carmela and Ronnie Pignatelli Foundation
The Charles Lewis Foundation
The Community Fund for Reigate and Banstead
The Dinner Table
The Entertainer
The Family Grapevine East Surrey
The Fine Letter Co
The Girl Who Gardens
The Gould family
The Guilty Mummy
The Harlequin Theatre, Redhill
The Healthy Back Bag Co.
The Hygiene Bank
The Hygiene Bank Carshalton & Sutton
The Hygiene Bank Oxted, Hurst Green & Edenbridge
The Light
The Local Handyman
The Mobile Pizzeria
The Nanny Connection
The Netherby Trust
The Parish of the Nativity of the Lord
The Petts family
The Plan Group
The Real Coconut UK
The Roe Deer, Reigate
The Saccone-Joly family
The Shoe Tree
The Sign Workshop
The Soapy Zebra
The Sparber family
The Staff on Buckland Ward, East Surrey Hospital
The Storytellers
The Surrey Circle (formerly YLBB)
The Walton Heath Golf Club
The Week Junior
The Whyte Family
The Wisley Foundation
The Yates Family
This Surrey Mummy
Three Peaks Team
Tim's Pastry Club
Tom Graham Creative
Tommee Tippee UK
Tommy & Lottie Childrenswear
Total Gas & Power
Toy Barnhaus
Toyota Foundation
Transpeed Removals
Trimline
Trinity Church Sutton
Tropic Skincare
TSB, Redhill
TUI
Turtle Tots East Surrey
Uh Oh Milo
UKG Services
Unified UK
Unilever
Unison Choir
VINCI UK Foundation
VW Ware
Volks Autos, Sutton
Volt Europe
Voluntary Action Reigate & Banstead
Wacky Kingdom
Waitrose
Waitrose Banstead
Waitrose East Grinstead
Waitrose Epsom
Waitrose Fulfilment Centre, Coulsdon
Waitrose Horley
Waitrose Oxted
Wallington & Carshalton Tangent
Walter & Mair Estate Agents
Walton Charity
Wates Family Enterprise Trust
WEA East Surrey
WHSmith Reigate
Whyteleafe Netball Club
Wilko
Willis Towers Watson
Woodfield Secondary School
Woodhatch Post Office & Jasons News
Woodhatch WI
Woodlands Spirits
Woodmansteme Primary School
WTW
Yogamoo
Your Marketing Team (formerly Kemp Marketing)
Yours Magazine
YMU Group

ONE ROOM

Your house is not quite a house,
It is one space,
You must fit everything into it,
Including your whole family.
Everyone has to fit.

Your house is actually a small room,
An everything room.
It has a window,
You can probably see the road from there.
Is it hard to cross?
Do you always keep the window shut,
To stop the bad air
Choking you.

I wonder if the corridor,
The one that runs along,
Outside the door,
Is a place where you can skip
Or cartwheel.
Can you linger there?
Or does it feel important
To keep your one door shut -
To keep the Outside
From getting in?

Are the people you see here,
Neighbours?
Or just strangers
Who pass by?

From your window,
Can you see a Playground;
Are there other children there?
Is it safe to go alone?

Or are there things along the way
You are not meant to see.
Things dropped,
That should never be found.
What's special to you?
Do you collect things?
Maybe small things?
Little figures perhaps.
Where do they go?
Is there a shelf, a cupboard, a drawer;

A space where they can live?
Or is there no room in your room
For special things,
Things which are not important.

Not like a toothbrush,
Or soap to keep you clean.

Do you ever invite your friends?
Where would they sit down,
On a chair?
Or on the bed?
Or are friends like special things,
Things that cannot fit.
Is it easier not to let
Other people in?

When you are feeling furious
Do you angrily sweep your
Schoolwork from the table,
So it scatters
Round the room?
Is it unfair to have a tantrum?
Is it best to keep your feelings
Shushed?

Do you hear things,
You don't want to hear?
Anger in a small space can't get out.
But can you stop it getting in?
Do you have a book of tales
Where you can hide and lose yourself?
Or do the room words
Burrow in,
And stamp the story out?

Do you think about one day,
Do you think about what you
Might be?
Can your imagination take you?
Does it whirl you around the Universe?

Are you that child?
The one who can create space,
Where there is no space.
Do your ideas push at the walls of your
One room?
Can you dream it bigger?

OR DO DREAMS SUFFOCATE IN SMALL SPACES.

*Written for **Bedrooms of London** by **Lauren Child CBE, Children's Laureate (2017-2019)***
(shared in this report with kind permission of the author)

SUPPORT THE STORK

There are many ways you can help us to ensure we can power Team Stork into the next 10 years...

£10 4 10 YEARS

SCAN TO DONATE SCAN

MONTHLY DONATIONS

YOUR MONTHLY £10 DONATION will enable us to reach even more local families who need our help.

https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/9010

Whether it's a one-off payment or a direct debit (monthly, quarterly, half-yearly or annually) you can afford, we appreciate all contributions, big or small. Anything you can give will help us to support local families who need a helping hand to provide for their children.

VOLUNTEER

We are **always looking for volunteers to help** at our busy warehouse in Reigate. You can **volunteer as an individual, with a group of friends, on a work team away day or as part of a community group.** We welcome regular volunteers, those who can only help on an ad hoc basis, or those who are interested in helping with a particular campaign. **You will be able to make a real difference** and contribute to our ambitious plans by using your existing skills and learning new ones.

Email **volunteer@stripeystork.org.uk** or see website **www. stripeystork.org.uk/donate-time**

Is there something you wish to DONATE?
DONATE@STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK

Are you a professional who supports local families and wants to MAKE A REFERRAL?
REFER@STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK

Are you a local business or community group who would like to partner with us?
PARTNERSHIPS@STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK

OUR AMAZING TEAM STORK

LOCAL FAMILIES
HELPING
LOCAL FAMILIES

10 YEARS OF Team Stork

STRIPEY STORK 2013-2023

www.stripeystork.org.uk

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