

Children and War-UK Supporters Committee Annual Report for 2019

The proposed new Charity has been a UK supporters group to the Norwegian based Children and War Foundation registered in Bergen, Norway. Thus the Annual report reflects that status.

Introduction

The CaW-UK supporters committee has this year continued to focus on training and fundraising. In addition we have spent considerable amount of time over banking issues and the Web-site.

The CaW-UK committee met 5 times. Additional working meetings attended by relevant people were held to plan and run specific training, fundraising events and to deal with additional matters.

Committee membership and roles

CaW-UK supporters committee members continue to be:

Bill Yule, Patrick Smith, Laura Timms, Helen Likierman, Julian Hale, Kim Ehntholt, David Trickey, Richard Meiser-Stedman and Maria Callias. Tori Snell resigned this year.

Maria Callias continues to chair the committee and to be on the Board of Directors. Bill Yule continues to be UK Treasurer, and Laura Timms continues to be the UK committee Secretary and to coordinate training. Helen Likierman and Julian Hale are editors of the Newsletter, and lead on fundraising.

Towards the end of the year we started a new Fundraising group with Helen Likierman as Chair and including three new volunteers.

Fundraising

Helen Likierman and Julian Hale arranged three fundraising events this year; two of them soirées in their home. The first was an interesting talk by Aurelia Young and Julian Hale based on their book on the life of the sculptor Oscar Nemon, Aurelia Young's father. The second was a Concert by the Allegri Quartet who once again gave a wonderful concert. Both events included a most delicious buffet dinner. The third event was a Stained Glass walking tour around London led by Caroline Swash. All these events were fully booked, most enjoyable, a huge success and raised awareness and interest in the work of Children and War Foundation. In addition to the money raised by each event, these events led to generous additional donations to the Foundation. We are most grateful to all who contributed their time and generosity to make these such successful events.

We also received generous donations directly and through our JustGiving page.

We warmly thank all our fundraisers and donors for their generous contributions of time and effort as well as the funds raised.

See financial statement for details of income and expenditure.

Training

The following training events of advertised training and requested training were held in 2019 in UK and by members of the UK group:

- i) On 9 and 10 April Bill Yule and Laura Timms carried out Teaching Recovery Techniques in Peterborough for BACA Charity who work with unaccompanied minors in the UK.
- ii) In May Maria Callias spent a week training staff on a feasibility project based in Khayelitsha, Cape Town, for children traumatised by events in their daily lives. This research is jointly run by the Universities of Bath and Stellenbosch. If this feasibility study proves successful they aim to develop the work further.
- iii) On 31 October and 1 November, Laura Timms, Maria Callias and David Trickey ran a TRT 2 day training event. It was attended by people from the UK, many of them work with refugees in the UK and other European countries.
- iv) Bill Yule and Mary Spence, who trained staff on the Grenfell Wellbeing Group for Children in Teaching Recovery Techniques last year, continued to liaise with the group. There is a plan for ongoing collaboration with this group, especially in work with the younger children (under 8 years old) in which Helen Likierman will also be involved.

We thank all the trainers for their hard work. All these trainings were very well received and many of the delegates from these courses, and those run in the past, have gone on to train others in their own services.

Banking

At the beginning of 2019, the DNB bank, the bank for Children and War Foundation, gave the Foundation notice that it would be closing the UK based account but were prepared to keep a sterling account in Bergen, where the main account is based.

The terms of this account were such that this was not feasible for the UK committee to run its business or to fundraise in the UK.

We spent much time this year exploring options for a UK based bank account for the UK support group and the matter was not resolved by the end of the year even though our UK DNB account was closed at the end of November.

Children and War Foundation Website

The first phase of the new Website was launched in June this year. The UK group have spent considerable time reviewing the website. Individual comments and suggestions were collated and discussed at 2 special meetings in August by Bill Yule, Laura Timms and Maria Callias. These were further systematised and documented by Maria Callias and

sent to the Board of Directors who were very appreciative of the input. These will be taken into account in the next phase of the development of the Website.

Publications, meetings and media

This year, Helen Likierman and Julian Hale have produced two interesting and highly informative newsletters which can be found on the website. It is gratifying to read about the achievements of people trained by CaW who have used the training to train others and also work directly with children and young people in need in many parts of the world.

Bill Yule, Patrick Smith and others in the UK have participated in conferences, teaching and other events relevant to the work of CaW though not directly representing CaW.

Some of the highlights this year were:

- i) Following his radio interview with Claudia Hammond for the All in the Mind radio programme last year, Bill Yule gave a presentation to the Royal Society of Medicine.
- ii) Laura Timms and Bill Yule joined in a symposium organised by Veronica Dobler (who trained with us in the past) at the Royal College of Psychiatry meeting.
- iii) Bill Yule and Laura Timms were invited by Sabine Kampmueller to Vienna, Austria to a press Conference about the application of TRT by AFYAS with child refugees. Sabine developed this work as a result of her attendance at training in London.
- iv) Bill Yule presented to the British Psychological Society Crisis and Disaster Section on 25 years work and developments since the publication of his book 'Wise Before the Event'.
- v) The NICE guidelines for best practice in Child Mental Health have cited Teaching Recovery Techniques as a first line group training for traumatised young people.
- vi) David Trickey, Bill Yule and Richard Meiser-Stedman are all founder members of the newly established UK Trauma Council.

We were particularly pleased to find out about how those who attended our training have implemented services to meet the needs of refugee children in Europe. We are also pleased to see that our evidence based strategies for helping traumatised children have been recognised as a model of good practice.

In conclusion, I should like to thank all the committee for their dedication and for giving so generously of their time and commitment throughout the year. Grateful thanks too to everyone else mentioned in this report who have also given so generously of their time, expertise and funding.

Maria Callias

Chair, CaW-UK Supporters Committee