



Solefield Parents' Association

Chair's Report 2017-18

The 2017-18 year was a great one for the Solefield Parents' Association. We had a major focus on fundraising, enabling us to make a sizeable contribution to the school's building development fund.

We ran many of our traditionally popular events along with some new and additional events to raise our biggest mount ever. We were able to hand over a cheque for £44,000 to the school at our Platinum Ball.



In the 12 months September 2017-August 2018, a profit of £29,872 was raised from a combination of parent and boys' events, as well as from second hand uniform sales. This represents an increase of nearly 100% on previous years and we are enormously grateful to everyone who helped with this. Added to the £19,840 surplus held over from



previous events, we were able to contribute over £45,000 to the school this year; £44,000 towards the School's

Development Fund and around £1,000 on pantomime tickets for the boys (as well



as fund matching of £424 for the Ronald McDonald House). We also saw the arrival of the new vehicle last year as well as refurbishment of the two minibuses.



Fundraising 2017/18

Social Events for Parents and Staff

We held three social events for parents and staff over the year, one each term, aiming both to raise money and give everyone a chance to socialise together.



In October 2017, we held our first ever Race Night to give everyone a chance to catch up at the start of the school year. We did not sell quite as many tickets as we hoped but it was a lot of fun on the night and raised a substantial £1,700. Holroyd Howe ran our first ever burger bar which proved to be a hit.

Our very popular Music & Curry Night was a sell out in March 2018, showcasing various musical talents from staff and parents and ending (rather late) with dancing. Our thanks to Rob Fenning and all the other musical talents who supported



the event, which raised just under £2,000. Music & Curry Night will return on March 8th 2019!



We ended the year in June 2018 with our Platinum Ball held at Wildernesse Golf Club. This was a special event that everyone enjoyed. Tickets were sold out and we were lucky to have "The Way" donate



their performance. Nazreen Mills-Meyer used her decorating flair on the tables and we made a profit of over £5,000 from ticket sales and sponsorship. In addition, we ran an auction that raised over £11,000. We are very thankful to the very generous donors and bidders.

Erin Stratton continues to man the helm of **Second Hand Uniform Sales**, providing a service to parents and raising additional funds. Over £800 in profit was added to SPA funds from this source last year and our thanks go to Erin.



Events for All

In September 2017, we ran our first ever Family Fun Day, organised by Nicole Cazeaux and Tamlyn Elrin. This saw many parents and staff throughout the school come together to help run different stalls. Parents and boys from across the years came along to enjoy the event. There was a BBQ, competitions, games, treasure hunts, a bouncy castle, face painting, drinks and a very popular 'hit the staff with a wet sponge' stall. We received a lot of positive feedback and over £2,500 profit was raised. However, we recognise we relied on a great deal of help from many people so decided not to run this event every year. We are looking to do another Family Fun Day at the start of the Summer Term 2019 (Saturday 27th April).



Events for Boys

We continued to run a number of events for the boys across the year, primarily to provide fun but also to raise additional funds.

Our main annual event remains the **Christmas Fayre**, and we recognise the massive effort put in by so many throughout the school, particularly Form Reps. You know who you are and it would not work without you! The Fayre is always a lovely day for everyone involved, and is a major fundraiser. At the Christmas Fayre 2017 we raised just under £5,000 from all the elements; year group stalls, games and refreshments, hamper raffle, boys raffle, merchandise sales and trader stall payments. Particular thanks go to Julie Easy for coordinating the trader stalls, Tamlyn Elrin for all the merchandise work and Rebecca Tym for her photographic work providing a Christmas school calendar.



We reviewed the Fayre and decided that as trader payments do not make much profit and involve more work, we would run the 2018 Fayre without this element, but would re-use our trader connections at the next Family Fun Day.



In addition, we ran a **Year 7&8 Disco**, a **Pre-Prep Disco**, a **Year 4-6 Film Night** and the **Sports Day Cake & Drinks Stall**. Thanks to Hilary Peters, Bolette Stratten, Ruth Nikolich, Francisca Grol, Dina Foster and Nicole Hawkins for running these events. Around £2,300 was raised from these efforts.

The SPA Team

My personal thanks to Kirsty Handel (Treasurer) and Hilary Peters (Secretary) who remained in post for another year. SPA works with a small willing team of helpers from a variety of year groups and we thank them all. People help as much as they can, with one event or several.



We would always welcome more help and promise we are a welcoming bunch. You are allowed to leave whenever you choose!



Our thanks as always, go to Rosalind Philps, Fiona Henry, Barbara Volpato and Lindsay Savage, who help so much with everything we do.

Looking Forward 2018/2019

Looking forward, we are hoping for a slightly less frenetic 12 months. We have already held a very well supported Quiz Night along with a boys' (Years 4-6) Halloween Disco and another Christmas Fayre.



In 2019, you will see us supporting the school's Sponsored Walk and running discos for Years 7&8 and the Pre-Prep (Rec-Year 3) again. We hope to see you at one or all of these events in 2019: Music & Curry Night (Friday 8th March), our second Family Fun Day (Saturday 27th April) and our end of year Dinner Dance (Saturday 22nd June).

Rachel Evans
SPA Chair

January 2019