

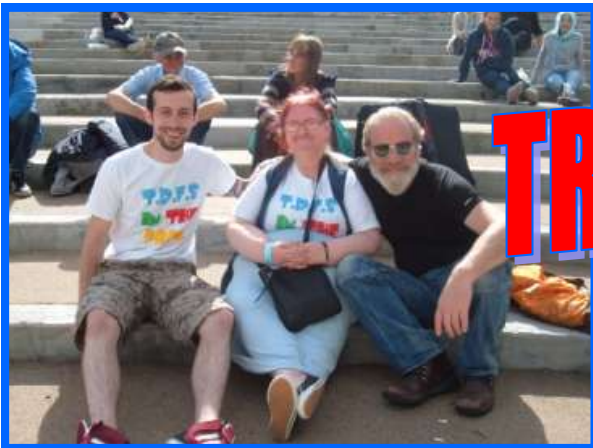


The Richmond Fellowship
Scotland

**PARTICIPATORY
FUNDING
NEWSLETTER**

Edition 1

HAVING FUN



TRFS IN THE PARK



BARBEQUE

FOOTBALL

The right choice for support

Foreword by Dale Houston

The introduction of Participatory Funding in our region has created a huge amount of positive work and significant outcomes for people supported by TRFS to have **FUN**.

The early work and approach to our voting event was decided on by our Central Region Steering Group. This group consisted of individuals supported across the region and staff from our five areas. It is a great reflection of the work of the group that it took us only seven meetings to decide on date, venue, voting structure and how to promote our event. The fact that we were the first region to move towards both an event and awards of funding meant we had to create everything for our approach. These pieces of work are now being used by other regions, which is highly complimentary.

The bidding day on 7th June, in the Teachers building, was a hugely well attended event and the bid teams did such a good job in presenting their bids at their stalls then selling their bids to an audience in excess of 100 people. The humour, creativity and bravery to present is to be applauded, everyone involved was hugely courageous and inspirational in their approach.

The support from services and staff was critical in the success of our PF approach; the enthusiasm of individuals and the assistance they received made sure the event was never just going to be about the financial awards.

As we all celebrated the awards of funding, the importance of the **next stage was dawning..... let's now make these bids a reality!!!**

This newsletter attempts to capture the bids now happening. We plan to produce three editions with the support of Jennifer McKee from Communicate and all the successful bid teams sending in photographs and testimonies on how the events/purchases assisted individuals to have **FUN!!!**



When individuals were asked to come up with suggestions for **FUN** things to do with the Participatory Budget Jean Phinn came up with the idea of a music festival. Jean thought this was an impossible suggestion, but working collectively, supported individuals and staff within Central Region have shown the impossible is most certainly possible.

SO HOW HAVE WE GOT HERE???

Initially the reaction to the suggestion of a music festival that was put forward by Jean was we cannot do that. However, due to the enthusiasm shown by staff and supported individuals within the 5 services that share the office space at Seaward Street we began to take the suggestion more seriously. With the help of my senior Graham, Jean and I began to explore the possibility of making this dream of Jean's a reality.

Questionnaires were sent out to other services asking if their supported individuals would be interested in such an event and whether they, their families, friends or members of their staff teams would like to perform on the day. The response was so overwhelming that it was quickly established that there would be no cost involved in hiring entertainment as we have access to a wide range of musical talent within the region. This in turn spurred us on to explore some more!

After some searching on the internet about the cost of the essentials to make the day possible such as the stage, sound equipment and marquee - we decided it was within a range acceptable to take forward to supported individuals at the bidding event.

When Jean heard how others had welcomed her idea she was very emotional and nervous at the same time, as she was aware that it was her proposal and therefore she would need to present her idea. Whether funding was awarded or not would be dependent on how other supported individuals vote.

TRFS in the Park

The event was given a name -

TRFS IN THE PARK

This was suggested by Graham and seen as a good choice by everyone involved. We prepared the presentation pack for the voting and decided that Graham would present our bid along with Jean. Jean also prepared a poem to read out at the bid.



Hooray, Hooray, Summertime is here,
Lots of Smiling Happy People,

Enjoying their day in the sun!

HOLD ON MATE! The fun has only just begun

Lots of food to get you in the mood

Lots of singing, cheering, lots of music

So lets dance the night away

Forget about your worries,

Leave them all behind

Be loud and be proud of TRFS in the Park

For today Glasgow belongs to them, you and I!

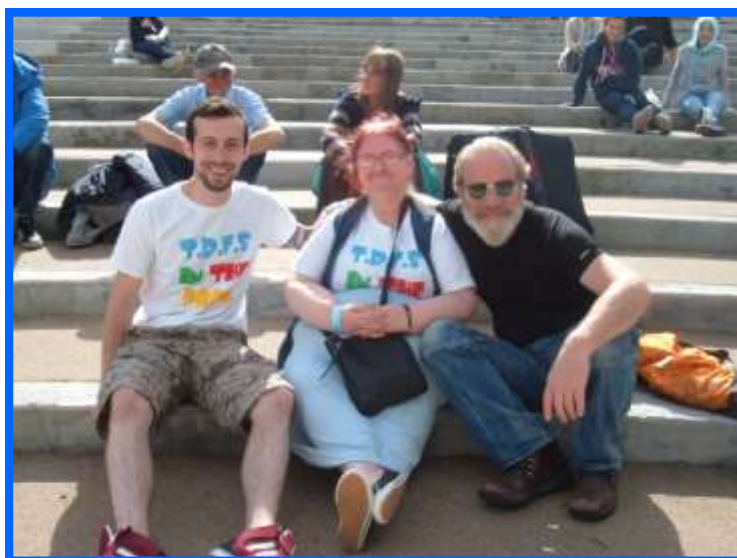


TRFS in the Park

On the day of the presentation we had people from all over the region expressing their enthusiasm and excitement about TRFS in the Park. You can imagine the pride we felt when we were granted the full amount we had bid for. Jean was one step closer to making the impossible possible.

So Jean, Graham and I set about making this event a success. We faced an uphill struggle from the start as I struggled to find someone who was responsible for the hiring of Queens Park Arena. This proved to be the most difficult and time consuming challenge of the whole event but with time and persistence the event was given the go ahead for 31st August 2013.

On the day of our event, the weather stayed bright and everyone involved had a fantastic day. Our stalls were very well attended and the chippie always had a huge queue at it. We were even surprised to see a Hollywood star when Peter Mullen dropped in to support our event.



Graham, Jean and Peter

Our performers on the day were great and no one got stage fright. Well done to everyone.

The event started as an idea but just goes to show what can happen with energy, friends and a willingness to make things happen. Can't wait till next year!

TRFS in the Park



It was a brilliant day I was so happy to play with my band. I am going to do it again next year and we are going to play at the Blackford open day, I felt so excited to be on stage

Colin



I had fun at the concert the best bit was when everyone was clapping and dancing, the day made me feel happy.

Jamie



TRFS in the Park

Never mind T in the Park! It's all about TRFS in the park! This was a great day for supported individuals and staff members to spend with their family and friends who all came together in Queen's Park. We also managed to lure in a famous film star/director who couldn't resist joining in the fun. It involved the community and a real good vibe took place that day. This event was a great idea and very well worth the money dedicated to it from the participatory budget funding. It was well planned, well executed and it would be wonderful if this could become a yearly event. It would grow over the years to become bigger and better. I hope, and look forward to, attending this event again in the future!

Lisa



TRFS in the Park



TRFS in the Park



I would like to say that it was a most enjoyable day. It looked as though all that attended enjoyed themselves and the entertainment was superb!! I think the people we support who attended got a lot of enjoyment out of it and it let us all meet people from other areas. Hope there will be another event like it next year.

Karen

Music and dancing was the best bit as these are my favourite things to do. I liked the pizza and chips.

Ross



Getting my temporary tattoo was good fun and looking at the stalls, the music was good I hope to get to go next year.

Caroline

The music was really good, I have never been to a music festival before and would love to go again next year. I liked the Chippy.

John

Five A Side Football By Ross Gallacher

It was a glorious summer morning as the selected 6 of us congregated at the Richmond offices in Greenock. Our mission was to secure funding at an event hosted by the Richmond Fellowship in **Glasgow's city centre. Spirits were high as we rode the train to Glasgow Central Station.** Excitement and anticipation were very much present with us on the journey.



We were among the first to arrive at St. Enoch Square and also among the first to erect our small stall in the function suite, which would become our project headquarters. The event was well organised and wonderfully worked through.

Around a dozen different Richmond Fellowship offices from all over Scotland applied for funding for a wide variety of different activities. Personally we were applying for money which would enable us to not only pay for a years worth of 5-a-side football matches but would also be enough to buy us full football strips to play in.



Five A Side Football



One by one the representatives of each Richmond office stood before all who were in attendance to plead their case and after a lovely buffet lunch and much deliberating, every bid on the day received some element of funding. This was decided by the supported individuals who were at the event as they were the only people able to vote for the bids.



After a brief celebration we returned jovial and jubilated back to Greenock to share the good news. All in a days work!

Five A Side Football



Elliston Drive Barbeque

By Lisa Marie Hughes

The Ingredients

Back in February when Annie told me about the Participatory Budget Scheme I jumped at the chance to be a part of it. The chance to work with our supported individuals to get them funds for fun was too good to miss!

After the initial Participatory Funding meeting I came back to the service with a firmer idea of what the funding could mean for us. Our first step was to ask the supported individuals what they wanted and I found that most of them had very strong ideas! I was particularly delighted to have a chat with Caroline, who is generally quite a shy woman, and leave with three post-it notes filled with ideas!

It became clear that a few event ideas were shared among the individuals, so they decided we should have a vote. We set up a ballot, with each individual choosing whether they would like a day ten pin bowling, a fun day, or a barbeque. On the day of the count, the barbeque won by a narrow margin.



A Recipe for Success

Elliston Drive had chosen what to bid for and now it was time to put together a pitch. The supported individuals knew it had to be convincing and my goodness they set out to prove it. We asked them why they should win the funds and their reasons were strong., so strong that they became the centre of our campaign. Our ingredients were community togetherness, value for money, food and fun! Who could resist?

We spoke to the individuals about what we would need for the barbeque. Brian M and Deborah suggested we could bring a bit of the fun day in with outdoor games. John said he enjoyed penalty shoot out last time the service had a barbeque and we could do that and Theresa suggested all the best foods for a barbeque “It’s no a barbeque without chicken hen, and maybe a wee hotdog.”

So, with our shopping list compiled we set out to put our presentation together. The staff had a chat and we spoke to the supported individuals and all decided Brian’s K’s charm and patter were the key ingredients for a winning bid. We put a poster together with our quotes and shopping list and were ready for Brian to work his magic.

Elliston Drive Barbeque

By Lisa Marie Hughes

Cooking with Gas
The day before the presentation Brian fell ill (he's fine now!) and Deborah bravely stepped in. Deborah presented our bid brilliantly, with a little humour and a lot of grace. It was a proud moment for her (and us!) when our win was revealed! We returned to the service with a large cardboard cheque, tummies full of cake and plans brewing to spend the money.



We quickly hunted out bargains and made the most of our Funds for Fun. We bought tables and chairs, a marquee, garden games and a VERY swanky barbeque. And the food, of course. Jenny, Paul and Wayne made sure we got a lot of bangers for our buck! All the prep was done and it was time for the main event.



Elliston Drive Barbeque

By Lisa Marie Hughes



Time to Eat!

The day of the barbeque arrived and the staff worked hard to put together all the elements of the perfect barbeque - FUN, FOOD, AND FOOTBALL. The Supported individuals arrived and we ate, played games and were merry.



Brian K said **“It’s great, because we’ve got the barbeque now, so we can do it again”.**



Theresa said she **“Enjoyed being out and having banter with the staff”.**



John said he’d **“had a brilliant day, the food was brilliant and the staff did a great job getting everything ready”.**

Caroline said **“It gets people out in their community, talking to each other, enjoying each other’s company”.**



NEXT EDITION

Highland Fling



Hopeman allotment



*Glasgow East Gathering
Group*



Coming in 2014