



# Annual Review 2025



# The Year of 2025



Welcome to the 2025 Annual Review for Splash for Schools and Communities.

2025 has been one of vibrant growth and deepened heart for the communities of West Sussex. As a Christian charity, our mission remains to bring a "splash" of hope, fun, and faith to every life we touch. Through our unique partnership with local schools and churches, we continue to bridge the gap between education, local congregations and families, ensuring that the message of God's love and value is accessible to all.

2025 has been a landmark year for our outreach. Whether through the high-energy buzz of our assemblies, the creative spark of our workshops, or the laughter-filled days of our holiday clubs, we have seen first-hand the impact of providing safe, inspiring spaces for children to explore the Christian faith.

Crucially, we have expanded our care for the "whole child." This year, we have been proud to deliver the Kintsugi Hope Wellbeing course for secondary school-aged students. In a world where young people face increasing pressures, this initiative provides a vital space to talk about mental health and emotional honesty, teaching that there is resilience and beauty even in our brokenness.

This spirit of inclusion extends to our work with children with additional needs and families in difficult circumstances. We believe every child deserves to feel seen and valued, and know that they are loved. By adapting our activities and providing a compassionate presence, we have worked hard to ensure that our environments are truly inclusive, offering a helping hand to those navigating life's greatest challenges.

We are also incredibly encouraged to report a strengthened financial position. This stability is a direct result of the overwhelming generosity of our individual donors and partner churches. Your faithful support has not only sustained our daily operations but has empowered us to say "yes" to more opportunities, reaching further into our communities than ever before.

None of this would be possible without the dedicated support of our volunteers, partner churches, and donors. Thank you for being part of the Splash journey as we continue to invest in the education, welfare, and spiritual journey of the next generation.

## *The Splash Trustees*

### **Psalm 78**

***"We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about his power and his mighty wonders.... so the next generation might know them—even the children not yet born—and they in turn will teach their own children. So each generation should set its hope anew on God."***



# Schools

## Spring 1 Teamwork

This assembly began with our puppet believing that she was better running alone in the International Puppet Olympics Relay Race, instead of being part of a team. She told us that she was the best and fastest puppet so she didn't need anyone else. During the assembly we met Gilly Goose who knew an awful lot about working in a team and she told the children that everyone has a part to play no matter what! We also introduced all of the 12 disciples that Jesus chose, all of them having different skills, personalities and traits, and they were all valuable and useful. By the end of the assembly, we wanted the children to understand that although we are all different, we can all contribute towards good teamwork. Teamwork makes the dreamwork!



## Spring 2 Making a mindful change

We linked this assembly to Lent by creatively using road signs to help us explore the thought that a healthy, mindful diet is not just about food. We used Philippians 4 v 8 as our inspiration. In this assembly we talked about making mindful changes, doing things that can lead to a "good life." We introduced 3 ideas. Firstly that what we put into our bodies is important, just like a car needs the right fuel to make it work well. Secondly that who we choose to spend time with makes a difference – are they good for us or do they get us into trouble? Lastly that what we watch, read and listen to can influence us to either think about good and wholesome things or things that may lead us to bad thoughts, which may make us feel guilty. We finished the assembly by showing the children this road sign, saying that when we let God into our lives, He can guide us, walk alongside us, and help us to make good, healthy choices.



## Summer Being a good friend

Marigold and Martin, two of our puppets, started our assembly by not caring about letting down their friend, and being dismissive about breaking something that the friend had lent them. We acted out, with help from the children, the Bible story of the man being let down through the roof, demonstrating that they weren't just friends, but they were good friends who went the extra mile for their poorly friend. They were friends who showed love in practical ways. They were people who came to help when their friend really needed them, and they stuck with him, even when it wasn't easy, overcoming hurdles and persevering for the benefit of their friend. We pulled objects out of a sack which visually encouraged the children to remember 1 - to stick up for their friend. 2 - to remember to forgive, and also to say sorry. 3 - to be generous. 4 - to love at all times and show kindness and 5 - to follow through on promises. We ended the assembly by talking about how God wants to walk through life with us as our friend, offering His love and help.



# Schools Continued

## Autumn 1 Harvest—Food awareness and gratitude

This was a thought-provoking assembly where we linked gratitude to harvest, showing the children the journey that many of our foods make just to get to our plate. We wanted them to learn gratitude, and to understand that farmers work hard to produce much of our food, often trying to cope with the wrong ratio of rain and sunshine. We told a story/spelling activity where 7 children had to come up the front and make words from the letters in the word HARVEST. We talked about the importance of food banks, using the verse from Hebrews 13:16 – “Do not forget to do good and to share with others” and we spoke about the problem of food waste, introducing the thought that we could “live simply so that others may simply live.” In a Splash first, we split the hall in half and taught the children to sing a round, to the tune of London’s Burning which went down really well with every school.



*Thank you, farmers, thank you farmers, For your hard work, for your hard work. God sends sunshine, God sends water. We are grateful, truly grateful.*

## Autumn 2 The true meaning of Christmas

Our Christmas presentation this year had the theme of “Christmas brings welcome to everyone”. We acted out, with two children as Mary and Joseph, a small part of the Nativity story, with Joseph knocking on a few inn doors to find somewhere to stay yet being turned away. But eventually they were finally offered a stable, where the animals usually stayed to keep warm and safe. In a place where the door was usually shut to keep the animals in, that night the door was opened so that the Son of God could be born. During the assembly the children met two shepherds who shared their story. From being locked out and left out, alone and excluded, they became the first to hear of the birth of Jesus. They had been chosen by God to show that Jesus' birth was for everyone! Using a locked treasure box, and having to search for the right key that fit, the Splash team discovered the True Meaning of Christmas, with Jesus being the key that brings Peace, Joy and Hope to all who choose to open the box. We sang and signed with the children the song “May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.”



In the summer term we deliver only one assembly, to allow time for the team to deliver workshops to yr6 students in preparation for moving to secondary school. We began transition workshops in 2021 and have increased the number of schools visited each year. The workshop gives children time to reflect on and process their feelings about the transition to their new school, as well as ask questions about their worries. We cover topics such as organisation, transport, subjects and clubs, friendships and bullying. Throughout the 90-minute session, children are encouraged to reflect on their relationship with God. We use the Bible story of Jesus calming the storm to encourage children to pray about their worries and rely on God to help them.

The whole team were involved in delivering workshops this year, which is a great opportunity to do something different.

# Churches and Communities

## Sullington Flower Festival

The team were delighted to be part of the Sullington Flower Festival in July by providing fun activities for children. For the first time we were also invited to create an arrangement for the flower festival itself! Not shy of a challenge, Lois and Julia created something very 'Splashy'. The festival's theme was 'Songs & Hymns' and we were given the popular children's hymn 'Jesus wants me for a Sunbeam!' as our inspiration.



## Women of Washington Group (WoW)

Following the theme of 'firsts', Lois and Julia took up the invitation to deliver a presentation on the work of Splash over the years to the lovely ladies of Washington! Their hour-long presentation led the evening from the conception of Splash to all the activities over the years up to the present. The evening was a great success and a great time of reflection for the team! We were very grateful for the financial donation given after the event.



## Supporting Churches

It is always a great pleasure to be able to support our neighbouring churches. This year Splash was involved in a fantastic new initiative led by Life Community Church in Storrington – 'Christmas Festive Day'. Held at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre, there was something for all! A beautiful Santa's grotto, crafts to make (led by the other churches in Storrington), stalls, music and performances!! Not forgetting the true meaning of Christmas, Splash were invited to arrange the Nativity Scene – stable, donkey, sheep and children's nativity costumes for dressing up!! A lot of fun was had at this incredibly inclusive event.



# Kintsugi Hope

Splash has become a local partner to deliver Kintsugi Hope Wellbeing Groups. During spring-summer 2025 we ran our first group, providing a new local opportunity for teenagers to explore their feelings and mental health issues. We are grateful to the Souther Charitable Trust for their support and to Life Community Church Storrington for use of The Village Hub.



Discovering  
treasure  
in life's scars

A Kintsugi Hope Wellbeing Group is a facilitated safe and supportive space for people to explore a range of feelings and mental health issues, and think about tools for self-management. Splash drew content from an established national programme of sessions, developed by the Kintsugi Hope charity ([www.kintsugihope.com](http://www.kintsugihope.com)). Kintsugi Hope is underpinned by Christian values/faith but has designed the programme to be accessible for those of any or no faith. There are adult and youth programmes available.

Having become a local partner to deliver Kintsugi Hope Wellbeing Groups, Splash's first group was in Storrington. Michelle and Nick from the Splash team undertook Kintsugi Hope's leaders training online, organised session content and ran the sessions.

Taking place at The Village Hub, around 15 teenagers explored issues to do with honesty/openness, anxiety, depression, perfectionism, shame, anger. The group had six facilitated sessions, which included shared and individual activities designed to help the teens understand their value and worth, and grow towards a more resilient and hopeful future. Each session used a range of ways to look at an aspect of wellbeing or emotional health, including discussions, activities and media resources. Bible verses, worship songs, and prayer time helped reflect on how each of our relationship with God can also help our mental wellbeing.

There was positive feedback from teens involved, including valuing having a safe space to explore the issues, build trust and connections with one another, and gain ideas to help them cope with feelings and situations. Splash is currently exploring options for taking its next group forward.

For more information on Kintsugi Hope visit their website at <https://www.kintsugihope.com/>

If your church is interested in hosting a Kintsugi Hope group, please get in touch with us to discuss opportunities.



Photo by [Matt Perkins](#) on [Unsplash](#)

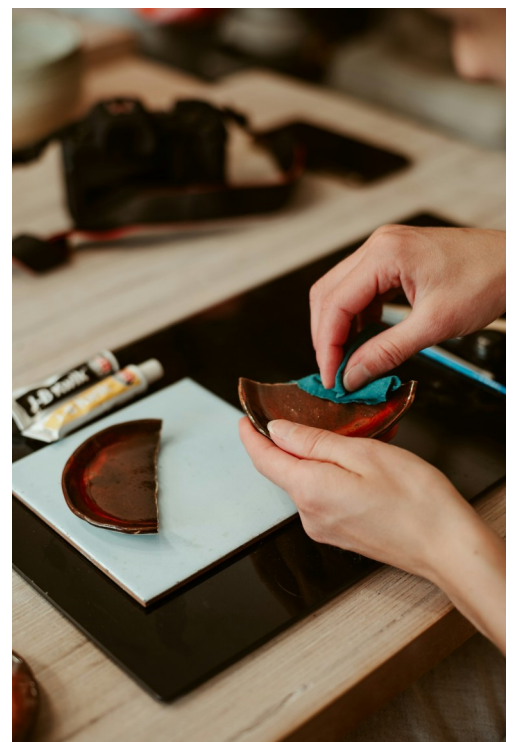


Photo by [Martin Baron](#) on [Unsplash](#)

# Kingdom Builders—Kids Club, Petworth



This year, Lois worked alongside PACT, (Petworth Area Churches Together) again, as we joined forces with The Sylvia Beaufoy Centre to hold the annual week long Kids Club at the Herbert Shiner Unit at Petworth Primary School. Under the name of Kingdom Builders, and using Minecraft as inspiration, we had over 60 children who learned about building, about working together, about helping others, about forgiving each other, and discovering that living a life in the way God intended life to be lived (Philippians 4 v 8) is a good thing!

Alongside the happy, excited children, we had a great team of young leaders and volunteers, some of whom have grown up through Kids Club themselves. They injected huge amounts of enthusiasm and energy, and they were seen to be great examples of how good teamwork makes a wonderful and healthy environment.

Using energetic dancing and actions to songs, storytelling, Bible memory verse learning, messy team games, Pie-Face, outdoor activities and craft, once again the Bible was brought to life and made relevant to everyone, young and old.

As in previous years, Lois was blessed by many things, but two things stand out. Firstly, the morning reflections with the team were an essential part of the week. It was a time to encourage the team, and to share the relevance of each days' Biblical story. Taking a few minutes every morning to quieten down and to be mindful of God's presence was a truly wondrous moment.

Secondly, Lois was blessed by the teenagers! Every year they turn up, do their thing, have fun, and make her laugh. Many of them have no faith, or limited experience of Christian living, but they listen, they ask if Lois needed help with anything, they are kind, enthusiastic and willing. They heard Christian truths every day during Kids Club, and they had amazing Christian adult volunteers to learn from. They are the next generation of leaders, and it was an absolute pleasure to mentor and show them, by example, how to live the way God intended.

In summary, it was another brilliant summer of Kids Club. The young leaders and volunteers, from PACT and The Sylvia Beaufoy, worked together to bring joy, love, and care. The children were safe, engaged, happy and funny, and they learnt about the love God has for them. The weather was perfect, the children were wonderful, and God was working! Bring on summer 2026!



# Holiday Club—Pulborough

91 children and 35 young (and not so young!) leaders and helpers enjoyed a week of fun at our Splash Holiday Club in August 2025. Taking place at St Mary's C of E Primary School in Pulborough, this year's theme focussed on God's love and forgiveness and how Jesus used food and hospitality in His ministry.

"Give us each day our daily bread" (Luke 11 v. 3)

Each day began with a drama to set the scene and introduced the daily theme. This year, the dramas were set in a rather haphazard restaurant with vibes of Faulty Towers! Interactive Bible stories each morning gave a chance to engage children in thinking about how Jesus used food and hospitality as He spread the Good News. On one of the days, we acted out the Feeding of the 5000 and on another day recreated times that Jesus used meals as a great way to connect with people of all backgrounds. We learnt memory verses and each day enjoyed a prayerful 'Quiet Slot' with gentle songs and reflections. Crafts and other activities were always fun, creative and often messy. The children particularly enjoyed the daily young leader challenges – typically involving getting messy or something that actually was quite challenging!

Whilst the mornings were a whirlwind of activities, the afternoons were more relaxed, with sport, games, crafts and storytelling, providing opportunities to connect and reflect.

In amongst the busyness of the week, we all took the time to consider the impact of the week on those who took part. For some, it is the only fun in a long school holiday where parents do not have the capacity to provide more. For others, it is a week where they are accepted for who they are, and can be with friends, where they cannot access other provision due to additional needs. For others, it is a chance to spend a week learning more about their faith. For all, it is an opportunity to be reminded of just how unique, special and loved we are!

For our young leaders in particular, it is a space for them to learn more about leadership and how to serve, to develop skills, make new friends and to learn how valuable they are! Our young leaders come from different backgrounds and experiences, yet come together as a team to support each other and the children who attend. Always energetic, willing and smiling, the children love to have our young leaders as role models—indeed at the end of the week we are always asked "How can I be a young leader when I am older?"

Thanks, as always, goes to everyone who supported in planning, leading, other practical help before and during the week, prayer or financial assistance. A huge amount of effort and resources go into a Splash Holiday Club.



# Board of Trustees

Our board of trustees is made up of volunteers from across our local area, bringing a diversity of experience and representing stakeholders. Our board currently has four trustees; Stephen Veasey (Chair), Michelle Leach, Iain Taylor and Amy-Jo Kidwell. Ben Sheldon and Sally Richardson stepped down as trustees during 2025. We are grateful to Ben and Sally for the time served as trustees.

We are looking to expand our board—if you know of anyone with trustee experience who could add value to our team, please do ask them to get in touch!

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## Splash Team

The Splash team is made up of 5 part time staff, equivalent to 1.3 full time workers—we pack a lot in to our hours! We also have around 40 amazing volunteers who support our community work.

We are particularly proud of our youth volunteers, who bring so much energy and enthusiasm to our summer holiday clubs. We currently have around 20 young people between the ages of 11 and 18, with regular requests from new volunteers to get involved.

We are hoping to develop volunteer opportunities more in the next few years as we seek to increase our capacity, particularly for community events. If you are interested in volunteering with us, please get in touch with the team to explore how we can work together. Opportunities include:

- Craft activities
- Family Services
- Holiday Club
- Transition Workshops
- Youth activities
- Children's activities for churches
- Prayer Spaces
- Sharing the work of Splash with your local church

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## Thank you

Special thanks are due to some amazing people, without whom we could not do all that we do:

We are very grateful to our prayer supporters. We are so aware that your prayers keep us safe, keep us sewing seeds of wisdom and hope, and keep us on the path God has made for us.

Thank you to all our holiday club volunteers (and all our other activities) —your energy, enthusiasm and infectious smiles have such a positive impact on the children!

Thank you to Louise and Sam Masters, who give so much of their time to develop and deliver our holiday club content and themes.

Thank you to Iain Taylor, our treasurer, for his ever patient management of our finances.

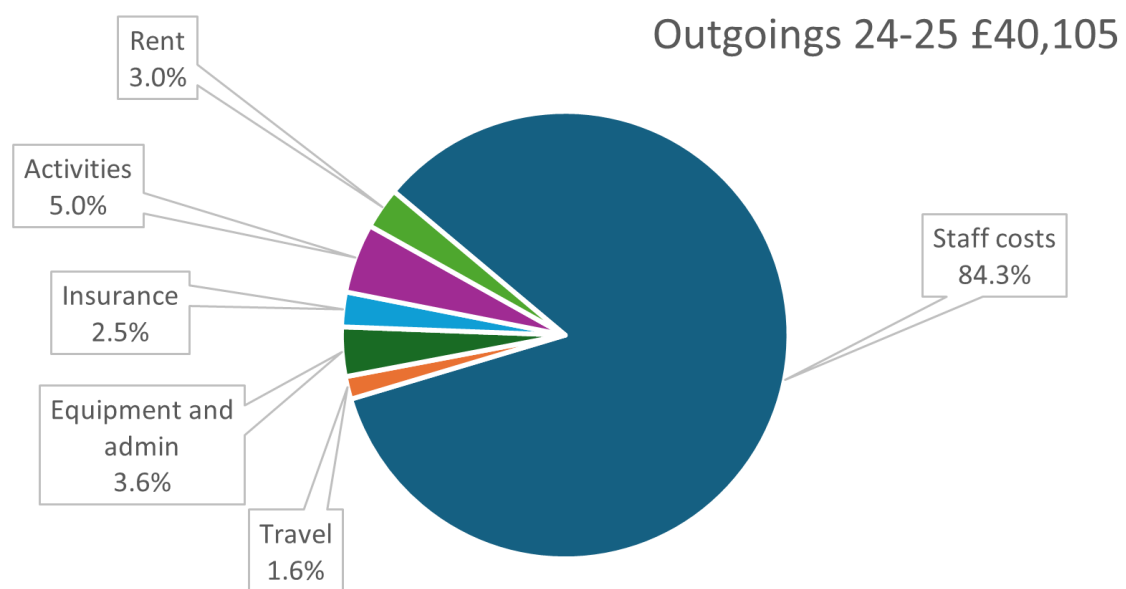
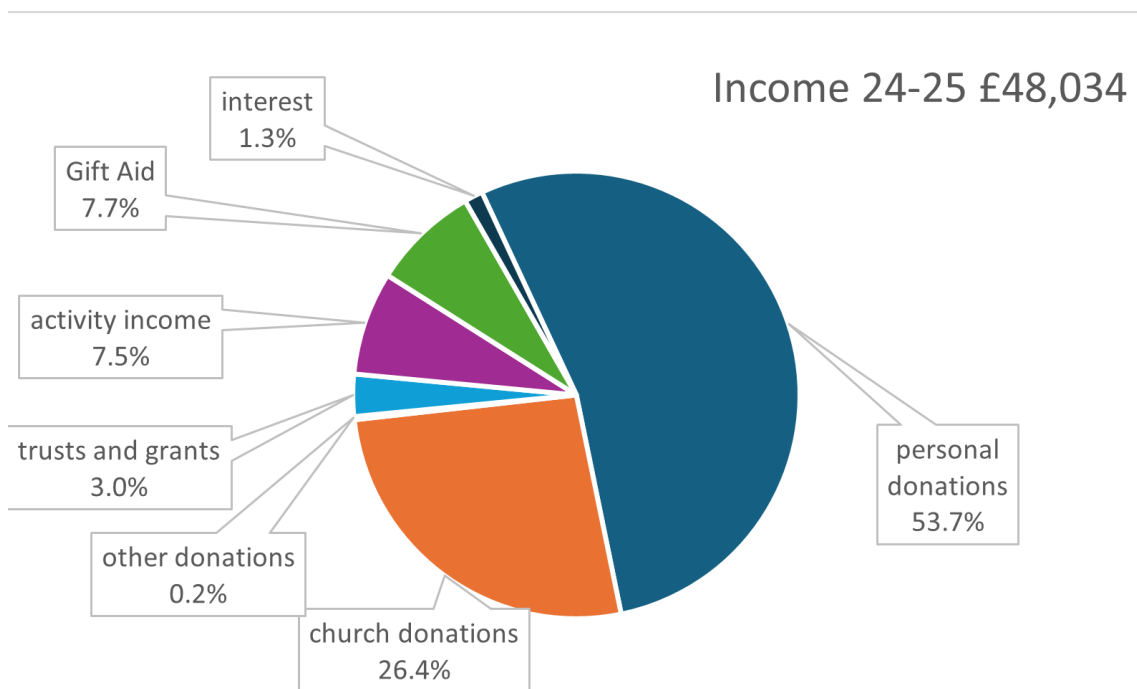
Thank you to Chris Phare, for his creativity in developing relevant and engaging presentations for our assemblies.

# Resources

Total income for 2024-25 has increased by 18% on the previous year. Regular income has also increased as a proportion of income, with regular giving now accounting for 71% of income. We continue to work towards regular income matching our core costs, which will give long term stability.

We are so grateful to all those who are able to support us financially, enabling us to continue supporting schools and churches.

*“God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply” (James Hudson Taylor)*





For further information please contact us

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