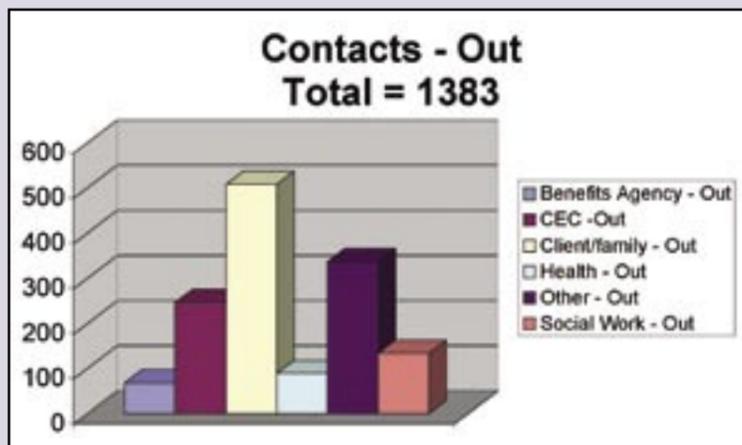
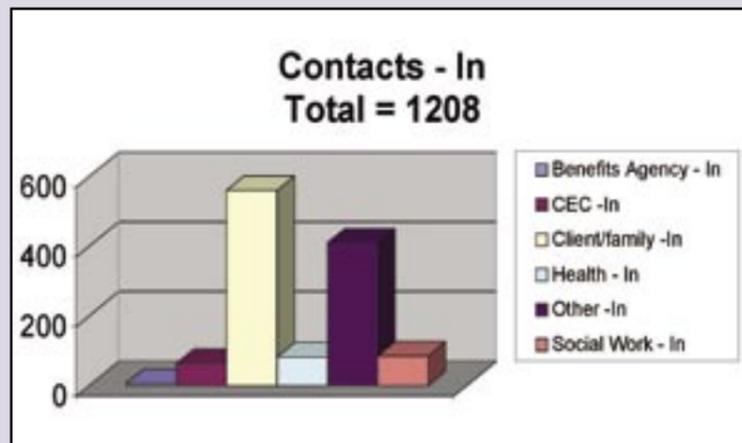
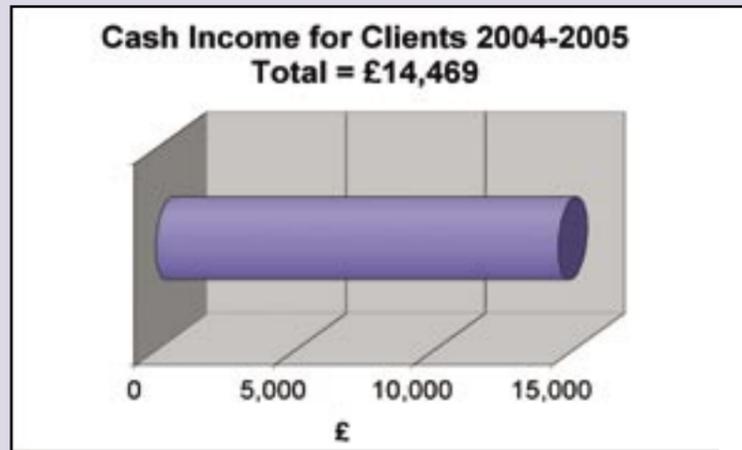
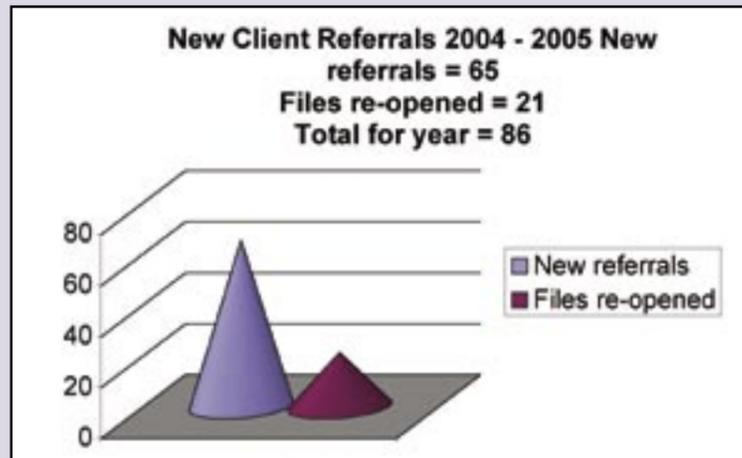


## Statistics & figures



## Annual Report Acknowledgement List 2005

Arthur Brown & Jessie Whyte  
 Bank of Scotland, Newington Branch  
 Cameron House Community Centre  
 City of Edinburgh Council  
 Department of Children & Families  
 Department of Health & Social Care  
 Department of Environmental Health  
 South Edinburgh Local Office (Housing)

Craigmillar Library  
 Parks Department  
 Department of Works & Pensions  
 Donaldson's School for the Deaf  
 Edinburgh Zoo  
 Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council  
 George Watson's College  
 HC Wright Garden & Landscape Services  
 Handypersons Service  
 Help the Aged  
 Johnny Hackland  
 Lloyds TSB Foundation  
 Lothian & Borders Police - Community Liaison Section  
 Lothian & Borders Fire Brigade  
 Mellon (Newton) Global Securities  
 NHS Lothian - Dementia Co-ordinator  
 Jardine Day Hospital  
 Community Pharmacist

Prestonfield Primary School  
 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds  
 Scottish Parliament Outreach Service  
 Staywarm  
 Strategic Programme Social Inclusion Partnership  
 South Edinburgh Amenities Group  
 South Edinburgh Echo  
 South Edinburgh Voluntary Sector Support Group  
 Tax Help for Older People  
 Volunteer Centre Edinburgh  
 Wiseman Dairies  
 Councillor Gordon Mackenzie  
 Councillor Kingsley Thomas

### Project Volunteer Team

Robert Dunn, May Hadden, Terry Hamilton, Ruby Luke, Nan Moan, Mamie Munro,  
 Jimmy McCormack, Janet Sinclair, Elizabeth Wallace.

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# Prestonfield & District Neighbourhood Workers Project

Providing Service or and Making a Difference  
 to the Life of Older People in the Community

## Chairperson's Report

As the Project Chairperson my duty to offer the thanks and appreciation to all who have supported us in whatever way has come around again. It is 10 years since we opened the Neighbourhood Centre and I believe it has become a centre of good practice and excellence in the provision of service to the older and frailer in our community.

We faced a difficult year in terms of funding but because of previous careful budgeting we had a small reserve from which the Management Group managed to continue most of the project services for the year 2005/2006.

Everyone has worked extremely hard to ensure this happened and while we have lost some staff and reduced hours we have maintained the majority of services with little or no significant change to the clients. We hope we are offering a holistic service – one client can receive many services from us directly or indirectly.

For that I must say thank you to the staff, the project volunteers and to my fellow Management Group members who all are committed to ensuring this continues. We face an uncertain future but with continuing financial support will continue to meet our aims and objectives.

Moira O'Neill

## Co-ordinator's Report

It has been an eventful year for the project in terms of levels of service and diminishing budgets. Funding is always a major issue for the voluntary sector and, despite offering a range of quality services and being seen by many of the professionals who work in the community as a centre of good practice, it remains our major continuing challenge.

To enable us to maintain as many services to our clients as possible, we underwent a restructuring early this year where some staff lost their jobs and others had their working hours reduced. It was an extremely difficult exercise and took much of my time in planning, preparing reports and then managing the changes required to operate on an acceptable budget.

To meet that forecast we started the new financial year facing a budget deficit – one the management were prepared to cover from project reserves but not one they would be happy to repeat. We lost one day of dementia daycare but helped to maintain all the other 'face to face' work with the clients for a further year. Unfortunately, we are facing a similar dilemma this year with further cuts anticipated in the Supporting People funding and it is unlikely 2006/2007 will see us maintaining even this year's level of service.

We know this will be a devastating blow – many people rely on us for a variety of services. This year we received a total of 65 new referrals for our services. Currently we have a very small waiting list for dementia day care, no waiting list for the lunch club, but our social activities and art group, which are always popular, have short waiting lists - the longest waiting list is currently for the Support Service - and while waiting list numbers can fluctuate we could currently justify the employment of another worker with the referrals awaiting the Support Service. In addition we have empty days in our dayroom designed for either dementia or ordinary daycare but no funding to operate services in them.

While the project receives and has received support in the form of a service level agreement with the Department of Health & Social Care (formerly Social Work) for many years, this funding needs to be continually supplemented. Supporting People funds were seen as an answer but now we find that within 2 or 3 years of receiving it we are facing having to make cuts to the services it funds. It is dismaying to know that the vulnerable people who receive those services will have to do without. Our service is included in a package of care to maintain those people in their own homes for as long as possible. It is solid preventative work.

As a matter of course we ask our clients if they are happy with the services they receive from the project. Recent comments from some, when asked what this project and its services mean to them are noted below:

*'I have no complaints, everything is so good, food is first class, staff are great. I like meeting people, it's nice.'*

*'The people are good, the food is good, people cheer me up a lot.'*

*'It means a lot to me. I find everyone so easy to get along with – the people who care for us are first class – nothing is a bother.'*

*'The Project passes the time for me.'*

*'I get a hot meal twice a week and meet other people.'*

*'I like everything about it, the food is alright and the staff are very nice.'*

It has been a difficult year for us as an organisation, but for our clients we hope it has been business as usual.

We have been in the Neighbourhood Centre for 10 years now and we face an uncertain future – but whatever happens we will continue for as long as we can to provide services that make a difference to the lives of our older people.

Linda M Wright



Prestonfield Neighbourhood Centre - built 1995

## Project Management Group 2005

Chairperson	Moira O'Neill 25 Salisbury Road, Edinburgh
Vice Chairperson	Sadie Rooney 2/3 Clearburn Gardens, Edinburgh
Secretary	May Hadden 43A Prestonfield Avenue, Edinburgh
Treasurer	

### Management Group Members – :

John Fletcher	3/1 Prestonfield Road, Edinburgh
Ruby Luke	33/1 Prestonfield Gardens, Edinburgh
Mamie Munro	9/5 Prestonfield Avenue, Edinburgh
Bill Reid,	36 Prestonfield Road, Edinburgh
Helen Stewart	45/2 Prestonfield Avenue, Edinburgh
Fiona Scott	15 Blackford Hill Grove, Edinburgh

### Co-opted Member – SEAG

## Other Representatives

Councillor Gordon Mackenzie	- City of Edinburgh Council
Gavin Strang	- Member of Parliament
PC Neill Sinclair	- Lothian & Borders Police
Deirdre McCann	- Cameron House Community Centre
Alison Tullis	- Lothian Primary Care Trust
Tim Montgomery	- SE Edinburgh Local Healthcare Co-op
Marion Randall	- CEC Social Work Department
Nick Clater	- Craigmillar Social Work Department
Rev Tom Johnston	- Priestfield Church

## Project Staff

Co-ordinator	Linda M Wright
Administrator	Sandra Togher
Receptionist/clerical asst	Nicola Haldane
Janitor/handyperson	Stuart J Wright
Passenger asst/carer	Vivienne Swanson
Social Care Worker	Eleanor Baxter
Social Care Worker	David Ellison
Social Care Worker	Estelle Scott
Neighbourhood Worker	Jenny Anderson
Neighbourhood Worker	Bridget Shearer
Support Worker	Gillian Cantley
Support Worker	David Ellison
Support Worker	Maureen Hamilton
Support Worker	Michael Mulready

