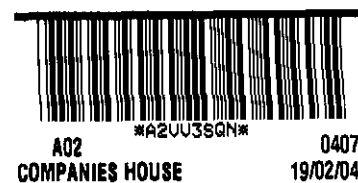


**THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES  
(FORMERLY WELL WORTH READING)  
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE  
DIRECTORS' REPORT  
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 MARCH 2003**

Charity Number 1085443

Company Number: 3904882  
(England and Wales)



**THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES**  
**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2003**

<b>Charity name</b>	The Reading Agency for Libraries	
<b>Legal status</b>	Company limited by guarantee	
<b>Charity registration number</b>	1085443	
<b>Company number</b>	3904882 (England and Wales)	
<b>Registered Office</b>	Kings Worthy Court Kings Worthy Winchester Hampshire SO23 7PA	
<b>Auditors</b>	C W Fellowes Ltd Templars House Lulworth Close Chandlers Ford Hampshire SO53 3TL	
<b>Bankers:</b>	Lloyds TSB High Street Winchester SO23 9DA	
<b>Solicitors:</b>	Bates, Wells and Braithwaite Cheapside House 138 Cheapside London EC2V 6BB	
<b>Trustees / Directors</b>	S I Houghton E Warnes H J Wilson-Fletcher M J Molloy E M Attenborough	C R Johnson N McClelland N C Jones R G Osmond V M Griffiths
<b>Company Secretary:</b>	Martin Wright	

**THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES**  
**DIRECTORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2003**

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# **THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2003**

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003.

The legal and administrative information set out on pages 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

#### **Introduction**

On 1<sup>st</sup> July 2002 Well Worth Reading merged with Launchpad for Libraries and The Reading Partnership. On 8<sup>th</sup> July 2002 Well Worth Reading changed its name to The Reading Agency for Libraries. Three trustees who were part of Well Worth Reading's board resigned on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2002 and seven new trustees were appointed to the board of the company.

#### **Organisation**

The board of The Reading Agency for Libraries consists of ten trustees and a company secretary. Observers from the main funders – Arts Council England, South East and CILIP, and an observer from RESOURCE attend board meetings, which are held quarterly.

The Reading Agency has two part-time employees and uses the services of freelance consultants and project workers. The Reading Agency is a "virtual" organisation and does not have an operational office. An organisational review is being undertaken to ensure that the agency will be able to cope with the rapid expansion it is undergoing.

#### **Objectives of the charity**

The Reading Agency is founded on the principle that reading has infinite potential for making life richer and that libraries are the most democratic medium for bringing reading to people. The objectives of the charity are to promote and develop reading among all sectors of the community in support of education and lifelong learning and to improve the quality of individual and community life.

The Reading Agency provides a single point of entry into the library network for potential partners wanting to make use of the powerful, national expertise of the library service. The agency has worked with a number of different partners across a very broad spectrum of projects through this first year of its existence.

#### **Partnerships/related parties**

The Reading Agency is funded by a ground breaking alliance of arts, library and government bodies. It receives revenue funding from The Arts Council of England, South East and CILIP. Resource - the Council for Libraries, Museums and Archives - is providing project funding over a period of years. It also works in close partnership with a number of other organisations involved in work in libraries, literature and literacy (including the National Literacy Trust, National Youth Agency, Society of Chief Librarians, ASCEL, Books for Students) as well as with local authority run library services. Through projects aimed at "hard to reach" readers the agency has built up partnerships with youth services, basic skills providers and prison services as well as developing projects in partnership with publishers and businesses.

West Sussex and Hampshire County Council supported Well Worth Reading at the outset and continue to support The Reading Agency through long term loans which are being repaid in reading materials.

### **Review of activities and future developments**

The Reading Agency inherited activities from the merging bodies and continued these in the current year.

The activities can be divided into:

#### **Unrestricted Funds**

- a) the compilation and sale of materials to support and develop librarians' reading promotion and activities – across a wide range, for children with the Summer Reading Challenge, for adult readers through the Vital Link, First Choice and Off Route, for teenage readers through the magazines BOOX, and through a range of training courses for librarians and others working in the field of reading promotion and literacy, organised in association with Books for Students. All these areas continued to flourish throughout this year;
- b) organising and supporting libraries work with literature prizes through display materials to website comments pages and reading and activity groups for adults and children and training for librarians. The Reading Agency worked with Orange and WH Smith in 2002;
- c) working with World Book Day and Resource to organise an online festival throughout the library system;

#### **Restricted Funds (explained in more detail in the note to Restricted Funds activity)**

- d) Wolfson Foundation (through DCMS) funded projects to develop resources and disseminate best practice for librarians working with adult "hard to reach" readers, with children and adolescents and also to develop links with business. These projects are The Vital Link, Their Reading Futures and Books and Business.
- e) work with Prison services to support family reading funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation – Big Book Share;
- f) working in partnership with the National Youth Agency to bring together library and youth services to reach socially excluded young people – Youthbox, funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation;
- g) connecting library and museum and arts services with school activities and encouraging cross-sector working through Books Connect, Developing Reading Communities and Creative Partnerships;
- h) acting as co-ordinator for the library based strand of Summer Splash Extra activities designed to reduce crime by libraries, youth services and youth offending services working in partnership to engage socially excluded young people in imaginative activity;
- i) research into the effects and benefits of reading, establishing a sound basis for evaluation of projects and developing a voice for libraries and reading in government policies.

The task of merging the three original organisations has not been easy, new management and financial systems have had to be evolved, but all the people working with and for The Reading Agency have contributed to the way that the organisation has been able to adapt to rapidly changing circumstances and expansion without losing the quality of the service that it delivers to such a broad range of partners and clients.

The staff and other workers deserve credit and praise for their skills, enthusiasm and patience.

A review is currently in progress to decide on the best plan to develop the organisational structures to cope with the rapid expansion of the agency.

### **Risk Management and Reserves Policy**

In 2002 and 2003 the charity undertook a comprehensive review of the risks to which it might be exposed and developed a strategy to deal with the risks identified and to continue to monitor the situation through regular reviews and discussion at quarterly board meetings.

The risk management strategy comprises:

- initial comprehensive review of risks across all areas of the organisation's activity;
- establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate the risks identified;
- continuing monitoring of potential risks regularly reported to the board.

The charity is fortunate in carrying forward a high level of free reserves (not tied up in fixed assets or Restricted Funds) from the merger. The board have decided on a policy of holding approximately six months core running costs in reserves which, at current levels, is approximately £80,000. The reserves brought forward are £133,000. The board is considering the best way to use these reserves to allow the organisation to operate more efficiently over the next two years. Core costs will rise over the next two years to reflect the real growth in the size of the organisation and its operations. The level of reserves held may need to be revised.

### **Trustees responsibilities**

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



**E Warnes**  
**Director**

**Date** 27 January 2004

**THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES**

**REPORT OF THE AUDITORS**

**TO THE MEMBERS OF**

**THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES**

We have audited the financial statements of The Reading Agency for Libraries for the year ended 31 March 2003 which are detailed on pages 6 to 15. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the company's directors, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's directors those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's directors as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of the directors and auditors**

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting Standards as set out in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Directors' Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charity has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding Directors' remuneration and transactions with the charity are not disclosed.

We read other information contained in the Directors' Report and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or any material inconsistencies with the financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

**Basis of opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

## Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2003 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the period then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

*C W Fellowes Limited*

**C W Fellowes Limited**

Registered Auditor

*27<sup>th</sup> January 2004*

Date

Templars House  
Lulworth Close  
Chandlers Ford  
SO53 3TL



# THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2003

	Note	Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	Total funds 2003	Total funds 2002
		£	£	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
Activities to further the charities objects:					
Grants	3	131,025	696,739	827,764	147,162
Sales		173,867	-	173,867	91,230
Other:					
Investment income		3,036	-	3,036	85
Foreign exchange gain		129	-	129	1,045
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>308,057</u>	<u>696,739</u>	<u>1,004,796</u>	<u>239,522</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Costs of generating funds:					
Marketing		15,580	-	15,580	2,776
Charitable expenditure:					
Staff costs		163,835	170,498	334,333	24,528
Purchases		112,397	504,617	617,014	87,088
Management & administration	4	31,161	4,371	35,532	64,501
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>322,973</u>	<u>679,486</u>	<u>1,002,459</u>	<u>178,893</u>
<b>Net incoming resources for the year</b>		<b>(14,916)</b>	<b>17,253</b>	<b>2,337</b>	<b>60,629</b>
Total funds transferred from other charities - see trustees report		115,357	13,864	129,221	-
Transfer to profit and loss account		-	-	-	-
<b>Net incoming resources</b>		<b>100,441</b>	<b>31,117</b>	<b>131,558</b>	<b>60,629</b>
<b>Total funds at 1 April 2002</b>		<b>32,861</b>	<b>58,337</b>	<b>91,198</b>	<b>30,569</b>
<b>Balance carried fwd at 31 March 2003</b>		<u><b>133,302</b></u>	<u><b>89,454</b></u>	<u><b>222,756</b></u>	<u><b>91,198</b></u>

# THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES

## BALANCE SHEET

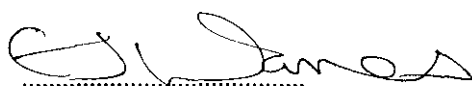
AS AT 31 MARCH 2003

	Note	2003 £	2002 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		183,213	76,626
Debtors	6	<u>205,565</u>	<u>95,912</u>
		388,778	172,538
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors falling due within one year	7	<u>148,537</u>	<u>62,397</u>
		(148,537)	(62,397)
<b>Net current assets</b>		240,241	110,141
<b>Creditors falling due after one year</b>	8	(17,485)	(18,943)
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>222,756</u>	<u>91,198</u>
<b>Funds</b>			
Restricted funds	10	89,454	58,337
Unrestricted funds	11	<u>133,302</u>	<u>32,861</u>
		<u>222,756</u>	<u>91,198</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective June 2002).

These financial statements on pages 6 to 14 were approved by, and signed on behalf of the board of trustees on

27 January 2004



Trustee

# THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2003

### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective June 2002), the Companies Act 1985 and follow the recommendations in *Accounting and reporting by charities: Statement of Recommended Practice* issued in October 2000.

#### Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds. Included within unrestricted funds are designated funds which the trustees have set aside for future specific purposes or projects.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

#### Incoming Resources

Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year which they are receivable.

#### Resources Expended

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which is recovered. Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. Management charges comprise of the cost of overall direction and administration on each activity, including salary and overhead costs of the central function that are apportioned by deemed usage.

#### Investment Income

Investment income consists of bank interest.

### 2 NET INCOMING RESOURCES

Net incoming resources are stated after charging / (crediting):

	2003	2002
Auditors' remuneration (audit only)	<u>2,000</u>	<u>0</u>

**THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2003**

**3 Incoming resources to further the charity's objects**

<b>Grants</b>	<b>Unrestricted Fund £</b>	<b>Restricted Fund £</b>	<b>Total 2003 £</b>	<b>Total 2002 £</b>
Southern arts	21,925	500	<b>22,425</b>	23,808
Arts council	47,000	275,000	<b>322,000</b>	5,000
ACE breakthrough	-	-	-	20,000
Wolfson	-	242,255	<b>242,255</b>	92,123
Hamlyn	-	130,000	<b>130,000</b>	-
Welsh books council	-	10,000	<b>10,000</b>	-
ASCEL	-	6,100	<b>6,100</b>	-
Education extra	-	11,225	<b>11,225</b>	-
CILIP	40,000	2,500	<b>42,500</b>	-
Resource	-	19,159	<b>19,159</b>	-
Sponsorship	16,100	-	<b>16,100</b>	4,500
Donations	6,000	-	<b>6,000</b>	1,731
	<u>131,025</u>	<u>696,739</u>	<u><b>827,764</b></u>	<u>147,162</u>

**4 Resources expended**

<b>Management and administration of the charity</b>	<b>Unrestricted Fund £</b>	<b>Restricted Fund £</b>	<b>Total 2003 £</b>	<b>Total 2002 £</b>
Staff costs	2,106	-	<b>2,106</b>	41,577
Consultancy costs	6,960	2,400	<b>9,360</b>	9,703
Legal and professional fees	5,084	90	<b>5,174</b>	4,243
General administration and other	10,845	827	<b>11,672</b>	8,978
Merger and set up costs	2,218	-	<b>2,218</b>	-
Utility and insurance costs	3,948	1,054	<b>5,002</b>	-
	<u>31,161</u>	<u>4,371</u>	<u><b>35,532</b></u>	<u>64,501</u>

**5 Staff costs**

	<b>2003 £</b>	<b>2002 £</b>
Direct charitable expenditure	334,333	24,528
Fund raising and publicity	-	-
Management and administration of the charity	2,106	41,577
	<u>336,439</u>	<u>66,105</u>

The Reading Agency for Libraries is operated on a trustee basis. All members of the Board of Directors act in an unpaid capacity. Almost all of the staff costs are due to freelance workers and their expenses. These individuals are not employed on a full time basis. As such they are not within the analysis of full time equivalent employees and accordingly this leads to the charity having an estimated average of full time equivalent employees of 1.

No persons received emoluments of more than £50,000 during the year

# THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2003

### Staff costs continued

### Trustees' remuneration and expense payments:

During the year no amounts were remunerated directly or indirectly out of the funds of the charity to any trustee or to any person or persons known to be connected with them.

6 Debtors - Amounts falling due within one year	2003 £	2002 £
Trade Debtors	148,501	87,062
Prepayments and accrued income	57,064	8,850
	<u>205,565</u>	<u>95,912</u>

7 Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year	2003 £	2002 £
Trade Creditors	17,852	41,232
Accruals	36,846	17,294
Other creditors	9,693	83
Loans and overdrafts	4,546	3,788
Deferred Income	79,600	-
	<u>148,537</u>	<u>62,397</u>

Amounts included in 'Other creditors' are wholly in respect of taxation and social security.

8 Creditors - Amounts falling due after one year	2003 £	2002 £
WSSC and HCC loan	<u>17,485</u>	<u>18,943</u>

The above loans are interest free and are from West Sussex County Council and Hampshire County Council for the production of materials under the title "Well Worth Reading". They are repayable over seven years in the form of goods delivered to the lenders charged at 90% of normal sales value.

### 9 Share Capital

The Reading Agency for Libraries is a company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital.

# THE READING AGENCY FOR LIBRARIES

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2003

### 10 Restricted funds

Project As listed below	Balance 1 April 2002 £	Transfers in/ (out) £	<u>Movement in resources</u> Incoming      Outgoing £              £		Balance 31 March 2003 £
a	58,337	-	136,427	(194,764)	-
b	-	5,889	23,571	(29,460)	-
c	-	-	60,000	(16,692)	43,308
d	-	-	70,000	(59,171)	10,829
e	-	-	11,225	(7,416)	3,809
f	-	-	12,941	(12,941)	-
g	-	7,975	84,337	(92,312)	-
h	-	-	993	(993)	-
i	-	-	275,000	(243,492)	31,508
j	-	-	16,100	(16,100)	-
k	-	-	6,145	(6,145)	-
	58,337	13,864	696,739	(679,486)	89,454

#### a VITAL LINK

The Vital Link project was funded by the DCMS/Wolfson reader development fund. The project ran in partnership with the National Literacy Trust to develop resources and methods of linking libraries and adult education services to inspire, support and motivate emergent adult readers and recruit and retain "hard to reach" learners. This project finished in 2002 with a conference to exchange experiences and share models of good practice but has inspired work that is continuing in the current year.

#### b BOOKS & BUSINESS

The initial Books & Business programme was funded by the DCMS/Wolfson Public Libraries Challenge Fund. It succeeded in rolling out nationally a self help programme equipping librarians with a range of tools to work successfully with the commercial sector: training, advocacy materials, case studies, and a way of exchanging problems and solutions – all available on the Books & Business web site. In September 2002 a Books & Business conference was held to promote models of good practice and work is continuing in another project.

#### c BIG BOOK SHARE

The Big Book Share is a library project that enables parents in prison to contribute to their children's reading development. The pilot phase has been delivered through a partnership between the HMP Nottingham and Nottingham City Libraries. Children's librarians run sessions in the prison at which prisoners talk about and choose children's books to read on tape for their children. The prison also runs special family visit sessions at which prisoners can give books and tapes to their children in person.

The Big Book Share pilot, funded by Marks and Spencer and East Midlands Arts, won the 2002 Libraries Change Lives Award.

Phase 2 of the Big Book Share is now underway, with funding from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation. There are now 8 pilot models and 7 associate projects being developed through partnerships with prisons and library authorities, supported by training and resources.

#### **d YOUTHBOOX**

YouthBOOX is a partnership programme run with the National Youth Agency. It aims to create new approach routes to reading for socially excluded young people by bringing together library and youth services to effect a sea change in young people's attitude to reading.

The Paul Hamlyn Foundation is supporting the YouthBOOX: Moving On programme until April 2004. Local projects in Richmond, Essex, Shropshire, Kensington & Chelsea and Cramlington will be encouraging socially excluded young people to become more involved with creative reading.

#### **e DEVELOPING READING COMMUNITIES**

Developing Reading Communities is an action research programme, in partnership with Education Extra, the leading out-of-school hours learning charity. It will build models of how to link reading activity in schools to the resources of the public library, using Education Extra reading clubs as a springboard.

In three locations, local professionals will be supported in establishing and maintaining partnerships that link children in school reading clubs to a wider range of library-based activities. The pilots will be selected to explore links to three current national areas of development: study support, creative partnerships and Regional Arts Council support for reading and writing in school. The key role of school library services in underpinning the development of new models will be carefully explored. The partnership models will be disseminated nationally at the end of 2003.

#### **f BOOKS CONNECT**

Books Connect is a groundbreaking East Midlands project which has experimented with books and reading as a springboard for a range of exciting collaborations between public libraries, artists and museums. The nine East Midlands public library authorities were involved: Leicester City, Leicestershire, Rutland, Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, Derby City and Northamptonshire, together with East Midlands Museums Service. The projects involved local communities in creative writing, poetry, performance and visual art, storytelling, dance, craft, photography and special exhibitions, all through a variety of venues and working with different partners and audiences.

Books Connect has resulted in the development of an interactive database of models of good practice and an online Creating Partnerships Tool Kit to support cross sector working. The tool kit was launched at the Books Connect National Conference on 7 November 2002,

#### **g THEIR READING FUTURES**

Their Reading Futures (TRF) is a radical but realistic programme to take public libraries' work with young people to a new level. In its first year, funded by DCMS/Wolfson, the programme developed strategies, frameworks and support materials across four main areas:

-Definitions: agreement and testing of a definition of reader development work with young people in libraries.

-Advocacy: provision of materials, strategies, evidence and arguments to support advocacy work demonstrating the importance of libraries' reader development work with young people.

-Core Skills: Identification of Core Skills for reader development work with young people in libraries.

-Service Assessment: production of a self-assessment audit framework for library managers to assess their reader development services for young people.

A TRF programme of national and regional level training for ASCEL and YLG members took place in April/June 2002. The TRF web site has been developed as a key means of providing training, information and support on all areas of the TRF programme. This work is continuing in 2003/04.

#### **h CREATIVE PARTNERS**

Creative Partnerships is an exciting development in creative and cultural education: young people and their teachers work directly with and experience the work of cultural and creative people and organisations.

The Reading Agency has worked with Slough Library Service and Berkshire Education Library Service to develop three Creative Partnership strands:

Imagination time: aimed at early years and working through Slough's Start Library, Imagination time actively promotes the enjoyment of and engagement with books to pre-school children and their parents/carers.

Graphic Novels: aimed at upper secondary level pupils, the graphic novel strand will work with young people in building awareness of graphic novels through to the production of their own novels.

Young People's Reading Zones: selected school libraries will have a 'library makeover' in consultation with the young people who use them.

This project started in September 2002 and is continuing.

#### **I SUMMER SPLASH EXTRA**

The Reading Agency acted as a national co-ordinating agency for libraries' contribution to Splash Extra, the Government's arts and sports crime-cutting initiative by creating relationships at national level that provided a helpful framework for local partnership working between libraries, youth offending teams and youth services.

Ten library authorities ran reading-inspired interactive arts events for young people in targeted local authority crime hotspot areas. The aims of the programme included crime reduction, addressing literacy targets, and the opening up of a whole new world of creative imagination to young people whose homes are book-free zones and who think that reading is "not for them".



## j SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

The Reading Planet 2002 was the fourth National Summer Reading Challenge in libraries. A record number of children took part – 521,000 - with the majority of libraries reporting increases on take-up over last year. Half of the children taking part completed the challenge of reading 6 books over the summer, an increase of 3% over last year.

The richly coloured display material inspired some wonderful library displays. Thanks to Science Year, we were also able to produce colour wall charts, tying in with the Space theme, with information about all the planets in our solar system, and some extra-terrestrial library reader development activities.

The amounts going through Restricted Funds cover the grants and expenditure to translate the project into Welsh and support for the project from ASCEL.

The project is mostly self-financing through Unrestricted Funds.

## k STUDIES

A number of studies were undertaken during the year e.g. examining the role of reading in recovery from illness –Health Mapping.

## 11 Unrestricted funds

	Balance 1 April 2002 £	Transfers in/ (out) £	<u>Movement in resources</u> Incoming      Outgoing £                      £		Balance 31 March 2003 £
Unrestricted	32,861	65,357	308,057	(322,973)	83,302
Designated	-	50,000	-	0	50,000
	32,861	115,357	308,057	(322,973)	133,302

The transfers into unrestricted funds are £73,797 from Lauchpad and £41,560 from The Reading Partnership. These are charities that have joined with The Reading Agency for Libraries as described in the Directors' Report.

The designated fund set up in the year has been set aside to cover salary costs budgeted for the next two years but not covered by the core funding of the charity.

## 12 Transfers between funds

There were no transfers between funds during the year.

## 13 Control

The ultimate controlling parties are the trustees listed in the Directors' Report on page 3.