

# HASTINGS TRUST QUARTERLY

## PROJECT UPDATE

Thanks to Captain Hinton, the Trust had 30 troops from the Princess of Wales Royal Regiment (the regular arm of our own Territorial Battalion) working with us for three days in February. The Trust co-ordinated work with other organisations in the area so that everyone benefited from the troops' presence. The men were to have been on a training exercise in Kenya, but instead of sun, sea and sand, they got grey skies, clay, shingle and sea. The lads undertook extremely messy, heavy work with unfailing good humour and were pleased with the opportunity to help out in the community. Thanks, lads.

## Projects Completed

- Footpath and steps at High Banks, Ore Village
- Footpath and steps at Winchelsea Lane, Ore
- Stream Clearance in Alexandra Park
- Hedge Planting in Hastings Country Park
- Beach and campsite clearance in Fairlight Glen
- Dam stabilisation works at Summerfields
- Heavy materials moved for adventure playground at Fairlight
- Land Clearance in Hollington County Primary School

## Work in Progress

### Listed building identification

**Opportunities For Action** - Buildings at risk identification and rescue

**TREE - Torfield Resource for Environmental Education** - detailed sketch plans of the site have been drawn up, the lease is being negotiated and funding applied for. Another clear-up takes place at the end of March before the real work begins. In the mean time, the children are sowing wild flower seeds in readiness for the off.

**Estates Action Group** - The Trust has been working with Bernie Hogg and the Estates Action Group with a Planning for Real Exercise on the Broomgrove Estate. Bernie is putting together a bid for Estates Action Money from the Department of the Environment, and the Trust has offered its help towards the successful completion of the project.

**Restoration of Pelham Steps** - Work has started at last, only to come to a halt after the first stage. John Lesters are carrying out the contract, for the Trust, but the stonework was found to be in poor condition when the old rendering was stripped off. Finding funds for the extra costs for covering the stone in stainless steel mesh have delayed the work, but all now seems to be back on course. Whoever stole our interpretation board should replace it!

**Hastings Trust Database** - Chris Fyfe and John Turner have designed a computerised database with cross-referenced files on resource persons and organisations and on manuals and directories, other publications and videotapes - the key sources and resources needed for local initiatives. Hastings Voluntary Action and Robert Tressell Workshops have expressed interest in the possibility of sharing information; this will widen access from the Trust's focus on the environment to include HVA's focus on health and disability and on RTW's focus on community business. Networked information services are now being developed nationally. Anyone with responsibilities for local action in any field will have to plug in if they are to keep up with new developments and opportunities - and it should be a lot easier, quicker and cheaper to get information through electronic networks than by letter-writing, travelling or by searching through libraries. Chris and John will be demonstrating the uses of the Trust database at the Wellington Square Fair which will launch Environment Week on Saturday, May 22nd.

**Additional Improvements Secured** - New footpath and surfaces at the top of 100 steps and the tunnel into George Street are now being undertaken by the Borough Engineer's Department.

**Environment Week** - BT and the Civic Trust have revamped the image for Environment Week this year and are offering awards in 6 different project categories from "Spread the Word" to "Big Idea". The Trust was invited by the Civic Trust to promote the Week on Radio Sussex and was described as "a shining example of what could be achieved by local organisations". We had the grace to blush, but the phone-in was a great success and gave us the chance to promote our work.

BT Environment Week this year runs from 22nd-31st May. The Trust is hosting a Celebration Day in conjunction with Environmental Health Department on Saturday 22nd from 9.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. in Wellington Square. Local groups and organisations will be taking stalls where they can tell people who they are, what they do, and raise money. There will be street entertainment dancing, live music and food. Trestle tables are being provided courtesy of HCS. The Trust will have its offices open on the day to demonstrate its new Community database and staff will be available to talk to members. Come along and join the fun. The Trust will also be working up at the Torfield School Environmental Resource during the week as its big idea environment week project - volunteers needed and welcome. Please call Christine on 446373 if you wish to help.



## BUDGET NEWS

The Trust's budget for 1993/94 was approved at the Board meeting of the 22 February 1993. Laid out below are our predicted overheads for the coming year and does not include general project expenditure. Each project is costed and financed individually and it would not be constructive to guess the amounts involved.

We are currently predicting a shortfall on our income of some £12,000 (members may recall that we requested £42,000 from Hastings Borough Council and were awarded only £30,000). We are confident of overcoming this obstacle by building overheads into project costs and by identifying new sources of funding. This does have the affect of restricting the resources given to assisting projects that are not commercially viable (eg Torfield Resource for Environment Education). As a charity aimed at benefiting the whole of Hastings such factors should not always be a consideration, but we will strive to effect some sort of balance whilst working towards a more secure financial future.

	CORE	PROJECT	TOTAL
Salaries	15,700	19,500	35,200
Employment Trainee	1,680		1,680
Volunteers Expenses	300		300
Rent & rates	5,120		5,120
Light & heat	1,250		1 250
Telephone	460	1,540	2,000
Equipment - rent & maintenance	2,200		2,200
Print & Stationery	500	175	675
Publicity & photography	275	725	1,000
Travel & subsistence	900		900
Training & conferences	500	500	1,000
Postage & carriage	200	300	500
Insurance	1,150	150	1,300
Subscriptions	200	100	300
Audit & legal	500	500	1,000
Repairs & cleaning	500		500
Contingency	250	250	500
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>31,685</b>	<b>23,740</b>	<b>55,425</b>

### HASTINGS ARTS & LEISURE QUESTIONNAIRE

With this issue of the Newsletter we have enclosed a questionnaire, which we ask you to complete and return to the Trust's Resource Centre. The information from this questionnaire will form part of the Trust's community database.

### !!! STOP PRESS !!!

#### TRUST'S FIRST LIVE PROJECT COMPLETED

Catherine Griffin, the Trust's administrator, completed her Pregnancy Project on March 8th with the appearance of Alicia Kate. Weighing in at 7lb 14 ozs, Alicia Kate is healthy and beautiful, just like her mother. Catherine brought the baby in for the staff's sneak preview last week and will keep us informed of the baby's development.