

## SHEFFIELD FAMILY HOLIDAY FUND

### Annual Report for 2025

#### Welcome and Chair's Update

2025 has been another successful year for the charity. I am delighted to see the charity's income above £30,000 for a second successive year. As a charity, we raised an outstanding £30,089, with total income reaching £33,085. While I acknowledge this is less than last year, all charities are currently facing a difficult landscape. The support from our local trusts and foundations remains unstinting; 13 organisations have donated a combined £22,400. I am pleased to see an increase in support from the James Neill Trust Fund, and a special mention must go to the Church Burgesses Trust, Freshgate Trust, Harry Bottom Charitable Trust, and the JG Graves Charitable Trust, who remain loyal supporters of this important cause.

Funds raised from individuals sit at £7,689. I am delighted that a very generous local supporter made another £3,000 donation to support Sheffield families. A special mention must also go to Mr and Mrs Ferretti for hosting another open garden event, selling their wonderful bakes to visitors and raising £600.

The charity holds shares in three investment holdings: the JPMorgan Claverhouse Investment Trust, City of London Investment Trust, and Merchants Trust. The steady income provided by these funds ensures guaranteed support for families year on year. I am pleased to report that dividend income was £2,790 this year. At present, the capital fund has a balance of £7,590, poised and ready for a new investment to be made in the near future.

In 2025, I am proud to report that 221 individuals had their lives positively impacted by the SFHF. 113 children and 108 adults benefited from a holiday. All families are from the Sheffield postcode region and a full breakdown of these postcodes can be found in the Impact Report. Families work closely with their referrer and the Family Holiday Charity (FHC) to choose their location and accommodation. Many families chose traditional caravan holidays on the East Coast, in and around Skegness and Scarborough. Other families took the opportunity to stay in log cabins or travel further afield to North Wales to visit Rhyl and Abergele.

These holidays offered a vital lifeline for families referred for reasons ranging from domestic abuse and mental health challenges to having children with special educational needs or acting as young carers. Many families were experiencing multiple difficulties, and referrals also highlighted issues such as financial hardship, isolation, crisis situations, and poor housing.

In December, 44 families referred to the FHC enjoyed a trip to the pantomime at the Sheffield Lyceum, funded by our charity. Families were supported with travel costs and were treated to ice cream during the show. I am assured the experience was a memorable one for all those involved.

After reading the holiday data provided by the FHC, it is clear that our support is having a huge impact. These breaks are building bridges in broken families, improving mental health, and providing positive experiences that many have never had before. However, the challenge remains the increasing cost of provision. The FHC believes firmly in providing families agency over their holidays and ensuring they receive additional support in the form of travel expenses, food costs, and entertainment vouchers. All of which are vital to giving people the best possible experience.



I would really like to see 2026 become the most successful year in the charity's recent history. This is only possible with your continued support in helping us raise funds for as many families as we can. Sadly, difficult times remain commonplace for many people in Sheffield. With our collective support, I hope we can continue to give them something to look forward to and memories that will last a lifetime.

I am excited to announce that our 50th anniversary celebration will be held on Thursday 25th June 2026, at INOX, University of Sheffield Students' Union.

I would like to thank Mags Rivett and the staff at the FHC for looking after our families and ensuring they have a positive experience on their breaks and day trips. It was a pleasure to meet the new Chief Executive, Rob Parkinson, and I hope you will join me in wishing him well as he steers the charity forward.

Good luck to Alison Gardner (pictured right), who is taking on the London Marathon on 26th April to raise money for the Family Holiday Charity. She has already raised over £2,000. Donations can be made directly to Alison's JustGiving page: [www.justgiving.com/page/ali-gardner-lm2025](http://www.justgiving.com/page/ali-gardner-lm2025)



Thank you to all our trustees for their help and support. Let's make 2026 a memorable year as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary.

**David Meadows**, Chair of Trustees, April 2026

## Minutes of 49<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

Thursday 22<sup>th</sup> April 2025, 12:30pm  
Beech House, 61 Napier St, Sheffield S11 8HA

### AGENDA

Attendees: David Meadows (DM), Jim Fulton (JF), Ellie Ford, James Parker (JP), Michael Lofthouse (ML), John Hopkins (JH), Rachel Hopkins (RH), June Blower (JB), Mags Rivett (MR), Alison Gardner (AG), Stephen Allen (SA), Maryam Mehmud (MM)

- Apologies for absence (DM)

Sara Gowan, Clare Hopkins, Liz Murray

- Minutes of the last AGM - to be agreed – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 (DM)

Trustees agreed the minutes were an accurate and true reflection of the meeting held in 2024.

- Annual Accounts and Annual Report - Chair's Update, 2024 (DM)

DM went through the annual report and shared the key highlights with attendees. All thanked DM for his work over the last year and for putting together the annual report and accounts.

Attendees agreed the accounts to be accurate.

Proposer: June Blower

Secunder: Steve Allen

- Appointment of Independent Examiner (DM)

Proposer: James Parker

Secunder: John Hopkins

- Election and Resignation of Trustees (DM)
  - ❖ John Hopkins, James Parker, June Blower, Stephen Allen and Alison Gardner retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.
  - ❖ Rachel Hopkins resigned as a trustee on 7th April 2024
  - ❖ Michael Lofthouse and Clare Hopkins were appointed trustees on 8 April 2024 and offered themselves for re-election.

Proposer: Alison Gardner

Secunder: Jim Fulton

- Update from a representative of the Family Holiday Charity (FHC)

Mags Rivett updated the attendees on the work of the Family Holiday Charity over the last year which has been outlined in the very informative impact report. The FHC is due to be changing some of the ways in which they offer holidays to families in order to ensure that families are getting the best possible experience. They have also reviewed their eligibility criteria using external research to set the basis for the household income threshold for a family to be able to apply for a holiday.

MR also spoke to trustees and attendees about the need going forward for SFHF to provide an additional charge to help support some of the costs of administering holidays and this has been suggested initially as 5%. There was some discussion but overall all agreed that this was sensible and necessary for the future financial sustainability of the FHC.

There was also a discussion as to whether a formal agreement needs to be drawn up between SFHF and FHC. All felt that this isn't necessary at the moment but might be in the future.

- Update from a representative of the Sheffield Young Carers

Maryam Mahmud, Family Support Worker, from Sheffield Young Carers gave a really informative overview of the work of the charity and how they support young carers across the city. As one of the longest standing referrers to the FHC, the families that Sheffield Young Carers support have benefitted from the holidays that SFHF have provided and MM shared an example of a family who had recently had a short break and the difference that it had made to them all. DM thanked MM for her time and for joining the meeting.

- London Marathon 2025 - (AG)

Alison Gardner gave an update on her fundraising for the Family Holiday Charity for the London Marathon 2025. Unfortunately AG won't be able to run this year due to illness but is grateful for the Family Holiday Charity supporting her to defer her place to 2026. She has so far raised £1,936.

- 50th year celebrations sub-committee (All)

DM highlighted that 2026 is the 50th anniversary of SFHF and we need to start thinking about how to mark the occasion focussed around a celebratory event. DM asked all attendees to think about any corporate connections that they might have who might be willing to sponsor the event so that charitable funds don't need to be used to pay for the event costs.

DM asked for volunteers for a subcommittee and for attendees to let him know after the meeting if they'd be keen to support with this. He also asked for suggestions for venues and the Gripple social club, Firth Court and St Mary's Community Centre were all suggested. It was also noted that it will be important to have some press input around the event and to involve some of the families who have benefited from support.

- Any other business (All)
  - ❖ Photo ID - ML needs to have a copy of photo ID for all trustees for money laundering purposes. All to either drop into the Rathbones office or complete via the link that will be circulated
  - ❖ Brochure - DM is designing a new brochure in time for the garden party.
  - ❖ Website - DM will take ownership of the web link from the FHC.
  - ❖ Succession planning - All documents saved in the google folder, currently only AG and DM have access. JP has said that he will be happy to help with this.
  - ❖ Whatsapp group - DM suggested setting up a whatsapp group for trustees to keep more regularly in touch with developments.

## Financial Accounts

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT- YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DEC 2025

INCOME	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations from Charitable Trusts, Organisations and Individuals	30,089	36,840
Dividend Income	2,790	3,181
Bank Interest	206	262
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>33,085</b>	<b>40,283</b>
Less Sundry expenses including Investec nominee fees	503	507
<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>32,582</b>	<b>39,776</b>

### BALANCE SHEET AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Quoted Investments at cost (Note 2)	33,352	33,352
Capital Fund cash balance (Note 3)	7,590	3,764
	<b>40,942</b>	<b>37,116</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash at Bank and with fund manager	5,074	13,719
Debtors	355	454
	<b>5,429</b>	<b>14,173</b>
Less Creditors	0	0
Net Current Assets	<b>5,429</b>	<b>14,173</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>46,371</b>	<b>51,289</b>
Represented by:		
<b>ACCUMULATED FUND</b>		
Balance B/fwd	<b>51,289</b>	<b>49,013</b>
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure	32,582	39,776
	<b>83,871</b>	<b>88,789</b>
Less: Transfer to Family Holiday Charity	37,500	37,500
<b>ACCUMULATED FUND at 31.12.2025 (2024)</b>	<b>46,371</b>	<b>51,289</b>

**NOTE 1**

**Holiday Arrangements for 2026.**

The Sheffield Family Holiday Fund (SFHF) has agreed with the Family Holiday Charity (FHC) that the direct arrangements for holidays in 2026 for disadvantaged Sheffield families will be continued by the FHC. SFHF will continue to raise funds for the provision of holidays and has agreed to transfer money to FHC in advance to finance the holidays.

**NOTE 2**

The Quoted Investments had a market value of £48,807 at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 (£42,058 – 2024)

**NOTE 3**

**Capital Fund**

2025 Balance - £7,590 (2024 - £3,764)

**NOTE 4**

**SUMMARY OF FUNDS TRANSFERRED TO FAMILY HOLIDAY ASSOCIATION**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Funds held by FHC b/fwd	13,332	7,500
Payments made for holidays	37,500	37,500
	<b>50,832</b>	<b>45,000</b>
Cost of holidays and day trips in 2025 (2024)	36,745	31,668
Funds held by FHC c/fwd to 2026	14,087	13,332

### Independent Inspection

My inspection of the records and the preparation of the accounts is undertaken on a voluntary basis, and not intended to be treated by the committee or members as being an audit for the purposes of the Charities Act, nor as an independent examination by a reporting accountant as defined by the Charities Act.

My inspection is undertaken at the voluntary discretion of the Trustees with the sole purpose of assisting in the preparation of a fair statement of the Fund and subject to the foregoing, I am satisfied that the statements are in accordance with the records and explanations received, and further subject to those records, are free from material misstatement.

10 April 2026

R Gardiner  
Accountant



**TRUST & FOUNDATION DONORS**

	<b>2025 (£)</b>	<b>2024 (£)</b>
Church Burgesses Trust	3,000	3,000
Freshgate Trust	3,000	3,000
Harry Bottom Charitable Trust	3,000	3,000
JG Graves Charitable Trust	3,000	3,000
James Neill Trust Fund	2,000	1,500
Zachery Merton & George Woofindin Conv Trust	2,000	2,000
Town Trustees of Sheffield	1,500	3,500
Queen Victoria and Johnson Mem Trust	1,250	2,500
Charles and Elsie Sykes Trust	1,000	2,000
Sheffield Benevolent Society	1,000	1,000
Dixon Pitchfork Charitable Trust	750	750
Cutlers Company Charitable Trust	500	1,000
Marcegaglia Stainless Steel Ltd	400	400
Hyman Winstone Foundation	0	500
Talbot Trusts	0	1,800
	<b>22,400</b>	<b>28,950</b>

**OTHER DONORS**

	<b>2025 (£)</b>	<b>2024 (£)</b>
Anon	3,000	3,000
Gift Aid Reclaim	1,032	750
S Lynch and R Purkiss	600	350
Mr and Mrs Ferretti Open Garden Event	600	720
St Audrey's Chapter - T McGrath	500	0
Anon	500	500
Anon	300	200
P Gannon	275	0
A Fretwell-Downing	200	0
AMC Staniforth	200	200
D Meadows	120	120
J Hopkins	100	0
K Murray	100	100
J Massey	100	100
Ian Foard	50	0
Donations less than £100	12	0
M Archer	0	100
POSSE	0	500
Soroptimist Int of Hallamshire	0	1,000
Anon	0	250
	<b>7,689</b>	<b>7,890</b>
	<b>30,089</b>	<b>36,840</b>

## Sheffield Family Holiday Fund Impact Report 2025

### Our Purpose

To provide holidays and short breaks for disadvantaged families in the Sheffield postcode region.

### Update on activity - Holidays

- 221 individuals have benefited from a holiday or short break
- 57 families have completed a holiday
  - 108 adults and 113 children
- 17 of the families had never been on holiday before.

The primary reasons the referrer has put the family forward for a holiday:

- 36% Young carers
- 12% Child with Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- 9% Homelessness
- 9% General Support

Additional reasons for referral include: low confidence, support with isolation, family in crisis, inadequate housing, bereavement, low confidence and domestic abuse support

It is important to note that many families may be struggling with more than one of these issues.

### Referrer feedback

“I would like to pass on the gratitude from the family who have said that this has given them a chance to stop and reflect. Without your organisation this would not have been possible. Thank you so much for meeting the needs of the families that we work with.”

“This family hasn't had a holiday in many years and they would not have been able to afford one. It gave them all such a break from ‘normal life’ and gave them all some positivity again.”

“We wanted to give mum and her daughter the opportunity to have a much-deserved break and time away as a family, experiencing new places and new activities and making memories to last a lifetime. Given their financial situation we knew embarking on such an idea would be both scary and financially out of reach. They found a renewed sense of connection and joy and have grown closer.”

“The family have asked me to pass on their gratitude as this opportunity came round at a crucial time in their lives. Having the space and time to get away and reconnect is what has been needed. Mum has said that bonds are a lot stronger now and that they are happier now as a family.”

## Family feedback

“We loved our break, all of it was amazing. We are very grateful.”

“Since coming home we have spoken often about our holiday and what a good time we had. It made us all happy and I would say it did a lot for our mental health.”

“I loved the caravan as I’ve never been in one with 2 bathrooms and it was amazing. I loved walking to the beach and the town with my children as it wasn’t far at all. We had some good fun on the beach and in the town. I loved relaxing in the caravan and having my morning coffee on the decking, it was just so nice.”

“The holiday was amazing for my kids and we loved the seaview and activities like swimming and the splash park. We really miss the beach already. Thank you.”

“Our favourite part of the holiday was the beach, the holiday park and visiting other areas nearby. This holiday will hold special memories for us because we hadn't swam together as a family before. The park and area were quiet which was good for our SEND child. We loved spending time together.”

## The Impact of a holiday and how families felt after their break\*

**100%** said they would like to **go on day trips and outings again in the future.**

**95%** reported that because of their holiday, **their family has had an opportunity to share stories with their peers.**

**93%** felt **their children’s mental health had improved.**

**90%** said **their mental health had improved.**

**90%** reported that the **relationship within the family has improved.**

## What families did on holiday\*

Most families opt for a traditional seaside holiday and took part in activities you would expect.

**61%** - played **arcade games and went on rides**

**46%** - went **swimming**

**56%** - spent **time on the beach**

**42%** - explored **nearby towns and villages**

**39%** - visited **outdoor spaces**

On average a family holiday costs approximately £570.

*\*statistics collected from all holidays awarded by the Family Holiday Charity in 2025*

## **Locations visited in 2025**

Families are given agency over the choice of location for their holiday. A wide range of factors influence a family's destination choice including affordability, availability/cost, accessibility requirements, cost of travel, dates for travel, site facilities, nearby attractions. Typically around half of all the families we support are dependent on public transport.

Butlins, Skegness	Golden Palm Resort, Skegness	Widemouth Bay Caravan Park, Bude
California Cliffs, Great Yarmouth	Barmston Beach Holiday Park	Sunnydale Holiday Park, Saltfleet
The Bay, Filey	Cayton Bay, Scarborough	Skipsea Sands, Driffield
Withernsea Sands	Coastfields Holiday Village, Ingoldmells	North Shore Holiday Park, Skegness
Tattershall Lakes Country Park	Ty Mawr, Abergele	Marine Holiday Park, Rhyl

**Referring organisations in 2025**

Sheffield Young Carers Project	Milestones Childcare Ltd
ZEST - Community Centre	Various Sheffield Schools and Nurseries
Sheffield Housing Associations	Sheffield City Council - Amber service
Sheffield City Council - Family Intervention Service	Sheffield Council Special Guardianship support service
Shelter	Intensive Family Support SCC Edge of Care service

**Sheffield Postcodes that benefited from holidays**

S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S8	S9	S10	S11	S12	S13	S14	S17	S20
14	3	1	9	5	6	5	1	1	4	5	2	1	1

**Update on activity - Group trips**

With funds from the SFHF - 44 families enjoyed a trip to the pantomime in December at the Sheffield Lyceum Theatre. All the families were selected from Sheffield Young Carers, SOAR and Sheffield City Council Special Guardianship support service.

**Cost per family £114** - includes ticket, travel and a subsistence (usually an ice-cream) whilst at the theatre.

## Case Studies

### Brad and Skyla's Story - Skegness

"I've not got hair," laughs Brad, "but it was nice to let my hair down!"

In Skegness this summer, Brad and his eight-year-old daughter Skyla really made the most of a chalet break. From playing board games to visiting the arcades, having a go at crazy golf to funfair rides, their weekend away was action packed from start to finish.



"It was just good to see my daughter smiling," he says, "and having some fun after all the stress we've had to go through."

"We hired a cycle cart to go round the park and for Skyla the best bit was going over the speed bumps! She's trying to learn to swim and she's getting really good at it so on Saturday and Sunday we went swimming both days and she absolutely loved it."

Brad and Skyla were referred for a holiday by their case worker at the housing and homelessness charity Shelter. They were classed as homeless after a relationship breakdown left them with nowhere to live. The last couple of years have been particularly challenging for Brad.

"Skyla is autistic and has ADHD. Thankfully, my mum said we could stay with her."

As well as caring for his daughter, he has been looking after his mum following her surgery for a double hip replacement. "She's recovering now but she was in a wheelchair for a good year."

Then on top of all that, a routine eye test led to a bombshell for Brad.

"I found out that I have something called homonymous hemianopia and that's basically your eyesight being overcompensated by your brain so I have an issue with my peripheral vision. They did further tests and from there found out that I'd had multiple strokes over the last couple of years. I'd had no idea so that really shocked me because I'm only 37."

"I'm a full-time dad and because of my health issues now I'm not classed as able to work. So I absolutely needed a break," he says.



As a surprise for Skyla, they headed to Skegness on the day of her birthday. The fantastic weather meant that they could really enjoy being on the beach and out and about in the holiday park. Skyla particularly loved the sofa in the chalet and kept referring to it as her 'chilling area'.

Brad describes the impact that her additional needs can have on a day-to-day basis. "A typical day with Skyla can be mayhem. She can have bad tantrums. With autistic children, you have to be so prepared so if we're going out, I need to make sure I cover every eventuality or it will lead to a meltdown because of sensory issues like noise. I have a routine that works for her most of the time at home, but I constantly have to battle to retrain her behaviour and sleep patterns. Some days I'm like 'yes, we're getting somewhere' but it's very hard."

After living with his mum for a year and a half, Brad was finally considered for priority housing and he and Skyla have recently been given a new home. "I'm hoping for a brighter future now. Where we've just moved to, it's really peaceful and everyone seems nice round here so it's great to have a fresh start."

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### Yemi's Story

Being a mum to four boys is a blessing. They are so lovely, but, as you can imagine, it can be stressful at times. They're full of energy and, like most siblings, there are moments when they fight or don't listen. My youngest, Ayosubomi, is four years old and was born during the pandemic in 2020. As a lockdown baby, his interactions with other children were pretty limited, except for with his brothers. When he started nursery, his teachers mentioned that he was always jumping around and struggled to share toys.



In my heart, I knew that a break away could help calm him down and give him an opportunity to mix with new children, but it's never been possible. That all changed, however, thanks to Family Holiday Charity and Sheffield Family Holiday Fund. In September 2024, my husband Temitayo, our four boys and I were given the chance to visit a holiday park in Skegness for four nights. It was our very first holiday as a family, and when we found out we were going, we were so happy. It was a wonderful experience from start to finish.



For my boys, it was their first time on a train, and they were beyond excited. The journey from Sheffield was long, but they loved every minute of it. They spent most of the time looking out of the window, pointing out animals and watching the landscape change as we got closer to our destination.

The weather during our holiday wasn't exactly kind to us—cold, foggy, and a bit dreary—but it didn't dampen our spirits or ruin the experience. We came prepared with jackets and just made the most of it. The boys left their phones in the caravan while we went out and did activities and this gave us quality time together. They enjoyed climbing and trampolining, but their favourite by far was swimming. It was so lovely to watch them having fun together, just being kids.

When it was time to leave, Ayosubomi started to cry and told us he didn't want to go home. His brothers then asked if we could come back. So Temitayo and I went into reception and booked for August next year. We're all so excited at the thought of returning when the park will be busier and the boys will have even more children to play with. Hopefully, the weather will be better too and we can make a trip to the beach.

For us, both working parents, family time can sometimes feel limited, so this holiday gave us the opportunity to bond and spend time together. It has made us determined to have more family holidays in the future—we're even considering a trip at Christmas!

The most wonderful outcome of the holiday, though, has been the change in Ayosubomi. He's come home from school and told me about how he's been playing nicely with other children and sharing toys. His behaviour has improved so much, and I'm incredibly proud of him.



**Thank you for supporting the Sheffield Family Holiday Fund in 2025.**

To find out more please contact - [sheffieldfamilyholidayfund@gmail.com](mailto:sheffieldfamilyholidayfund@gmail.com)

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*Thank you to our partner charity, the Family Holiday Charity (FHC) for their ongoing support and for providing the information included within this report.*

