

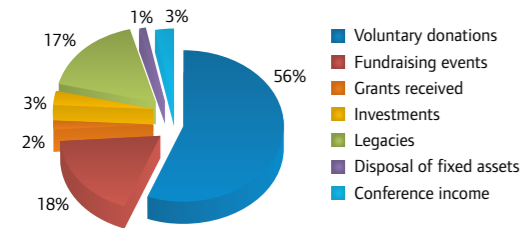
# Financial summary

The charity's income in 2009/10 was £2.63 million and expenditure was £2.44 million. The charts show how the money was raised and spent in this year and the previous year.

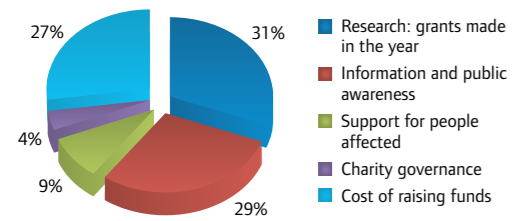
The trustees thank all those who contributed to this excellent performance.

Copies of the 2009/10 annual report and accounts, drawn up following the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2005 - Accounting and Reporting by Charities, are available on request from the Foundation's registered office in Bristol.

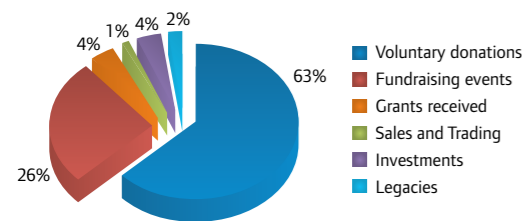
## How the money was raised 2009/2010



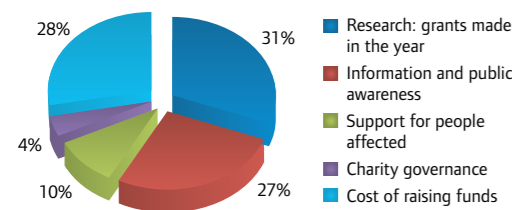
## How the money was allocated 2009/2010



## How the money was raised 2008/2009



## How the money was allocated 2008/2009



### Freephone 24 hour helpline

080 8800 3344 (United Kingdom)  
1800 41 33 44 (Republic of Ireland)

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Offices: Belfast Bristol Dublin Edinburgh. A charity registered in England and Wales no 1091105, in Scotland no SC037586, & in Ireland CHY 12030. A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England No 4367866  
Registered Office: Midland Way Thornbury Bristol BS35 2BS

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# Who we are

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**Dr Caroline Trotter BA MSc PhD**  
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# Annual Review 2009 – 2010

## From the Chair of Trustees



Our 20th anniversary year allowed us to reflect on our achievements and look to the challenges that lie ahead in our fight against meningitis and septicaemia.

Meningitis Research Foundation was formed with the belief that high quality research is the way to tackle these diseases which kill and disable hundreds of thousands of people throughout the world.

Our 20th anniversary coincided with the tenth anniversary of the introduction of the vaccine against meningococcal Group C meningitis and septicaemia (MenC) in the UK.

MenC shows the value of the practical application of research. The MenC vaccine has reduced disease by an incredible 99% to the

point where this form of the disease is virtually unknown in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Thousands of lives have been saved and many thousands of disabilities have been averted.

However, we are still far from a time when all forms of the disease are vaccine preventable in all parts of the world.

Since our inception we have supported 128 research projects to a value of over £15.6 million. Funding for research into vaccine development remains an integral part of our programme to prevent, detect and treat meningitis and septicaemia.

Until all forms of the disease are vaccine preventable, we will continue to alert people to the dangers of these diseases through our awareness programme. Free symptoms information for the public and identification and treatment resources for health professionals are a vital part of MRF's work.

## 20th year in 20 numbers

To mark our 20th anniversary, look out for 20 significant numbers.

For some the products of research and warnings about the diseases come too late. For those who have already suffered these dreadful diseases, we continue to offer friendship, information, support and a means of fighting back.

We rely on voluntary contributions to fund this work. If you have supported us during the year, I thank you. If you can help us during this year, please work with us to rid the world of these diseases which cause so much suffering.

**Beverley Pace**  
Chair of the Board of Trustees

## Achievements

### Major MRF funded research findings

■ A third of children with meningococcal disease had psychiatric disorders - depression, anxiety, behavioural problems, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) – for up to a year after discharge from hospital, explained doctors from Imperial College at St Mary's.

■ 6 new projects added to our research programme

■ Children and teenagers with pneumococcal meningitis had a significant lowering of long-term health-related quality of life, with deafness being a particular problem. Emerging results from this study were used by the UK government's expert committee that recommended the introduction of a pneumococcal vaccine for babies. The study was a collaboration between St Barts and Royal London School of Medicine, and Oxford and University College London.

■ 22 languages on [www.meningitis.org](http://www.meningitis.org)

■ Group B Streptococcus (GBS) is the most common cause of meningitis in newborn babies. A study of babies with GBS in London, Oxford and Bristol led by Dr Paul Heath at St George's University of London found that for mothers, carrying GBS, having an infection around the time of birth, or a fever during labour were strong risk-factors for having a baby with GBS. Prolonged rupture of membranes and raised heart-rate of the baby during labour were also associated. The researchers also showed that health and social care costs during the first two years of life were twice as high for babies with GBS as for

■ 24 live research projects at year-end



babies with similarly low birth weights who had no infection.

■ 106



media interviews by MRF staff and members during MRF's Meningitis Awareness Week

■ Research at Bristol University has shown that cells in our immune systems that produce antibodies to meningococcus in the bloodstream are also important in remembering the bacteria. Before this, scientists believed that immune memory was entirely due to our memory helper cells. Immune memory is one of the key elements for long-lasting immunity, so this is an important finding.

2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**125** UK parliamentarians support MRF by tabling awareness week motions

Patients most likely to die or have severe after effects from meningococcal meningitis and septicaemia were those with very high numbers of bacteria in their blood, reported Sheffield University and the Health Protection Agency. This underlines the importance of detecting the disease early so that antibiotics can kill the bacteria before they have time to multiply. This research also helps identify which patients will need intensive care treatment to save their lives.

2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**134** stories shared for launch of Book of Experience

### New research projects

Research into meningococcal group B vaccines remains a priority for MRF. At the Institute of Child Health, UCL, Dr Garth Dixon and colleagues are working on an alternative men B vaccine design that we hope has the potential to produce a safe and effective vaccine candidate.

Professor Robert Read at the University of Sheffield is leading a project hoping to provide new insights into treatment for septicaemia by using a drug that is already available to reverse the damaging effects of meningococcal sepsis.

2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**145** trained volunteer telephone befrienders

The relatively neglected area of viral meningitis is the subject of Professor Tom Solomon's research at the University of Liverpool looking to establish a better understanding of its long-term after effects, recurrent nature and potential treatment.

2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**150** languages offered by our interpretation service



2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**208** members participate in MRF events



Group B Strep Support Group partnered with us on this campaign and actress and young mum, Billie Piper, became the face of the campaign. Motions in the parliaments of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland backing the campaign were supported by parliamentarians across all parties. The campaign resulted in widespread uptake in symptoms information on meningitis in babies.

We are funding three new projects in Africa. Natural Immunity Against Serogroup X Meningococci in Togo, a trial of antibiotics to improve the Outcome of Bacterial Meningitis in Newborn Infants in Malawi and Why is the Death Rate so High Amongst Adults with Meningitis in Africa?

2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**269** delegates at our international research conference



### Campaigns

MRF campaigned to raise awareness of meningitis in babies. Babies run a 37 times higher risk of the disease than other children over one and adults. We launched a major research project to determine the burden of disease of neonatal meningitis, how it is managed and ways to improve treatment.



2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**1,000** babies become ill with meningitis every year in the UK



### Sharing the learning

Our most ambitious international conference to date, showcased the best research from around the world, including that sponsored by MRF, to over 250 delegates gathered at the Royal Society of Medicine in London.

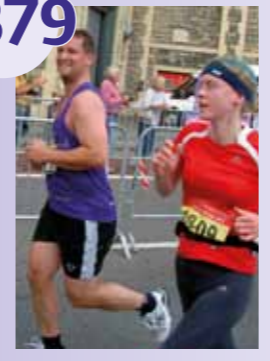


2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**3,500** estimated number of cases of meningitis and septicaemia in the UK and Ireland in 2009

### Fundraising

Thanks to the dedication, creativity and generosity of our supporters, 2008/09 saw income of £2.63 million, a major achievement in a hard economic climate. Key fundraising events during the year included:

2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**879** fundraising runners for MRF during the year



London Loot, Edinburgh's Flush Haggis and Megaraidis such as Bristol, Belfast, Cardiff and Dublin, where large numbers of students organise street collections.

The London Marathon, Flora Women's Mini Marathon Dublin, Edinburgh, Belfast and other marathons, the Great North Run, Cork Mini Marathon, Irish Rubberman Challenge, Aviemore half marathon and other runs and triathlons.

2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**15,972** Members of MRF with personal experience of meningitis and septicaemia

Meningitis Meanders, Maurice McMenamin Memorial Walk and Phoenix Park Walk  
 Golf Days, including Bunker to Banquet in Aberdeen supported by patrons Sir Ian and Lady Helen Wood and their son Garreth, Milltown Golf Club Annual Charity Day and Ballynasloe Golf Classic

2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**30,000** views of our Facebook page



2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**531,914** visitors to our new website



2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**£758,109** spent on research programme during the year

Forth Rail Bridge and Falkirk Wheel abseils, Scrabo Abseil, Cork Life Cycle in memory of Jessica O'Leary, Big Pedal in Memory of Alan Farnan, Sandra Price Memorial Cycle, GI Jane assault course challenge and other challenge and parachuting events  
 Make Music with Marvin, Slimathon, quizzes and raffles including Trevor and Hazel Kee's raffle in Donegal.

2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**1,800,000** leaflets, booklets symptoms cards and posters distributed free of charge to health professionals and the general public



Project grants:  
 The Department of Health in England; Department of Health; Social Services & Public Safety in Northern Ireland; Scottish Government; The Big Lottery Fund - Awards for All and the HSE National Lottery.

2011 YEAR IN 20 NUMBERS  
**£2,000,000** value of current research programme

