

# The National Association for Gifted Children



Annual Review and Financial Statements  
For the year ending 30th April 2009



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# About NAGC

“NAGC represents the families of every gifted and talented child in this country. We aim to improve the world for these families, particularly where they have issues as a result of their child’s gifts and talents and where they need additional support to increase their skills and confidence.”

## Why NAGC exists

**Every year, on average, 35,000 gifted and talented children are born in the UK.**

With the right support, many may grow up to be the doctors and philosophers, musicians and physicists, artists, entrepreneurs and leaders of tomorrow.

Without the right support, the gifts and talents of many of these children may die and they may never become the children they were destined to be.

In addition, without the right support these children will not be stimulated, may be bullied, may fail in the education system and have behavioural and mental health problems which can make their childhoods lonely and miserable.

**If every child matters, then so does every gifted and talented child.**

### CONTENTS

- p2 **01** About NAGC
- p10 **02** Our Work
- p28 **03** Report of the Council of Management
- p36 **04** Financial Statements

“Thank goodness for NAGC, its wonderful staff and your helpline. My granddaughter was significantly underachieving and your helpline was a life saver. It is such a relief to know we are not alone and that there is help available. A very big thank you to everyone at NAGC.”

Grandparent

## NAGC's Vision

**NAGC's vision is for a world where every gifted and talented child matters and should be treated equally wherever they come from, whatever their family background, their income or the colour of their skin.**

We believe that gifted and talented children and young people should have the same chances in life as every other child to make the most of the gifts they have been given.

We believe this is important because:

### **Be Healthy**

Without the right support, many gifted children can have mental health issues and some can become suicidal

### **Stay Safe**

Without the right support, many gifted children are bullied because they are different

### **Enjoy and achieve**

Without the right social and emotional support, a gifted child can be vulnerable and isolated and may never achieve his or her potential

### **Make a positive contribution**

With the right support, the contribution to our society that gifted children could make is enormous

### **Achieve economic wellbeing**

Without the right support, many gifted children can fail in school, drop out of the education system and find it difficult to achieve their goals in life. This represents a tremendous waste of human lives

NAGC represents the families of every gifted and talented child in this country. We aim to improve the world for these families, particularly where they have issues as a result of their child's gifts and talents and where they need additional support to increase their skills and confidence.

NAGC has been speaking out on behalf of the families of gifted and talented children for over 40 years. Today we support more than 15,000 people a year and are continuing to make a positive difference to the lives of such families everywhere.

“Without the right social and emotional support, a gifted child can be vulnerable and isolated and may never achieve his or her potential.”

We need you to:

- Help us achieve our vision
- Believe in what we are trying to do to support gifted and talented children and their families
- Champion NAGC – tell everyone what we are trying to achieve
- Join us in our work, as together we have a more powerful voice

Together we can make  
a real difference.



## CASE STUDY: Melanie

Melanie contacted NAGC because of her daughter Jessica's outstanding art work. Although only 6 years old, Jessica spends all her free time drawing and her artwork is very intricate. Her mother was looking for some advice about how to develop her talent. Melanie was supported through the helpline and found the information and suggestions made very helpful. More than anything she found it good to be able to talk about her daughter's talent without feeling that she was boasting. Subsequently, Melanie and Jessica became family members and were able to access information about this and other needs through the fact sheets. They were referred to our Art Consultant who continues to support them further.

# Company Information

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<b>Company Number</b>	905037
<b>Charity Number</b>	313182
<b>Registered Office</b>	Suite 14, Challenge House, Sherwood Drive, Bletchley Milton Keynes, MK3 6DP
<b>Tel</b>	0845 450 0295
<b>E-mail</b>	amazingchildren@nagcbrtain.org.uk
<b>Website</b>	www.nagcbrtain.org.uk

## Trustees

Mr J Carter	(appointed 19/10/2008)
Mrs L. Glockner	(appointed 19/10/2008; resigned 1/6/2009)
Mr J Graham	(appointed 19/10/2008)
Mr S D Kemp-King	
Mrs L Mosley	
Mr P Murray	
Mr C Parsons	
Mrs P Powell	
Mr S Ramsden	(Chair)
Mr A Sibley	
Mr I Simper	
Mr P Trevelyan	
Mr M Woolnough	(Vice Chair)
Mrs A Wray	(appointed 19/10/2008)

**Patron** HRH The Duchess of Gloucester GCVO

**Vice Patron** Sir Robert Balchin

**President** Christopher Martin

**Vice Presidents** James Dyson  
David Jamieson  
The Baroness Morris of Yardley  
Mary Ann Sieghart  
Miriam Stoppard  
Nick Wheeler

## Executive Officers (as at 30th April 2009)

**Company Secretary and Chief Executive** Denise Yates

**Deputy Chief Executive** Julie Taplin

**Education Consultants** Mehtab Hashmi-Culling  
Rebecca Howell  
Radhika Rajbans

**Marketing, Membership and Events Assistant** Julia Cloke

**Designer** Catherine Horsley

**Editor** Zana Bayley

**Website Coordinator** Rowan Trimmer

**Finance and Systems Manager** Tom Bloor

## Principal Professional Advisers

**Bankers** CafBank Ltd  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent ME19 4JQ

Barclays Bank plc  
The Northampton Group  
PO Box 23  
Northampton NN1 4YD

National Westminster Bank plc  
PO Box 2153  
1-4 Berkeley Square House  
Berkeley Square  
London W1A 1SN

**Solicitors** Davies Wallis Foster  
Harvester House  
37 Peter Street  
Manchester M2 5GB

**Auditors** Keen Shay Keens MK  
Chartered Accountants and  
Registered Auditors  
Sovereign Court  
230 Upper Fifth Street  
Central Milton Keynes MK9 2HR

# President's Report

**I have always valued a lively curiosity in the young more than any ability to impart information.**

This was vividly illustrated for me on a mountain in heavy rain with a six year old who broke a long soggy silence as we struggled along with the question, "Who is stronger; God or Tarzan?" It seemed that the elements had in no way diminished his will to tackle one of the great imponderables. I fear my answer did not do justice to his question.

For me, a much easier question is, "What is the NAGC's prime role today?" It has not changed much over the years but today more than ever it is our support for parents as well as their gifted offspring which differentiates us from others in the field. Parents' role in the education of their children is, as we all know, absolutely critical. Very often it is the key to the difference between success and failure – a word I use in defiance of the prevailing ethos where the F word is frowned upon, particularly in education. The National Curriculum's one-size-fits-all approach entails devastating consequences for so many youngsters whose curiosity is quenched by its inflexible approach. Sadly but predictably, gifted children feature heavily in this group. I am reminded of the school whose prospectus proclaimed; "We cater for all abilities and interests... All boys play rugby in the Autumn term." Even at Westminster in the nineteenth century the Headmaster turned down a request to include French on the curriculum. Why? "Because it might prove useful for international trade."

Parents, therefore, are those whom the NAGC seeks to support most assiduously as they attempt to navigate the often sluggish waters of our educational provision. Their children's gifts are a national asset sans pareil. This has, of course, always been the case, as one teacher put it, "since time immortal." But never more so, I suggest, than today when the signs of society's tendency to dumb down are all around us.

So I wish all our staff, all our members and all parents of gifted children everywhere Strength and Valour – the gladiators' battle cry - as they enter the fray in the year ahead on behalf of the highest standards their children can encounter and achieve.



Christopher Martin  
**President**



**"The National Curriculum's one-size-fits-all approach entails devastating consequences for so many youngsters whose curiosity is quenched by its inflexible approach."**

Christopher Martin





## Chair's Report

**During 2009 our small team of staff and volunteers has delivered an outstanding performance despite the challenges posed by the turbulent financial conditions.**

“All our work is supported by the generosity of our members and volunteers and I must thank them all once again for the support they have provided over the last year.”

Steve Ramsden

It is a credit to our staff, volunteers and members and their commitment to improving the lives of our children, that for the second year running we have managed to improve our financial position whilst continuing to be the leading charity representing gifted and talented children and their parents and carers across the country.

Evidence of NAGC's international reputation can be seen from our activities involving organisations from Turkey, Austria, Denmark, New Zealand and Vancouver to name but a few, whilst our national standing has been amply demonstrated by our involvement in the City Gates project in the Black Country. All our work is supported by the generosity of our members and volunteers and I must thank them all once again for the support they have provided over the last year.

Steve Ramsden  
**Chair**



# Chief Executive's Report

Welcome to this year's Annual Report. I hope that it provides you with a useful - and interesting - snapshot of our activities over the past year.

And what a year it has been! We have been involved in international projects; projects with carers; a project with low income families to encourage their children to look at university as an option; with events involving 8 to 800 people and a whole range in between as well as a set of magazines which would now not look out of place in any high street newsagents; and much more besides.

NAGC is a vibrant organisation with a 'can do' attitude and an approach which stresses the value of working in partnership with other organisations for the benefit of gifted children and their families.

At the centre of all of this is the support and involvement of our members; ordinary parents who happen to have a gifted child and all that entails and who feel very deeply about the importance of improving education in this country for the gifted and talented child.

One of my greatest pleasures in this role is sending out my monthly e-letter - usually at midnight - and waiting for the messages to start coming in from parents with comments, ideas, and suggestions on what is, or should be available for gifted children and what we at NAGC could do to help support them. Please keep writing to me - and thank you.

As we move into the next financial year, the world is about to change again for gifted and talented children with the Government's White Paper giving pupil and parent guarantees on a range of issues in school and the likelihood of an election some time in 2010. We will live in interesting times.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of NAGC, to thank everyone who has worked with us over the past year; parents, carers, families, schools and partner organisations as well as our Trustees, volunteers and staff. We could not do all we do without your support and involvement. Thank you.



Denise Yates  
Chief Executive



“NAGC is a vibrant organisation with a ‘can do’ attitude and an approach which stresses the value of working in partnership with other organisations for the benefit of the gifted child and their families.”

Denise Yates

