



MARLBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LINK SCHEME
(Registered Charity No. 1069752)

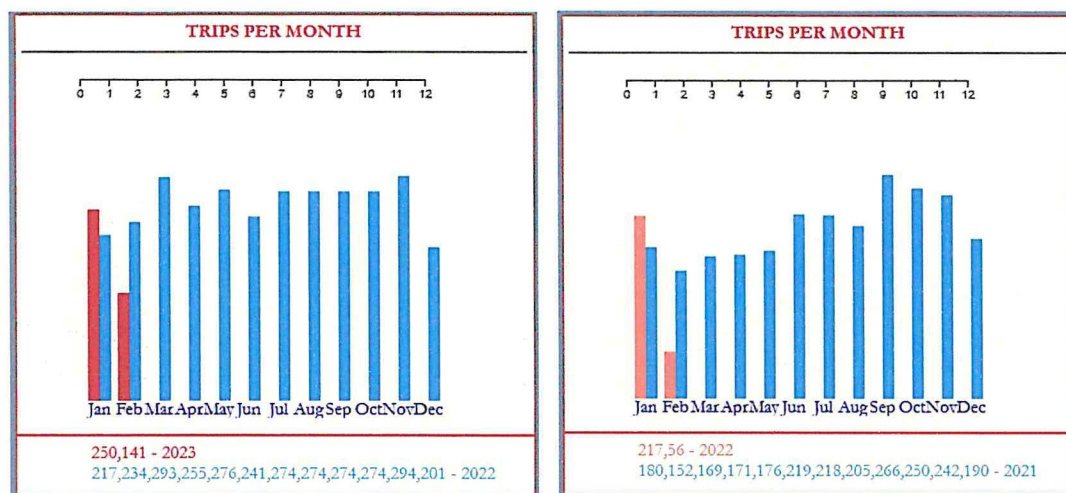
**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

For the Year Ended 31st December 2022

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2022

Let us begin by marking the death of our remarkable Vicky Sullivan. Vicky was a towering figure, both within the Wiltshire LINK community and across a broad range of Marlborough society. Her contribution to the life of this area cannot be overstated, whether it be as a professional insurance broker, as a member of Marlborough Golf Club along with husband John, or more recently as Chair of both Marlborough and District LINK Scheme and of Marlborough Women's Institute. Whatever she touched, she affected profoundly, building, reinforcing, innovating. She is enormously missed and most affectionately remembered.

As for Marlborough LINK, 2022 saw a return to more normal activity rates, judged by pre-Covid numbers.



There were interesting quirks in booking patterns to the point where we had to cease any but medical appointments on Wednesdays, demand was so high on that day. The balance between shopping trips and medical trips tipped back towards the medical and we noticed some marked changes in the physical and mental fitness of some of our regular clients. We therefore had to face up to the difficult question of when we tell a client they are beyond our capability to help, together with the accompanying problem of onward pathways for such people. Liaison with the GP surgery in George Lane gave us some answers to the latter, somewhat alleviating the unhappiness associated with the former.

The roll call of volunteers varied as it does every year, with some leaving and some joining, all with that extraordinary good will that seems to be the hallmark of so many citizens of Marlborough and its environs. We always need more volunteers, to coordinate, to drive and to visit, but the generosity of those currently on the books enables us to render a remarkable range of service. Communications from clients all note what a major contribution LINK makes to their ability to continue living independently – something they clearly cherish very highly indeed.

In considering how LINK might commemorate and honour Vicky Sullivan's memory, much thought is being given to expanding our Good Neighbour service – something she was keen to develop. Particular attention is being focused on involving younger members of our community, currently still in school, with detailed conversations in progress. Our impression is that this post-Covid period is seen as a highly appropriate time to develop this initiative. We are also reinstating the annual summer tea party, a particular favourite of Vicky's.

In sum, therefore, Marlborough LINK is in rude health and excited about future development. My thanks go to Alex Blair, Treasurer, for keeping us solvent; to Mark McFarland for stepping up as Secretary; to Louise Campion, recruiting officer, for taking care of the vast amount of paperwork involved in induction and DBS checking; to Kathryn Williams for her expert advice and guidance on a range of issues, particularly at the point of deciding to tell a client they've moved beyond our remit; to our incredibly patient and skilled coordinators keeping the machine rolling day to day; and above all to our drivers and "good neighbour" volunteers, the shock troops on the front line. Thank you all!

Hugh de Saram, Chair, February 2023

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
MARLBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LINK SCHEME**

I report on the accounts for the trust for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

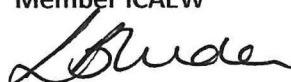
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mrs Lynne Blunden
8 South View Place
Marlborough
SN8 1DD
Member ICAEW



Date: *SH March* 2023

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees present their report and accounts for this period.

Principal address and Charity Number:

18 Kelham Gardens, Marlborough SN8 1PW– Charity No.1069752

Charity Trustees:

Hugh de Saram (Chairperson – appointed 26th March 2022), Mark McFarland (Secretary – appointed 26th March 2022), Alex Blair (Treasurer), Julian George, Henry Pearson, Louise Campion.

The following Trustees resigned in the year, Vicky Sullivan on the 27th March 2022 and Jeff Sherwood on the 30th May 2022.

The Committee is made up of the six Trustees, Margaret Toogood (Assistant Treasurer) and Kathryn Williams.

Structure, Governance and Management:

The Charity is an association governed by a constitution dated 13th May 1998 (as amended), drawn up under the auspices of Wiltshire Link Schemes.

Objectives and activities of the Scheme:

The objectives of the Charity are to relieve the poor, sick, elderly or disabled in Marlborough and the surrounding district by providing or assisting in the provision of services calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress of such persons. In planning our objectives, we keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance:

The charity has continued to fulfill its objectives under its constitution to its clients, to the best of its ability.

Reserves Policy:

The charity has total free reserves of £28,659 at 31st December 2022. Under its constitution it is considered prudent to hold free reserves that represent six months expenditure in the financial year.

Investment Policy:

The charity's funds are maintained in bank and building society accounts to ensure that it has sufficient funds to meet its regular commitments.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee.....  March 2023
Mr Mark McFarland

Trustee.....  March 2023
Mr Alex Blair

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022**ANNUAL ACCOUNTS****RECEIPTS**

	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21
Clients' donations envelopes	£23,218	£16,535
Other Bank credits	£0	£0
Other income		
Other Donations (See note1)	£2,669	£1,137
iZettle Shopping	£382	£3,193
Gift Aid Claims	£1,272	£352
Grants	£0	£0
Deposit Account Interest		£2
TOTAL INCOME (A)	£27,541	£21,219
PAYMENTS		
Volunteer Mileage Allowances	£18,280	£13,634
Volunteers Shopping	£382	£2,962
Telephone Equip & Charges	£704	£791
PPE	£0	£578
iZettle readers & interest	£0	£0
Insurance	£466	£459
Administration expenses	£796	£628
Marketing & Donation Envelopes	£130	£182
Website & Database (See note 2)	£1,750	£249
Room Hire and Social Events	£261	£205
Gifts	£0	£0
Subscriptions & Donations (See note 3)	£3,000	£810
Misc Exps	£0	£90
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (B)	£25,769	£20,588
SURPLUS (A) - (B)	£1,772	£631

Outstanding liabilities at yearend are £631 of expenses owed to volunteers.

BANK BALANCES

Opening balances at 1st Jan-22

Lloyds Bank	£26,887	£6,722
Nationwide		£18,649
Cash in Hand		£885
	£26,887	£26,256
Closing balances at 31-12-22		
Lloyds Bank	£28,659	£26,887
Cash in Hand		
	£28,659	£26,887

Notes to the Accounts

Note 1

Other donations include one-off donations at Vicky Sullivan's Funeral (£662), driver volunteer's donations, and other other Link donations of £825 towards the Originzone database costs.

Note 2

Includes £1,008 to Originzone for the hosting and management of the database.

Note 3

A donation paid to the Jubilee Centre for £3,000.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES as at 31st DECEMBER 2022

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
	£	£
<u>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</u>		
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Cash Funds:		
Bank Account	£28,659	£26,887
Cash in Hand	<u>£28,659</u>	<u>£26,887</u>

We approve the Financial Statement set out on pages 5 to 6.

We acknowledge our responsibility for the financial information, including the appropriateness of the accounting basis and for providing the Independent Examiner with all information and explanations necessary for his completion.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee.....
Mr Alex Blair (Treasurer)

Trustee.....
Mr Mark McFarland (Secretary)

Treasurer's Report

The activity of the Charity returned very much back to normal following the pandemic disruption of the previous two years. Income remains strong and the Charity costs are well controlled providing a net surplus year on year.

The Charity is committed to supporting worthwhile organisations whose needs are consistent with our constitution. The Jubilee Centre is one such organisation we are delighted to help out.

Shopping trips and requirements continue albeit on a much lower scale.

Thanks again to Margaret Toogood for banking the client's donations and to Hugh de Saram for the continued support and first contact of the Link database.

Alex Blair
Hon Treasurer
March 2023