

Derbyshire Toy Libraries Annual Report

2022-2023

Financial Period

01/09/22 - 31/8/23



Prepared by:
The Trustee Committee

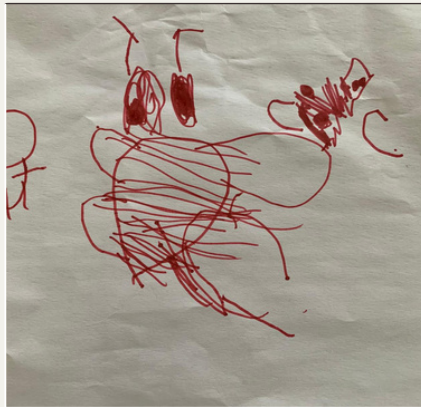
June-2024

Derbyshire Toy Libraries

Learning through play



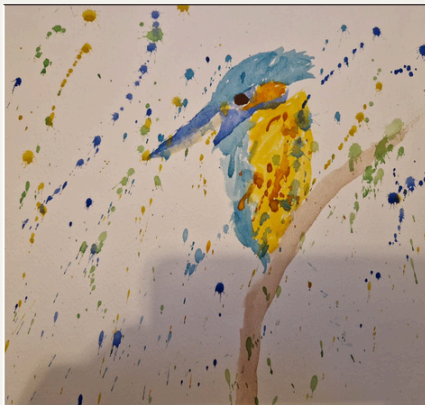
Brandon (7)



Orla (4)



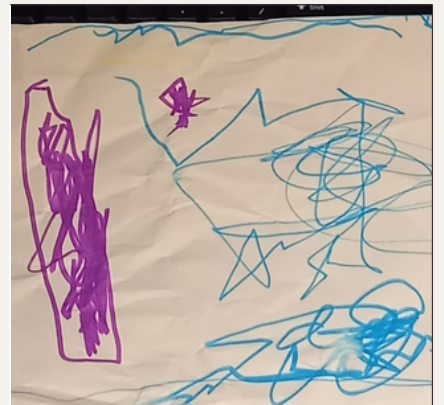
Ethan (4)



Evelyn (10)



Fern (5)



Alexander (4)



Sophie (5)

Derbyshire Toy Libraries
c/o Crich Glebe Field Centre
Glebe Field Close
Crich
Matlock
Derbyshire
DE4 5EU

Registered Charity No: 1081255

www.derbyshiretoylibraries.org
derbyshiretoylibraries@gmail.com

Contents

About Us

5

Chairs Statement

6

Treasurers Statement

7

Our People

8

Key Activities

9

Our Governance

11

Our Trustees

12

Notable Events

13

Annual Accounts

14

About Us



Derbyshire Toy Libraries (DTL) is a registered Charity established in May 2000. We abide by the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance in setting our objectives and carrying out our work.

We carry out our work throughout Derbyshire and exist to:

- support children's education and development through the extension of play opportunities
- provide a place for parents and carers to meet
- offer support for parenting and parental involvement in play
- relieve financial hardship of families through the provision of affordable and subsidised play activities and resources
- reduce the number of toys in landfill, encouraging multiple re-use
- act as a hub within the local community
- provide opportunities for volunteering and learning new skills

We are run by a dedicated team of local people who oversee Toy Library operations.

Chairs Statement

Rehana Reid

At the end of last year we committed to a year of growth, development and improved toy library services for our local communities and we are proud to have honoured that commitment.

We were delighted to welcome two new Trustees Anna Field and Cassie Ensor. Anna is our new Treasurer. Cassie brings an array of experience in business and recruitment having worked at the university of Derby for 16 years. Having built her career on employer engagement working on complex European funded projects, she is currently working on developing the University's new Derby Talent Programme. Cassie was a previous member of DTL, attending the stay and play sessions with her two children since 2015. We were also fortunate to welcome business and governance consultant Elizabeth Brierton who has undertaken a huge amount of work to support DTL in improving our governance systems and structures, policy development and fundraising.

We embarked on two new ventures this year. We opened a new weekly Stay and Play session at Grassmoor Community Centre in Chesterfield and a Multiples session in Belper, all supported by a fantastic new team of volunteers.

Our founder and manager Ann-Marie has been able to dedicate more time to spreading the word of Derbyshire Toy Libraries to raise our profile, encourage more children and families to benefit, to support our fundraising efforts and to celebrate our achievements.

As well as celebrate our joys we also draw attention to our difficulties. We continue to see the rising cost of living alongside cuts to local services having a detrimental impact on local families and escalating the need for quality, affordable play provision. At the same time we face an increasingly challenging funding environment, with greater competition for scarce resources.

We are incredibly grateful to all our staff and volunteers, including students, parents, grandparents, foster carers, and more. Your commitment, hard work, and team spirit help maintain and improve the incredible range of play-based resources that support the education, skills, and wellbeing of local children and families across Derbyshire.

Treasurers Statement

Anna Field

These accounts have been drawn up on the accruals basis, consistent with previous years.

Overall, the outcome for the year is a surplus of £9,143. The Confident Communicators fund of £9,000 makes up most of the surplus with unrestricted funds being £143.

At the end of the year, Derbyshire Toy Libraries had funds amounting to £15,857.

The Charity's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient funds to enable it to maintain the Charity's equipment to a good standard and to meet all other reasonably foreseeable eventualities.

22/23 – A steady year of modest growth with a roughly breakeven position after the £9,000 Confident Communicators funding. This £9,000 is noted in the accounts as restricted funds. Although the Funding was received in March 2023 and Derbyshire County Council(DCC) launched the Scheme in June 2023, DCC acknowledge that the Scheme has been slow to get started. Autumn 2023 has seen more movement on the Scheme.

23/24 – Looking Forward - The Trustees are aware of the need to consolidate the achievements of the past year to ensure financial and operational sustainability for the future. Grant applications continue to be submitted to support targeted projects – for example running costs for our Grassmoor sessions.

Our People

Staff

Founder & Manager: Ann-Marie McMillan founded the Toy Library 24 years ago. Ann-Marie continues to manage the Toy Library with the same drive and enthusiasm that founded the Toy Library. Ann-Marie also actively seeks out opportunities to not only expand our service but to provide Derbyshire's young children and their families with quality toys, resources and opportunities to Stay and Play together.

Coordinator: Lyndsey Willis runs some of our popular Stay and Play sessions, our Click and Collect Service and our monthly Toy Auctions. Lyndsey's encyclopedic knowledge of our resources, their uses and where they are in our Toy Store is second to none. Lyndsey carries out her work for DTL with enthusiasm and encouragement for all who use the service.

Business & Governance Consultant: Elizabeth Brierton joined DTL in 2022 to undertake governance work, project support and website development. Elizabeth brings a wealth of experience in Project Management, Continuous Improvement and Process Change.. Elizabeth is supportive and encouraging with a keen eye for detail.

Volunteers

We are supported by a group of volunteers who give their time to help out at our Stay and Play sessions and our Community Events. We have been supported in 22/23 by Ben, Jordanne, Lisa, Georgina and Clare. In addition, our new venture in Grassmoor has been supported by Pam, Denise, Jackie and Alex. Our new sessions for Multiples are run by Lizzie.

Key Activities

Toy Hire “Click and Collect”:

Members pay £10 for an annual membership, discounted to £8 if sign up for recurring payments (min 2 years). This gives members access to an online catalogue of over 1,000 toys and resources they can hire with prices starting at 50p per week. Toys and Resources include age based Purposeful Play Packs, individual developmental items, larger outdoor play equipment, soft play sets and Party Packs. A new addition to our stock this year has been reusable tableware which can be hired for celebrations. Enquiries and bookings are made online and the service is run by Lyndsey from our toy store at Strutt Centre, Belper.

Monthly Virtual Toy Auctions:

We hold Monthly Virtual Toy Auctions selling items that have either been retired from our play sessions or toys that have been donated to us. The Toy Auctions are a critical income stream for us as monies raised are used to pay rent on our hired toy store at The Strutt Centre. The resale of these toys gives them a new lease of life with a new generation of children saving the items from landfill. The toys are sold at very reasonable prices making them affordable to all.

Confident Communicators Voucher programme

Derbyshire County Council purchased vouchers to enable Early Years providers who have attended their Confident Communicators programme to access to the resources, play sessions and expertise of Derbyshire Toy Libraries.

The aims of Confident Communicators is to provide staff development focused on communication and language to our Early Years settings and schools.

To encourage networking and different providers connecting within their communities especially reaching out to Childminders, Derbyshire County Council want to employ a ‘recommend a friend’ system. Initially the vouchers will be given to the 30 providers enrolled for Confident Communicators and ask them to recommend the local providers they are working with to receive their voucher.

Key Activities

“Stay and Play”:

Our Stay and Play Coordinators, with the assistance of our volunteer team run a timetable of weekly, 90 minute stay and play sessions in 4 different locations. A rotated selection of clean, safe and high quality toys are available for the children to play with alongside other play based activities and song time. Parents and carers engage in play with the support of our Play Co ordinators and volunteers. Each week parents/carers are offered refreshments. Sessions are charged at £4 and concessions are offered for those unable to pay. On average 132 children attend a Stay & Play session each month.

Multiples Stay and Play:

On the second Saturday of the month, Lizzie leads a session for Multiples at the Strutt Centre. This developed following the closure of Matlock Multiples based in Darley Dale. Twins and more are welcomed with their parents and or carers who can have a hot drink and talk to others with twins or more.



Our Governance

The charity is governed by a board of six unpaid trustees who hold legal responsibility for the charity and adhere to our governing document and supporting policies.

Key responsibilities of the trustee board include setting the strategic direction of the charity, building its financial health, ensuring it fulfills its aims and objectives and overseeing its operation.

As a minimum the board meets termly to review, plan and manage the work of the charity. Ad hoc meetings are arranged outside of these times as and when needed.

Trustees and officers are elected and appointed upon a convening of a general meeting. We are always looking for new Trustees to strengthen our Team. If you would like to be involved please speak to Ann-Marie McMillan. Ann-Marie can be contacted via manager.derbyshiretoylibraries@gmail.com. If you would like to speak to Ann-Marie face to face, you can usually find her at our Belper Community Hall Stay and Play sessions.

Our Trustees are all volunteers and receive no benefit for their work with Derbyshire Toy Libraries.

Our Trustees

During this period, the Trustees were:

Rehana Reid - Chair 27/06/2018

Anna Field - Treasurer 12/09/2022

Liz Parker - Trustee 13/03/2014

Beth Coley-Cross - Trustee 01/09/2019

Cassie Ensor - Trustee 12/09/2022

Lauren Tansley – Trustee 01/06/2023

We're a varied bunch who bring different skills and knowledge to the table. Our differing experiences and backgrounds are key to ensuring that the Toy Library delivers services that are accessible to as many people as possible.

Notable Events *from this year*

1

Derby Drive Intern from Aug 22 - Feb 23

Abdalla Shalaby worked with us to help raise profile of DTL on social media and in local schools and communities.

The reels produced are available on our Youtube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHT3wkIAUbz2VID8QgsV5Ow/videos>

2

Pop-up play session Sept 22

Held a pop-up play session at Hulland School.

3

Lots for Tots Awards Oct 22

Ann-Marie was Highly Commended in the Most Loved Volunteer Category of the whilst Derbyshire Toy Libraries was a Finalist. October 2022

4

Wellness Hubbub Nov 22

Attended this community group session at The Glebe in Crich

5

Various Activities Feb 23

- The first Multiples session took place
- Ann-Marie was interviewed by Sally Pepper at BBC Radio Derby
- Attended Volunteering Fair at Derby University - to promote volunteering roles to students, staff and members of the public.

6

Various Activities Apr 23

- The first Grassmoor Stay & Play session took place.
- Attended Kilburn Community Day

7

Various Activities May 23

- Featured on local ITV News
- Participated in Children's Book Festival
- Coxbench Hall hosted an Intergenerational Young at Heart Stay & Play session.

8

Hosted British Red Cross First Aid Session June 2023

Organised and hosted free First Aid Session run by the British Red Cross

9

Attended the following events Jul 23

- Belper Food Festival
- Stall at the Flea Market, Derwent Mill
- Transition Belper Eco Market

10

Various Activities Aug 23

- Participated in Belper Open Gardens event.
- Hosted another First Aid session.

DERBYSHIRE TOY LIBRARIES
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2023

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

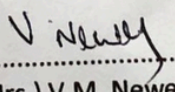
- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met.
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by:


(Mrs.) V.M. Newey

Date: 17th May 2024

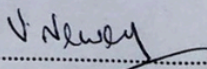
Amber Accountancy Services
21 Spanker Lane
Nether Heage
Derbyshire
DE56 2AT

DERBYSHIRE TOY LIBRARIES
Receipts & Payments Account
Year ended 31st August 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts:				
Session fees	4,856		4,292	
Membership fees	3,874		2,887	
Party hire	4,512		3,887	
Toy hire	<u>14,366</u>		<u>5,505</u>	
		27,608		16,571
Fundraising	855		1,800	
Grants received	100		500	
Sales of toys	3,644		4,104	
Other receipts	2,892		-	
Donations	<u>300</u>		<u>2,138</u>	
		<u>7,791</u>		<u>8,542</u>
		35,399		25,113
Payments:				
Staff costs	13,467		12,488	
Staff expenses	997		1,408	
Room hire	7,117		9,548	
Refreshments	44		83	
Insurance	537		648	
Transport	-		370	
IT/Website	553		530	
Marketing	1,064		760	
Fundraising costs	23		776	
Other payments	178		992	
Toys purchased	275		1,773	
Training costs	135		-	
Zettle/Paypal fees	340		-	
Accounts fee	<u>50</u>		<u>100</u>	
		<u>24,780</u>		<u>29,476</u>
Surplus / Deficit of receipts over payments		10,619		4,363
Balance brought forward		<u>5,269</u>		<u>9,632</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		£ 15,888		£ 5,269
Represented by:				
Cash in hand		30		30
Bank account balance		<u>15,858</u>		<u>5,239</u>
		£ 15,888		£ 5,269

Auditor's Report

I confirm that this Receipts and Payments account truly reflects the financial position in accordance with the receipts and vouchers of Derbyshire Toy Libraries.


 Mrs. V. Newey
 Amber Accountancy Services

17th May 2024

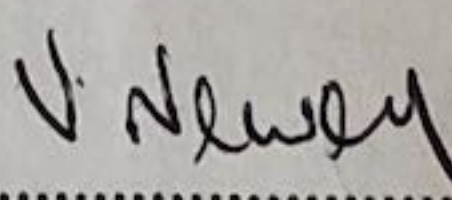
N.B. Rent accrual = £1,475. Restricted funds = £9,000

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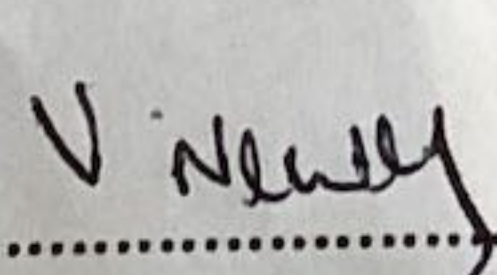
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