



DOWN'S SYNDROME NORTH EAST

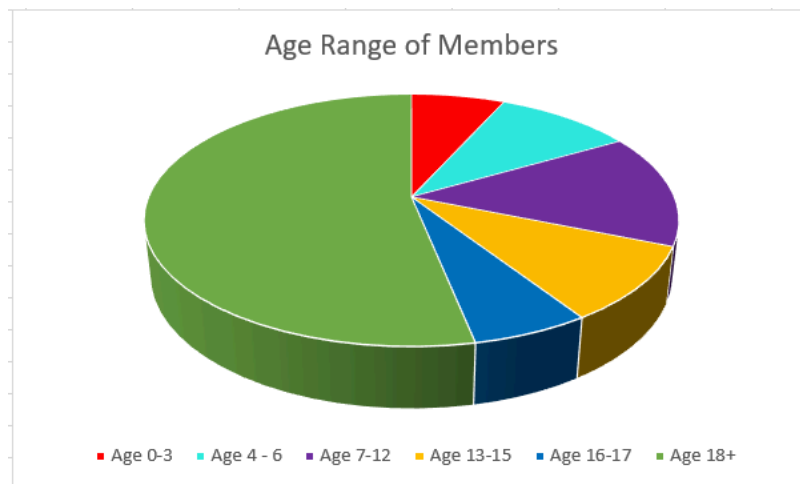
Registered Charity No. 1096003

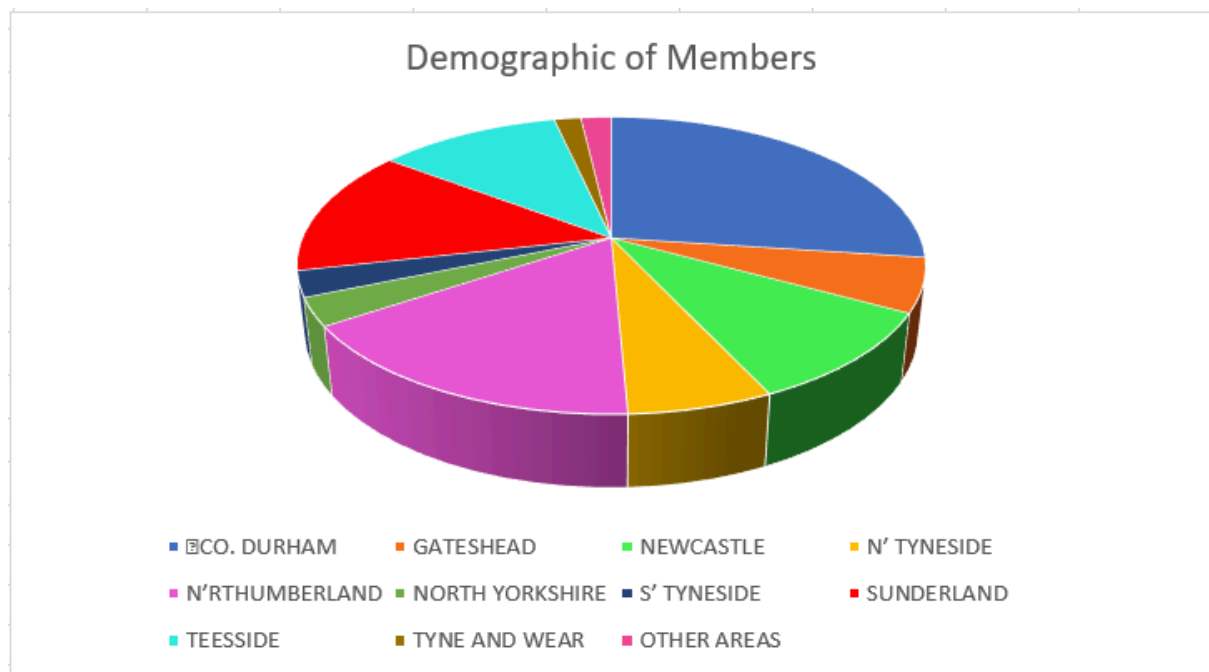
Down's Syndrome North East Review of the year 2024-2025

Message from the Chair, Susan Belton

I accepted my nomination as Chair of Down's Syndrome North East for a 10th term, taking the charity into its 22nd year of independence supporting adults, children and families in the North East, a year continuing to deliver activities to all ages, supporting families old and new.

Demographic information of Age and Location of Members:





Our events reached families, children and adults who have Down's syndrome of all ages across the region. From April 2024 - March 2025 our volunteers organised and ran the following for our members-

- 49 events which preschool children and babies attended;
- 47 events which primary school aged children attended;
- 30 events which teenagers attended;
- 58 events which adults attended.

An amazing year of activities and events for all ages here are some very happy members enjoying them.

CHILDRENS

Owl Tree Cafe

Woodland Play Patch

Three 2I

Starz Dance and Drama

Senses Wellbeing Centre

Pendragon

Rainbows Sensory Space



ADULTS



Marty's Party



Marty Live



Stockton Bowling

All Ages



Hall Hill Farm



Snow Tubing



Forest School



Three 21, our monthly meet up for younger children and their families, continued to run each month at Winlaton Community Centre, welcoming new parents, practising Makaton signing and exploring messy play.

Every year, another highlight is attending the Christmas pantomime at the Customs House in South Shields. This year's was *Mother Goose* and as always, we had a fantastic time enjoying the buffet and meeting the cast afterwards.

Singing Hands performed for us in Sunderland in September 2024, bringing nursery rhymes for the children and pop songs for the teenagers. This was once again sold out and a great opportunity for families to meet and catch up.

A big thank you to Marty for continuing the very popular parties which are thoroughly enjoyed by a group of our adult members for both online and live parties. They had fun dressing up, dancing and singing along to favourite songs. For many party regulars, the live party we all enjoyed in Lanchester was a real highlight of the year.

Pilates Plus has continued via Zoom on Wednesdays and Saturdays throughout the year, all free of charge for attendees. We have a good stretch and keep fit together with Marie from ZenergiZe.

The adult members continue to enjoy the parties organised by Julie and Sue H, with a disco and a buffet, which is a great opportunity to catch up with friends for both the adults and their families. North of the Tyne discos, taking place in Newcastle, have also been enjoyed by our adult members who love to be up on the dance floor.

Blast, an art and dance weekend workshop, is our annual event organised by Melanie, Gill and team of volunteers. It was held in June 2024 and was attended by adults. They produced amazing art work and a wonderful dance which was performed at Durham Gala Theatre in the Best Foot Forward event.

Our Christmas parties at the Marriott hotel, Metro Centre, are always a big success. In 2024, our junior party was attended by 42 families who enjoyed Nicky Noo Noo's games and disco, had fun with soft play and all received Christmas presents. Our teens also enjoyed Christmas celebrations at their party with 22 families coming along.

Every year we welcome new families to DSNE, many of whom have had a baby recently and 2024-2025 was no different. Our new baby gift boxes continue to be delivered to hospitals across the region with families coming along to talk to maternity staff about why the boxes are so beneficial. Between April 2024 and March 2025, 38 boxes were delivered to hospitals and 4 boxes were sent out directly to families.

World Down's Syndrome Day

To celebrate World Down's Syndrome Day in 2025, we held a fabulous Gala Ball and Family Celebration Day on 22nd and 23rd March. It was a fun packed weekend for all ages with 165 attending the ball. The Saturday evening gave the adults a chance to dress in ball gowns and suits and enjoy live music from The Baldy Holly Band, a three-course dinner. We raised funds with a raffle, tombola and bottle stall- an opportunity to win a bottle from water to whisky!

On Sunday 23rd March, we welcomed over 160 attendees (47 families) to the Family Celebration Day; children, parents and grandparents all came along to have fun. Everyone was greeted by characters from Disney and children's TV favourites, thanks to Make it Magical Entertainment. Infusion North East gave us a fun disco and party games. We were delighted and entertained by Martin, the magician, Mrs Merlin who provided balloon modelling, and face painting from 5 Star Face Painting. Lots of fun was had in the soft play area and all of the children had a great time creating their own pizzas, helped by Lynsey Dixon, who works at the Marriott Hotel.

Current Committee

Chairperson	Susan Belton	Trustee
Vice Chair/ social media and events organiser	Caroline Turner	Trustee
Treasurer	Michelle Varty	Trustee
Minutes Secretary/Ball Coordinator	Linda Dixon	Trustee
What's On Where and Diary Editor	Lesley Bond	Trustee
Newsletter Editor/ GDPR Officer	Alex Marshall	Trustee
Membership Secretary/ Safeguarding Officer/Adult Events	Nicky Ramsay	Trustee
DBS Coordinator/virtual events coordinator	Melanie Atkinson	Trustee
Adult Party and afternoon teas	Julie Carson	Trustee
Events Organiser for Adults	Sue Hodgson	Trustee
Three 21 Organiser/IT /website	Eleanor Baggaley	Trustee

All our committee members organise events throughout the year-thank you for your continued hard work.

We continue to keep trustees and volunteers updated with mandatory training. A lot can be done virtually at times that suits, although first aid is face to face.

We hold a committee meeting every month which continues to be a combination of online and face to face; members are welcome to attend. We also hold development days for the committee and volunteer days to ensure we are continually moving the charity forward.

Fundraising and Donations

Balls The Gala and Sunderland

Marco Haynes' grandad, Derek Haynes

Swimathon

Freemasons/Rotary

Newcastle United porters

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Great North Run in September 2024 for us. We very much appreciate all those runners who continue to support us with their sponsorship which goes a long way to enable the charity to grow.

I would like to thank you for the continued support and fundraising you all do throughout the year which is so important to the continued running of the Charity.

On 16th November 2024 8 DSNE teams of swimmers took part in Rotary Club of Durham's Annual Charity Swimathon. Our teams raised an amazing amount well done to everyone.

We continue to appreciate the donations from families who have sadly lost family and friends. If you would like a dedication and a photo about their life we would love to share it in the newsletter.

Publicity

The charity is being supported by Asda and Morrisons who have not only donated money and baby box items, but offered us an opportunity to promote the charity with display tables in stores in Thornaby, Hartlepool and Darlington, both raising money and raising awareness.

Our website continues to be updated and developed, now including information about our baby gift boxes and our events, online copies of 'Grapevine' and access to membership.

We continue to develop our social media to promote and advertise the charity. Facebook remains most popular with our community; you can follow us on Instagram @downs_syndrome_north_east, where we are regularly gaining followers. If you enjoy social networking, then 'like' and share our pages to help raise our profile!

Forthcoming Events

All event details can be found in the *Grapevine*, our quarterly newsletter, as well as our monthly 'What's on Where' (WOW), which is sent out via email and on social media. Remember to look at Facebook and Instagram, share your photos, especially if you have been to an event, and let us know what you are up to.

We are always open to ideas for events and are looking for volunteers to help with current and future activities,

Thank you,

Susan Belton

2025

Down's Syndrome North East

Accounts

31 March 2025

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Down's Syndrome North East

Accountants' report to the members of Down's Syndrome North East

A full audit has been carried out and all income and expenditure was supported either by receipts or corresponding entries in the bank statements. We have prepared a Profit & Loss Account and Balance Sheet and we have identified any restricted funds where applicable. In our view the records have been well maintained and provide a sound basis for these financial statements.

**Crockwell & Co
Accountants**

91-93 Fowler Street
South Shields
Tyne and Wear
NE33 1NU

20 October 2025

DOWN'S SYNDROME NORTH EAST LIMITED
PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	<u>31/03/25</u>	<u>31/03/24</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Donations	39715	37598
Fund raising	21124	19157
Bank interest	806	710
From events	28199	14463
Gift Aid	1448	752
Grants received	0	14580
	<u>91292</u>	<u>87260</u>
 <u>Costs of generating funds</u>		
Just Giving	216	216
Other fundraising	0	0
	<u>216</u>	<u>216</u>
 <u>Charitable expenditure</u>		
Accountancy fees	360	360
Bank charges	72	91
Depreciation	342	430
Insurance	673	512
Data protection fee	232	35
Christmas & theatre	8460	10208
Activity breaks	15587	8534
Other events	39687	24460
Running costs	12319	11539
	<u>77732</u>	<u>56169</u>
 Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	<u>13344</u>	<u>30875</u>

DOWN'S SYNDROME NORTH EAST
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	<u>31/03/25</u>	<u>31/03/24</u>
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>		
<u>Equipment</u>		
Cost	6595	5907
Additions	0	688
Disposals	0	0
	<u>6595</u>	<u>6595</u>
Less : Accumulated Depreciation	5220	4878
	<u>1375</u>	<u>1717</u>
<u>Cash at Bank</u>		
Treasurer's account	59174	53770
HICA	49278	41009
	<u>108452</u>	<u>94779</u>
<u>Less:</u>		
<u>Current Liabilities</u>		
Accruals and deferred income	360	373
	<u>109467</u>	<u>96123</u>
<u>Capital & Reserves</u>		
Balance b/fwd	96123	65248
Profit/(Deficit) for year	13344	30875
	<u>109467</u>	<u>96123</u>

DOWN'S SYNDROME NORTH EAST
SCHEDULE OF FIXED ASSETS AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	<u>Year</u> <u>Purchased</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>b/fwd</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>c/fwd</u>	<u>Depeciation</u> <u>b/fwd</u>	<u>Depeciation</u> <u>Disposals</u>	<u>Depeciation</u> <u>for year</u>	<u>Depeciation</u> <u>C/fwd</u>	<u>NBV</u> <u>31/03/25</u>	<u>NBV</u> <u>31/03/24</u>
Projector	2006	1014			1014	1013		0	1013	1	1
Parachute	2007	60			60	59		0	59	1	1
Hard drive	2014	100			100	99		0	99	1	1
Hard drive	2016	79			79	78		0	78	1	1
Gazebo	2016	112			112	111		0	111	1	1
Disc reader/writer	2016	25			25	24		0	24	1	1
Printer	2016	59			59	58		0	58	1	1
Printer	2017	1740			1740	1563		35	1598	142	177
Printer	2017	40			40	36		1	37	3	4
Flask	2017	25			25	22		1	23	2	3
External hard drive	2018	118			118	82		7	89	29	36
Secure storage boxes	2018	67			67	47		4	51	16	20
Banner	2018	86			86	60		5	65	21	26
Filing cabinet	2018	48			48	34		3	37	11	14
Dell Computer	2020	731			731	507		45	552	179	224
Dell Laptop	2021	979			979	578		80	658	321	401
HP Pavilion Laptop	2021	624			624	369		51	420	204	255
HP Envy 6020e Printer	2024	68			68	14		11	25	43	54
Circuit Machine	2024	468			468	94		75	169	299	374
Heat Press	2024	152			152	30		24	54	98	122
		6595	0	0	6595	4878	0	342	5220	1375	1717

Downs Syndrome North East
10 Lulsgate
Sunderland
SR3 3JY

Date: 20 October 2025

Our Ref: VC/CR

Dear Kevin,

I attach the Audited accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Once again the books have been well maintained and few problems were encountered during the audit.

If you have any queries please contact me at the office and in the meantime I enclose a note of my charges for your kind attention.

Yours sincerely

Vin Crockwell

