

# DORSET READING PARTNERS

England & Wales · Charity number 1116404

## Details

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**Other names**                    DRP

**Status**                           Registered

**Legal form**                    Other

**Registered**                   2006-10-17

**Register**                       [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address**                        Dorset Reading Partners  
The Little Keep  
Barrack Road  
Dorchester  
DT1 1SQ

**Phone**                           01305458515

**Email**                           [juliet@dorsetreadingpartners.org.uk](mailto:juliet@dorsetreadingpartners.org.uk)

**Website**                       [www.dorsetreadingpartners.org.uk](http://www.dorsetreadingpartners.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** 1. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN IN DORSET, PARTICULARLY BY HELPING THEM WITH THEIR READING DEVELOPMENT; AND2. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF VOLUNTEERS BY THE PROVISION OF TRAINING AND ADVICE.

**Activities:** Recruiting, training, supporting and providing resources for volunteers to work in local primary schools to help children with their reading development.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Human Resources
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** DORSET
- Dorset

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-30	£31,985	£32,436	-	-
2024-04-30	£27,579	£26,554	-	-
2023-04-30	£25,873	£26,017	-	-
2022-04-30	£20,547	£23,107	-	-
2021-04-30	£21,721	£15,958	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Bryan Stubbs		2016-02-24
Charlotte Sharp		2026-03-11
Heather May Maddox		2016-02-24
Heather Shore		2019-05-16
Linda Thomas		2026-03-11

**DORSET READING PARTNERS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1116404

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# Accounts

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# Annual Report 2025

## DORSET READING PARTNERS



“This regular and extended reading session really supports the academic progress of the children, some of whom are not read with or to. The volunteers foster a love of books and reading in the children and give them the gift of becoming readers, which in turn fuels their confidence and self esteem.”

Class teacher, Lilliput Infant School

Registered charity no. 1116404

# Charity Details

## Objectives

- 1) To advance the education of children in Dorset, particularly by helping with their reading development,
- 2) To advance the education of volunteers, by the provision of advice and training.

## Activities Undertaken for Public Benefit

Dorset Reading Partners recruits, trains, supports and equips literacy volunteers who provide regular, sustained, one-to-one support to local children in order to help them with their reading development. Reading partners work in primary schools with children, aged between 4 - 11, identified by their teachers as requiring extra support or nurturing. Our focus is on increasing children's motivation and confidence and improving their wellbeing, as well as developing their language and reading skills.

## Trustees

The board of trustees oversees the management of the Charity as well as providing support & guidance to staff, and meets four times a year.

Alison Debenham

Heather Maddox

Bryan Stubbs

Heather Shore

## Honorary Treasurer

Jackie Taylor AAT

## Staff

Staff work part-time, during term-time only.

Charity Manager

Juliet Ruddick

Volunteer & Development Manager

Bonnie Stevens

Volunteer Coordinator

Sarah Parry

Volunteer Coordinator

Sally Pegg

## Office

The Little Keep

Barrack Road

Dorchester DT1 1SQ

01305 458515

[www.dorsetreadingpartners.org.uk](http://www.dorsetreadingpartners.org.uk)

# Activities May 24 - April 25

During the year the Charity has:

- \* Recruited and trained 21 new volunteer reading partners
- \* Started working in four new schools
- \* Supported volunteers with regular contact, termly newsletters and annual school visits
- \* Held book exchanges and hosted volunteer coffee mornings in various venues
- \* Delivered ongoing training through a series of workshops, as well as tailored refresher training for our volunteers
- \* Issued 350 personalised end of year certificates to our supported pupils (July 2024)
- \* Collaborated with the charity Room To Reward to offer hotel breaks (at no cost to us) to volunteers achieving ten years of service

At the end of April 2025, the charity has 79 volunteer reading partners in 59 schools across Dorset, supporting around 330 children.

I saw one of the very first children I read with today. She is all grown up and was on her way home from work. She said she thought my influence must have stuck because she loves her job and is . . . a Librarian!

Jackie, Portland

I am blown away by how incredible it has been. The children are always excited to see me, and love the books, games and resources that are provided.

Sue, Wimborne

The interview process, the training and introduction to the school were full of support and very professional. All my volunteering experience with Dorset Reading Partners has been amazing, rewarding and I have always been feeling supported.

Katarzyna, Bournemouth

**What  
Volunteers  
Say**

# Annual Accounts

## DORSET READING PARTNERS Receipts and Payments to 30th April 2025

	30th April 2025			30th April 2024	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
Contributions from schools	9245	0	9245	11332	0
Grants/Donations	21490	0	21490	14328	600
Gift aid	1250	0	1250	1319	0
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>31985</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31985</b>	<b>26979</b>	<b>600</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Insurance	250	0	250	212	0
Equipment/Furniture	20	0	20	0	0
Travel Expenses	1513	0	1513	878	0
Employee costs	23177	0	23177	20084	0
Office/General costs	786	0	786	417	0
Premises costs	2823	0	2823	1948	0
Telephone/Internet/Subscriptions	1759	0	1759	987	0
<b>Operational Costs</b>					
Resources	844	136	980	0	889
Volunteer expenses	627	0	627	473	0
Meetings/Training/Events	501	0	501	666	0
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>32300</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>32436</b>	<b>25665</b>	<b>889</b>
Net of Receipts/(payments)	<b>-315</b>	<b>-136</b>	<b>-451</b>	<b>1314</b>	<b>-289</b>
Cash funds last Year end	14718	136	14854	13404	425
<b>Cash funds at the period end</b>	<b>14403</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14403</b>	<b>14718</b>	<b>136</b>

Prepared by Jacqueline Taylor AAP 7 May 2025

## Donations & Funding

Thank you to The Valentine Trust, The Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Foundation, The Yapp Charitable Trust, The Belacqua Trust, Marine Inspection Services, ADLib and our generous private donors for their support.



# The Year in Pictures 2024 - 2025



Initial Training to prepare volunteers for the reading partner role



Regular Book Exchanges to replenish resources



Completing The Open University Reading for Pleasure course



Ongoing training and workshops



Celebrating a decade of volunteering!



**DORSET READING PARTNERS**  
**Receipts and Payments to 30th April 2025**

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	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted
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I have examined the accounts of the Dorset Reading Partnership and find them to be a true record.



Ian Ventham FICFM.

6<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

**DORSET READING PARTNERS**  
**Receipts and Payments to 30th April 2025**

	30th April 2025			30th April 2024	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
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Insurance	250	0	250	212	0
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Travel Expenses	1513	0	1513	878	0
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Resources	844	136	980	0	889
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Ian Ventham FICFM.

6<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

**DORSET READING PARTNERS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1116404

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# Accounts

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**DORSET READING PARTNERS**  
**Receipts and Payments to 30th April 2024**

	30th April 2024			30th April 2023	
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £
<b>Receipts</b>					
Contributions from schools	11332	0	11332	8230	0
Grants/Donations	14928	0	14928	16443	1200
Gift aid	1319	0	1319	0	0
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>27579</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27579</b>	<b>24673</b>	<b>1200</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Insurance	212	0	212	189	0
Equipment/Furniture	0	0	0	30	128
Travel Expenses	878	0	878	1135	0
Employee costs	20084	0	20084	18645	0
Office costs	417	0	417	493	0
Premises costs	1948	0	1948	2068	0
Telephone/Internet/Subscriptions	987	0	987	864	0
<b>Operational Costs</b>					
Resources	464	425	889	185	550
Volunteer expenses	473	0	473	804	0
Meetings/Training/Events	666	0	666	829	97
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>26129</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>26554</b>	<b>25242</b>	<b>775</b>
<b>Net of Receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1450</b>	<b>-425</b>	<b>1025</b>	<b>-569</b>	<b>425</b>
<b>Cash funds last Year end</b>	<b>13404</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>13829</b>	<b>13973</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Cash funds at the period end</b>	<b>14854</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14854</b>	<b>13404</b>	<b>425</b>

Prepared by Jacqueline Taylor AAT

Date 7 May 2024

I certify that I have examined the books and records of the Dorset Reading Partnership produced to me and that the above income and expenditure account and bank balance are in accordance therewith and represent a true and fair statement of Dorset Reading Partnership's affairs for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Ian Ventham FCIF

Examiner

**DORSET READING PARTNERS**

England & Wales - Charity number 1116404

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# Accounts

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**Annual Report 2023**

**DORSET READING PARTNERS**



**May 2023**

**Registered charity no. 1116404**

# Charity Details

## Objectives

- 1) To advance the education of children in Dorset, particularly by helping with their reading development,
- 2) To advance the education of volunteers, by the provision of advice and training.

## Activities Undertaken for Public Benefit

Dorset Reading Partners recruits, trains, supports and equips literacy volunteers who provide regular, sustained, one-to-one support to local children in order to help them with their reading development. Reading partners work in primary schools with children, aged between 4 - 11, identified by their teachers as requiring extra support or nurturing. Our focus is on increasing children's motivation and confidence and improving their wellbeing, as well as developing their language and reading skills.

## Trustees

The board of trustees oversees the management of the Charity as well as providing support & guidance to staff, and meets four times a year.

Alison Debenham

Heather Maddox

Bryan Stubbs

Heather Shore

## Honorary Treasurer

Jackie Taylor AAT

## Staff

Staff work part-time, during term-time only.

Volunteer Services Manager:

Juliet Ruddick

Volunteer Coordinator:

Bonnie Stevens

Volunteer Support Worker:

Mary Randall

## Office

The Little Keep

Barrack Road

Dorchester DT1 1SQ

01305 458515

[www.dorsetreadingpartners.org.uk](http://www.dorsetreadingpartners.org.uk)

# Review

This has been a period of relative stability for the Charity after the disruption caused by the pandemic over the past few years. Volunteer numbers have increased and we continue to see demand for our service from schools across the county.

Like all charities we have experienced a rise in costs in recent months, and so we will be making a small increase to the schools' subscription charges for the next school year. We will also be seeking new funding streams in order to subsidise our service and maintain its affordability.

We will continue to invest time and resources into our remarkable team of volunteer reading partners. They are, quite simply, our greatest asset, as the feedback below clearly shows:

## What Schools Say

"We love having our reading partner as part of the team and the children always enjoy a chat with her (they get so much more than that but they see it as a social too!)"  
Headteacher, Pimperne Primary School

"Our reading partner has made great relationships with the children and it is a wonderful experience for those that have time out of the class to not only read, but to have rich conversations too." Class teacher, Milldown Primary School

"Our reading partner is amazing - we feel very lucky to have her!"  
Headteacher, Thorners Primary School

"We love working with our reading partners and truly value all the work we do with Dorset Reading Partners. Long may it continue!"  
Headteacher, Prince of Wales First School

"Our reading partner's professionalism and encouragement are so impressive. The children love coming to her and are so happy to read with her. We are very lucky to have her."  
Class teacher, St Catherine's Primary School

"Thank you for all your wonderful Reading Partners who are just brilliant for our children!"  
Headteacher, Sherborne Primary School

# Annual Accounts

## DORSET READING PARTNERS Receipts and Payments to 30th April 2023

	30th April 2023			30th April 2022	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
Contributions from schools	8230	0	8230	4810	0
Grants/Donations	16443	1200	17643	13103	450
Other	0	0	0	2184	0
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>24673</b>	<b>1200</b>	<b>25873</b>	<b>20097</b>	<b>450</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Employee costs	18645	0	18645	15665	0
Travel Expenses	1135	0	1135	692	0
<b>Office Costs</b>					
Stationery/Postage	493	0	493	530	0
Premises costs	2068	0	2068	1841	0
Telephone/Internet/Subscriptions	864	0	864	978	0
Equipment/Furniture	30	128	158	356	450
<b>Operational Costs</b>					
Resources	185	550	735	763	0
Volunteer expenses	804	0	804	861	0
Meetings/Training/Events	829	97	926	788	0
Insurance	189	0	189	183	0
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>25242</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>26017</b>	<b>22657</b>	<b>450</b>
<b>Net of Receipts/ (payments)</b>	<b>-569</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>-144</b>	<b>-2560</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Cash funds last Year end</b>	<b>13973</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13973</b>	<b>16533</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Cash funds at the period end</b>	<b>13404</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>13829</b>	<b>13973</b>	<b>0</b>

## Donations & Funding

We are grateful to The Valentine Trust, The Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Foundation, National Education Union (Dorset), The Delamere Foundation, and other generous private donors for their support.

# Activities May 22 - April 23

During the year the Charity has:

- \* Recruited and trained sixteen new volunteer reading partners
- \* Started working in four new schools
- \* Delivered in-school Parent Helper and Reading Buddy training sessions
- \* Supported volunteers with regular contact and school visits
- \* Held book exchanges in venues across the county
- \* Hosted informal volunteer coffee mornings in various locations
- \* Organised Phonics, Dyslexia and Using Resources workshops for volunteers
- \* Issued 320 personalised end of year certificates to our supported pupils (July 22)

At the end of April 2023, the charity has 80 volunteer reading partners in 58 schools across Dorset, supporting around 350 children.

We play games first before we read, so by the time I look at a book, I feel nice and relaxed.

It's fun!"

## What children say about their sessions

That book's 10/10 . . . no it's not, it's 100/100!

"I like it because I can choose

I've started reading quicker now

## What our volunteers say

"Thank you for all the support you give. It never feels like I'm on my own."

"My husband says he can tell how much I enjoy *(being a reading partner)* because my face lights up when I talk about it."

"I have great fun with my pupils and can't wait to be entertained each week!"

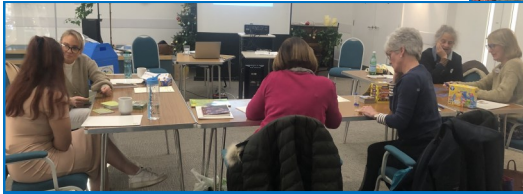
"I really enjoy helping the children to open up and chat and to encourage them to love reading, especially the reluctant ones!!"

"I think you might be able to tell that I absolutely love being a DRP volunteer." 😊😊😊

# The Year in Pictures 2022 - 2023



**Initial training days**  
For new recruits



**Coffee mornings**



**Book exchanges**



**Library visit** for volunteers



**Reading Buddy training**  
for our schools



**Our new ambassador Lucy Volpin**



**Lovely new resources**  
thanks to The Delamere Foundation



Guest speaker at our 2022 AGM

And again at our Dyslexia workshop in March 23



**Long Service awards**  
for our wonderful volunteers



5a Shitterton,  
Bere Regis, Wareham  
Dorset BH20 7HU  
01929471480

4<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### **Independent Examination of the Accounts of Dorset Reading Partners**

An Independent Examination of the accounts of the Dorset Reading Partners, charity registration No.1116404, for the financial year 2022/23 was carried out by Ian Ventham FCIF under section 145 of the 2011 Act. The examination was conducted in accordance with the Directions given by the Charity Commission.

I confirm that I have reviewed the accounting records kept by the charity and found that the records agree with the Accounts presented in the Charity's Annual Report and Accounts.



Ian R Ventham