

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Once again we survived another successful year, with final numbers reaching 3541 referrals. Interesting enough, I believe that we have, at last, settled back to the pre-pandemic figures of 2019, (lockdown was introduced in March 2020), when the figure was 3515 referrals.

Stock levels are still high, in the usual age groups. (3 – 4yrs & 5 – 7yrs). This is despite having donated a van-load of pre-2022 toys from the above groups to the British Army for their Afghan re-settlement programme for Afghan nationals who had assisted in the Asian campaign. We also donated approximately 80/100 toys (in the 2022/ 3–4 year age bracket), to the Leicestershire Red Cross for an event held in Jubilee Square to welcome the influx of migrants to our community. (Saturday 15th June).

Pre-season cataloguing is most certainly the way forward in terms of taking pressure off the “Cataloguers”, From early February 2023, a group of us gave one day per week, sorting out the stock but not before tidying Unit 17 which was, left in a mess, to put it mildly. Never-the-less, the result over 5/6 months working this way, a total of 1,700 bundles of toys sorted and catalogued, prior to the start of the season. This partially accommodated the voracious wrappers when they attacked the stock-pile.

Wrapping became another problem area, with an over-subscription of enthusiastic volunteers. Control of numbers attending and frequency of slots without deterring our regular volunteers should be better managed. (mainly my fault))

Sadly, this year, we were greeted to the same sight again which meant having to spend 4 days (4 weeks) focusing on the same issue as in 2023 However, during the early stages of which we were subjected to a site/building inspection by a Council lead initiative and Unit 17 was declared a fire risk.

The Council has requested all tenants to provide an FRA certificate (Fire Risk Assessment). After visit to Unit 17 a follow-up and total inspection of both 9 & 17, we have now been given certificates for both units at a cost of £480. The reports do not make good reading, as many of the points fall under LCC responsibility.

Alternative to charging 150/200 miles around the county donating Playgroup toys to 20/30 individual groups, I have found a central organisation located in Leicester who front for 30/40 playgroups. They even collect and distribute.

The financial report will speak for itself. However, we seem to be accumulating funds faster than we can spend it. I believe that supporters may feel it easier to donate money rather than go out shopping.

Providing toys for children in the older age groups is a continual and growing headache, especially when many toys are computer or i-phone driven. Food for thought!

What can I say – yet again a huge “Thanks” to all involved in this amazing Charity and making the success it is

Mac Clarke
Chairman



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

TOYS ON THE TABLE

On accounts for the year
ended

29/02/2024

Charity no
(if any)

1128978

Set out on pages

1-3

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD/MM/YYYY.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

William Jones

Date:

07/06/2024

Name:

WILLIAM JONES

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

COMPANY DIRECTOR
JONES SAMUEL LTD.

Address:

10 KNIGHTON RISE
LEICESTER
LE2 2RE

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.