

East Lancashire Down's syndrome Support Group - Charity Number 1149790

Trustees Report 2023, Year Ended 31st December 2023

2023 was our 12th year as a charity

In 2023, we ran a full programme of family meetings at Whitewell Bottom Community Centre and various places, each month. All the meetings continue to be themed, and we've tried a few new ones this year and are always keen to hear new ideas. Over the years the average attendance of the family meetings has kept increasing from 48 in 2018 to 79 in 2023 and we have 95 active members of the group overall, which access our services in different ways.

The themes of the meetings in 2023 included:

- Inflatables
- Valentine crafts
- Introduction to Martial Arts
- Mobile Farm visit
- Coronation Day street party
- Family walk
- Sports day
- Circus skills and show
- Meet the dinosaurs
- Annual Pie, Peas and Fireworks
- And the Christmas party, again with help from our lovely friends at Skipton Building Society, who helped set up and fundraised to buy everyone Christmas presents. Special thanks also to our chief elf and helper Lisa and Caroline for their efforts sorting and wrapping all the presents and of course to Santa Phil for fitting us in on his busy rounds.

The biggest event of last year had to be our much-delayed 10th Anniversary ball (because of Covid, actually for our 12th year!) on March 18th. We had 300 people attend, with a fantastic MD, band, food and amazing raffle/auction prizes, and a lot of hard work, raising over £9k after costs. Everyone had a great time and asked when the next one was, but the trustees asked for a bit of time off before planning again!! A huge thank you to all the trustees for your hard work and support to make this a great success.

The Haven family weekend in May was another big success with 29 caravans booked and over 120 people from East Lancs taking part. We had a fun-filled picnic on the Saturday afternoon where we were joined by some people from other DS and pan-disability support groups from around the country and of course our annual trip to Blackpool Zoo where we love to see all our members sporting their T-shirts across the park.

The other big success throughout the year has been the teen plus social events for our young people. The meetings are every month at a very supportive venue, The Millhouse in Clayton le Moors, and membership has grown from 5 at the first meeting to a regular pool of 20. The young people love the freedom of choosing what they do, as well as making new friends, and we are indebted to our social support team of Hannah, Jarrod, Rob, Ellie, Saul, Chloe, Emily and Sophie to enable this to happen, and to give our parents and carers well deserved time off next door in the bar!

We have also started to provide school holiday sessions, initially in partnership with Jess and the Secret Garden Hoyle's Park, and expanding in 2024 to cover a range of events suitable for different age groups. They have been well attended and we will continue to look for funding to do more of this in future.

We also were able to offer another small winter grant to some of our members to help with the cost of living and fuel challenges.

For anyone who's new we are basically self-funded with most of our income coming from fantastic member fundraising. It's all important however small and this year has been no exception with an amazing £20,000 raised from fundraising events with a further £13,000 from donations from various sources, which Phil will go into more in a moment.

We have had great success fundraising via Facebook, PayPal giving and JustGiving for events such as marathons and birthdays and we appreciate every single individual who supports us in many ways. One example is donations from John and Pauline Horne's Diamond Wedding Anniversary, which was much appreciated.

Of events we do have detail on, Gingerbread socks were once again a fundraising success for us raising £1.4k around World Down's Syndrome Day, thank you to everyone who got involved.

It was also brilliant once again to have one of the famous "Thompson" Quiz and Curry nights in November raising £1529, thanks Helen and Paul!

A staff member at the Skipton Building Society chose us as his charity for winning an award at work and we received £5k!, thanks to the connection with Rebecca Bolton and little Maggie.

Lynne Berbatiotis ran the Rossendale way for us in August and raised £940, amazing! Craig McNulty's Grandma Mary Peart asked for donations to be given in her memory which raised £674, such a lovely thing to do.

Dan Simpson's friend gave half of his Bare Knuckle Fight winnings of £1500, amazing!

The Thompsons had 2 friends fundraising for us, one was Dan's PT Jake who raised £1315 on a skydive and Hak and Chris raised £315 doing many challenges, which I think went on into 2024 so there may be more to come.

Friend of the Cannons, Shawcroft FC Under 9s did a Lads v Dads fundraiser and raised £365

We were pleased to be the nominated charity again for the Helmshore Scarecrow trail in October. Thanks to Steph, Pam, Lisa and especially Freddie for manning the map stall and selling raffle tickets, raising £2388 in total!

Continued thanks to Pam Parkinson and Caz Moreton also had fundraising success with their football cards, bonus balls and hair bows.

Our annual family walk is always fun, around Calf Hey Reservoir, bringing plenty of colour with a Disney theme and some great outfits, and we managed to raise another £2000 from that event too.

We've always tried to do everything for free or very heavily subsidised so fundraising is very important. One of our big focuses in 2024 is getting grant funding so if anyone has good contacts let us know!

As you can see, we had a great year for fundraising and donations, in fact our best ever, but we need to keep the momentum up if we are to be able to continue to provide the services for which we have had great feedback 95% rated 4 or 5 out of 5 – 83% 5/5 on value to them.

One of our important projects run in 2022 but unfortunately on pause in 2023 owing to our Education specialist's illness was our DS Education Inclusion services - but we're delighted her fantastic work is now being continued in 2024. A big thank you to Faith for her work with our children and schools and a big welcome to Hannah who is now working for our charity as a Specialist Advisory teacher. She is running a number of classes for all children up to the age of 8 and is available to support all ages of children in their school settings.

We have also been in liaison with the head of Education for Lancashire, Jacqui Old, and are soon to present to all head teachers across the county about supporting children with DS in their schools, and follow up with training as appropriate.

Other plans include working more closely with LCC in terms of their break time provision and commissioning services and looking at joint events with other local groups such as the Autism and ADHD services.

We have also been working with other groups, in Cheshire and North Lancashire, and the National Down's Syndrome Policy Group, to run an IChoose Board for Lancashire, and make sure the voices of local people with Down's Syndrome are heard, especially regarding the implementation of the Down's Syndrome Act. The next meeting is next weekend.

As ever we have a year full of events still to come in 2024 and we look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you so much for all your support. A big thanks is also due to Phil, our manager, without whom most of the things we do with the group wouldn't happen. An unpaid and unsung hero!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R Shatliff', with a stylized, cursive script.

Rachel Shatliff
Chair
ELDSSG
28/4/2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

East Lancashire Down's Syndrome Support Group

1149790

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2023

To


31/12/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Facebook giving	309	-	-	309	741
Amazon Smile	0	-	-	-	87
PaypalGiving.Com	0	-	-	-	610
WDSD Fundraising	1,428	-	-	1,428	2,467
Justgiving	7,929	-	-	7,929	5,275
Other Fundraising	2,205	-	-	2,205	945
Donations	1,560	-	-	1,560	410
Quiz and Curry	1,624	-	-	1,624	2,018
Skipton BS	5,605	-	-	5,605	437
Rossendale Council Teen Group	0	-	-	-	220
Monthly Giving	684	-	-	684	680
Bequests	1,151	-	-	1,151	5,339
Burnley and Nelson URC	0	-	-	-	5,000
Pendle Motor Club	0	-	-	-	2,000
Trust Donation	0	-	-	-	2,500
Member Payments - SLT	0	-	-	-	1,610
Member Payments - Haven	0	-	-	-	2,872
Anniversary Ball Tickets and Sponsorship	9,057	-	-	9,057	2,908
HSBC	500	-	-	500	500
Tesco	0	-	-	-	0
Interest	660	-	-	660	20
Helmshore Screcrow Trail	2,389	-	-	2,389	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	35,101	-	-	35,101	36,638
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	35,101	-	-	35,101	36,638
A3 Payments					
Family Support Meetings	7,201	-	-	7,201	5,996
Haven	7,463	-	-	7,463	7,553
Training		-	-	-	1,825
SLT Sessions	336	-	-	336	6,559
Fundraising Costs	204	-	-	204	732
Ukraine DS Donation		-	-	-	1,000
ELDSSG Grants	300	-	-	300	250
Teen Group Costs	6,620	-	-	6,620	350
Ball Costs		-	-	-	350
Other	1,764	-	-	1,764	27
Office, Admin & IT	6,647	-	-	6,647	2,456
School Holiday Club	200			200	
Bank Charges	80			80	
Sub total	30,813	-	-	30,813	27,098
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	

Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	30,813	-	-	30,813	27,098
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,287	-	-	4,287	9,540
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	43,536	-	-	43,536	33,996
Cash funds this year end	47,823	-	-	47,823	43,536

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	<div> <div>HSBC Charity Account</div> <div>Paypal</div> <div></div> <div>Total cash funds</div> </div> <div>(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))</div>	<div>46,769</div> <div>1,055</div> <div>-</div> <div>47,823</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
		OK	OK	OK
	Details	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Rachel Shatliff	28th April 2024	



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

East Lancashire Down's Syndrome Support Group

On accounts for the year
ended

31/12/23

Charity no
(if any)

1149790

Set out on pages

1 - 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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").

Independent
examiner's statement

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.

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:

- 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.

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

Signed:

Date:

30th SEP 2024

Name:

PAUL GREENWOOD.

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

SENIOR FINANCE MANAGER.
MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL.

Address:

1538 ASHTON OLD ROAD
MANCHESTER
M11 1HN

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 brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.