

THE RED TRUST BUSHEY
(Working name: The Red Cafe)

Registered Charity Number 1161424

Trustees Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2025

The Red Trust Bushey Team – January 2025



The Red Trust Bushey

Trustees

Stuart Singleton – Chairman
Ann East – Founder trustee and Secretary
Elizabeth Vis – Founder trustee and Treasurer
Alison Guthrie
Anne Swerling – joined May 2024

Staff

Vikki Cooper – joined December 2024
Sharon Fowler
Christina Hayes – left November 2024
Miriam McCulloch
Sharon Snowden – joined May 2025
Katie Smith – left April 2025
Aspen Phillips
Harvey Parish – joined March 2025
Kola Koyejo – joined November 2024

Address

2 Lower Paddock Road,
Watford
WD19 4DS

Bankers

CAF Bank Limited,
25, Kings Hill Avenue,
West Malling,
Kent
ME19 4JQ

The Red Trust Bushey

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The Red Trust Bushey

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees are pleased to present their report for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Formation and constitution

The Red Trust Bushey (RTB) was set up as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1st March 2015. The members of the CIO are the charity trustees.

Objects of the charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)

In accordance with Christian principles, the Objects of the CIO are, for the public benefit:

-the relief of those in need (but not exclusively) by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other social or economic disadvantage.

-to advance in life and help young people through the provision of recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life and providing support and activities which help develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals; and

-to further or benefit the residents of Bushey and the neighbourhood, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.

Trustees

The trustees who have served during the period to the date of this report (unless otherwise stated) are as above.

New trustees are selected when there is a need for additional expertise and experience. A new trustee will be recommended by a member of the current trustees and the new trustee is then appointed by a majority vote at the trustees' meeting. A comprehensive induction is undertaken by the Chair of Trustees for new trustees. This includes giving them a copy of the trustee handbook, discussion on RTB Vision and Values and attendance at a trial trustee meeting. The risk assessment, finance report and outline of current activities of the trust is given to every new trustee.

Organisation

The trustees meet at least four times each calendar year for a business meeting to decide policy, to manage the affairs of the trust, to discuss news and to pray.

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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

Use of volunteers and other non-monetary gifts

The Trust could not function without the work of volunteers who assist with running the café and foodbank and other events. We are grateful for their commitment and enthusiasm – they make the work of the Trust possible.

This year we have maintained a core team of 50 volunteers who have supported the foodbank and café and local events the foodbank, café, after school club and at local events. RTB has also invested in our volunteer process and procedures to ensure compliance with safeguarding guidelines. We now have an online and hard copy volunteer application form and follow up on all references for each volunteer. We have also updated our membership of Communities 1st. As part of our membership we are able to access the volunteer resources, support and policies to ensure we are in line with national guidelines and we are also able to offer staff nationally accredited volunteer management training.

We are extremely grateful to Bushey Baptist Church for their provision of office support.

It would be impossible to run Red Trust activities without the support of so many local schools, places of worship, local businesses, other organisations and individuals.

Achievements and Performance

The Phoenix Centre

We have renewed our hire agreement with Notting Hill Genesis for use of the Phoenix centre in Faringdon Avenue, Bushey until January 2026. The rental agreement allows us to use the Phoenix centre for a considerable part of the week (Monday to Saturday). This has given us the opportunity to expand our activities and to have a base which we can use for meetings and office space. In addition, thanks to a grant from Hertsmere council, we have successfully transformed and rebuilt a dedicated shed to safely store supplies for our foodbank. This was completed in April 2025.

Foodbank

The Phoenix centre now hosts both the Tuesday and Friday foodbanks. The family foodbank on a Tuesday and the Friday foodbank support at least 40 families each week. Visitors now enjoy stopping for a coffee and a chat, using the foodbank as a social space.

After School Club

The after school club runs after school on a Thursday. During the year we were able to take on a youth worker to develop our offer to young people in the local community.

Café

The Red Café runs on Saturdays from 11.30am -1.30pm at the Phoenix Centre. We employ a part time café manager who oversees the running of the café and the volunteers. The numbers visiting the café has increased over the year and we continue to have more than 20 families who visit the café on a regular basis. It is during this time that our Pioneer worker manages an intentional listening offer to members of the community who have been affected by loss to come along for a friendly chat and a chance to meet with others.

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Pioneer Worker

Our Pioneer Worker has now been working at the Red Trust for over two years and has been paramount in developing our after-school club on a Thursday and our intentional listening volunteer offer. Our Pioneer worker supports all our activities and provides a 'listening ear' to many of our visitors to the Café and Foodbank. She also goes into many of the local schools to engage with families who are harder to reach and not in mainstream educational settings. She has also built relationships with local care homes, centres of faith and spirituality, and many local community groups who meet regularly around Bushey.

Fundraising and Grants

During the year, the Red Trust has continued to employ a part time operational lead and fundraiser who has organised fundraising and community events and helped with specific grants for the foodbank, café and Pioneer worker. They have been involved in the following:

Donations from individuals and other organisations

The Red Trust Bushey is grateful to individuals who support regularly. Their support is the bedrock for our financial planning.

We also could not operate successfully without the support of local businesses who always go the extra mile to provide our foodbank with supplies or host events to fundraise for us. These include (but are not limited to): Matty's Kitchen, Andrews Fruiterers, Bushey Grove Leisure Centre, Benjamin Stevens Estate Agents, Cowlings, Bushey Beaumont care home and Bushey Dry Cleaners.

Donations from churches

Many local churches support us financially, as well as giving food to the foodbank. We greatly appreciate these gifts as well as the prayer support.

Restricted Funds towards the Pioneer Worker

We have funds that have been given to us specifically for our Pioneer Worker by the Sisters of the Holy Cross. There was a small outstanding balance on these funds at the end of the year, and this will be carried forward to next year.

Grant funding

We applied for and successfully received the following specific grants and donations during the year coming to a total of £74,956:

Hertsmere, Hertfordshire and ward initiative improvement scheme grants (WIIS)

During the year we received a Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Hertsmere Cost of Living Grant – this was used mainly for the foodbank - there is a balance on the DWP grant which will need to be spent by December 2026.

We also received a 50th anniversary Grant to help us celebrate with the community the 50th anniversary of Hertsmere. Again, this had a small balance at the end of the year, and this was used to pay for part of the memorial bench to be situated in front of the café.

We also received a Hertsmere support grant for the foodbank and after school club run by our Pioneer worker and the Communities First Cadent Grant for the café. These grants were received in March 2025 and are showing in our specific funds.

The Red Trust Bushey

We also received a ward initiative grant in March 2025 towards refurbishing our shed and purchasing a new freezer.

Chamniss Foundation

The Chamniss Foundation have been incredibly generous with their grants to Red Trust Bushey this year. In June 2025, the Chamniss Foundation granted Red Trust Bushey two separate grants, to cover overhead costs of the Phoenix Centre and for the costs of the Operational Lead role. This has meant Red Trust can continue to operate out of the same community centre which has ensured an established community base has been stable and well used by the local community.

Chamniss Foundation also supported the expansion of the after school and youth offer by covering the costs of the new Youth worker role and covering all the overhead costs for 2025.

Grants and specific donations bought forward from previous years.

All Grants that were outstanding at the beginning of the year were spent during the year.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare accounts for each financial year, which comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. In preparing these accounts the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

The trustees confirm that they have identified the major risks to which the charity is exposed to. The trustees have reviewed the systems and procedures to manage those risks.

The trustees are also responsible for ensuring that all employees, trustees and volunteers have the appropriate DBS checks. We have also identified any impacts of the GDPR legislation and taken relevant action where appropriate. New employees are taken on subject to these checks being made.

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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

Financial Review

The financial year ended 31 March 2025 was a period of growth for The Red Trust Bushey. We had a significant increase in activity and community engagement, and we were able to finance these activities through both specific and general funds

Total income for the year was £81,307 (2023/24 - £59,288) comprising £11,787 (2023/24 - £14,534) voluntary donations towards day-to-day running of the Trust and £65,415 (2023/24 - £39,000) specific grants and donations, £872 (2023/24 - £2,432) from Fundraising events £1,383 (2023/24 - £1,654) donations from the café and £1,850 (2023/24- £1,668) investment income.

Total expenditure in the year was £86,307 (2023/24 - £71,525) which includes £70,423 (2023/24 - £58,536) expenditure in relation to restricted income relating to grants, summarised in note 4.

The employment costs covered four employees working part time for the entire year and four employees working part time for part of the year.

The deficit for the year was £5,000 (of which £5,008 was a deficit from restricted funds) (2023/24 - £19,536). At 31 March 2025, accumulated funds were £76,319 (2023/24 £81,318), of which £19,789 was restricted.

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Red Trust Bushey uses all donations towards general reserves unless a restriction is put on that donation.

At 31 March 2025, the reserves were higher than we would normally expect. This was due to 2 grants being received during the month of March – both of which will be used during the year 2025/26. The Red Trust Bushey endeavour to hold at least 6 months' expenditure as our preferred level of reserves. However, as much of our money is from grants – these will not be received evenly throughout the year and can make our reserves appear higher at specific points in time.

Appreciation

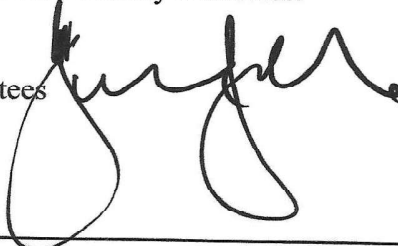
Finally, we would like to thank our supporting churches and individuals. Their faithful support, both in giving and in praying is the foundation on which our whole work is built. Without them, the Red Trust would not exist.

We would like to express our gratitude to our independent examiner Joanna Woolcock. We record our appreciation for our members of staff – Sharon Fowler, Miriam McCulloch, Katie Smith, Christina Hayes, Vikki Cooper, Harvey Parish and Aspen Phillips-Bidzinski. Thank you for all you have done for the Trust.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's trustees.

Stuart Singleton
Chairman of Trustees



Elizabeth Vis
Treasurer Date


U/S

The Red Trust Bushey

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Red Trust Bushey

I report on the accounts of The Red Trust Bushey (Charity no. 1161424) for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the receipts and payments account, the statement of assets and liabilities and the related notes set out on pages 11 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 any 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.

Independent examiner's statement

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; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date 28/8/2025



Joanna Woolcock FCA
13, Grover Road,
Watford WD19 4HH

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Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2025

| | Unrestricted funds/Designated Funds | Restricted funds | Total funds 2024/25 | Total funds 2023/24 |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Receipts | | | | |
| Voluntary Donations | 11,787 | | 11,787 | 15,067 |
| Specific Donations | | 65,415 | 65,415 | 39,000 |
| Fundraising Events | 872 | | 872 | 1,725 |
| Café Donations | 1,383 | | 1,383 | 1828 |
| Interest | 1,850 | | 1,850 | 1668 |
| Total receipts | 15,892 | 65,415 | 81,307 | 59,288 |
| Payments | | | | |
| Charitable Activities | 15,884 | 70,423 | 86,307 | 71,274 |
| Fundraising Costs | 0 | | 0 | 250 |
| Total payments | 15,884 | 70,423 | 86,307 | 71,525 |
| Cash funds bought forward | 56,522 | 24,797 | 81,318 | 93,555 |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 8 | -5,008 | -5,000 | -12,237 |
| Cash funds carried forward | 56,530 | 19,789 | 76,319 | 81,318 |

Signed on behalf of all the trustees

Date

Chairman:



Signature

29/8/25

Treasurer:



Signature

28/8/25

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 March

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|--------|--------|
| Assets | | |
| Cameras | 0 | 698 |
| Receivables – Gift Aid Recoverable | 984 | 984 |
| Bank Account | 76,319 | 81,318 |
| Unbanked Café income | 0 | 47 |
| Liabilities | | |
| Pension contributions deducted not yet paid | 315 | 277 |

The cameras have been written off as they are no longer in use, due to obsolescence

2 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

Income

Donations and gifts are accounted for when received. Tax recoverable on gift-aided gifts is accounted for on a cash basis.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on a cash basis. Resource materials are written off as acquired.

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3. Charitable activities - breakdown of expenses

| | 2024/2025 | 2023/2024 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Unrestricted funds</i> | | |
| Resources | 13,179 | 9,290 |
| Insurance | 472 | 61 |
| Communications/Promotional costs | 323 | 319 |
| Training | 755 | 2,078 |
| Printing and stationery | 377 | 0 |
| Fundraising | 54 | 0 |
| Bank charges | 0 | 250 |
| Other operating expenses | 60 | 60 |
| | <u>664</u> | <u>931</u> |
| | 15,884 | 12,989 |
| <i>Restricted funds</i> | | |
| Allocated Specific Expenses (see below) | 70,423 | 58,536 |
| Total Expenses | <u>86,307</u> | <u>71,525</u> |

4. Summary of Grants and Specific Donations 2024/25

| | Hertsmere, Hertfordshire and WIIS Grants £ | Money given specifically for Rent £ | Restricted Funds for Other workers | Restricted Funds towards the Community Worker £ | Total £ |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---|--|---------------|
| Balance bought forward | 21,441 | 1,200 | | 2,155 | 24,797 |
| Donated during the year | 26,925 | 11,300 | 8,690 | 18,500 | 65,415 |
| Total specific donations | <u>48,366</u> | <u>12,500</u> | <u>8,690</u> | <u>20,655</u> | <u>90,212</u> |
| Allocated Specific Expenses | | | | | |
| Foodbank and café Expenses | 18,450 | 0 | | 0 | 18,450 |
| Specific Wages | 19,880 | | 5,574 | 14,391 | 39,845 |
| Rent | | 10,500 | | | 10,500 |
| Other specific Expenses | 1,628 | | | | 1,628 |
| Total specific expenses | <u>39,958</u> | <u>10,500</u> | <u>5,574</u> | <u>14,391</u> | <u>70,423</u> |
| Balance carried forward | <u>8,409</u> | <u>2,000</u> | <u>3,116</u> | <u>6,264</u> | <u>19,789</u> |