

THE SUMMER CAMPS TRUST

President: Baroness Estelle Morris PC

Chair: Ian Lewis FRSA

Co-ordinator: Chris Green MBE

Kildare, Manby Road, MALVERN, WR14 3BD (01684-577033)

E-mail: chris@summercampstrust.org.



The Summer Camps Trust - Annual Report 2023-2024.

1. The year 2023 – 24 was a difficult one for the Trust, in that recruitment for the leader training course in April and for the two TryOut Camps in August was poor, and both these sessions ended up showing financial deficits. Fortunately fundraising during the year was good, so the overall loss on the year was manageable. It is however worrying that recruitment for residential sessions has not got back to anywhere near its pre-Covid level. This problem is not only affecting the Trust, but other providers of similar sessions.
2. The leader training week and both the TryOut Camps were held at Longtown Outdoor Education Centre on the Herefordshire – Wales border. The centre worked very well, and the training week was outstandingly successful. The first of the August camps also went extremely well. The second, which only comprised 15 children, was a less easy session, with an unusual number of challenging children; however an excellent staff team worked very hard to mitigate the problems and make it a successful week in the end.
3. We were pleased to welcome a number of visitors to the training week and the camps, among them representatives from UK Youth and The Woodcraft Folk, also the civil servant in the Department for Education who is in charge of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programmes. UK Youth and The Woodcraft Folk signed up during the year as new subscribing members of the Trust (as did Black2Nature and Volley Ball Development Camps). The HAF Programme are interested in collaborating with the Trust to set up pilot residential sessions with a couple of LEAs as part of their HAF provision.
4. Porthpean Outdoor Centre in Cornwall decided to set up some summer camps in summer 2024, and enlisted the help of the Trust. We provided some training, and a director and three leaders to go and help on the ground. Their first year's sessions were not well booked but highly successful, and Porthpean is set to continue with offering residential camps in 2025. They have also signed up as a subscribing member of the Trust.
5. The Trust continues its main objective of lobbying for government and / or other official support for a proper national system of well-run residential summer camps in the UK. In particular we have concentrated on the incoming Labour ministers, both since the election and before while they were shadow ministers. The work done in this regard during 2023-24 has led to some promising conversations in the 2024-25 year.
6. Keith Hagon, the CEO of the Christian Residential Network, who has been a helpful Trustee of the Trust since its inception, resigned during the year. Dave Crane, his

very able successor, has taken over the Trustee role. Tricia Rawlingson-Plant also stood down as the Trustee representing the “commercial sector”. Her successor is Kate Cravero, who has worked in the French “colonies de vacances” system, and is now director of operations at Mill On The Brue. Finally, Hannah Peart stood down as the Trustee representing current volunteer staff, and she has been replaced by Scott Taylor.

7. Trustees met three times during the year, on January 11th, May 10th and September 11th. The May meeting was face to face in London. The other two meetings were via Zoom.
8. The Trust was sad that Lord David Ramsbotham, who had been our President since the start, died in the autumn of 2023 following a fall. Tributes were paid to all the help he had given the Trust over the years. We are delighted that our new President is Baroness Estelle Morris, Secretary of State for Education the Labour government of 2005 - 2010.

The Summer Camps Trust**Sheet 1****Registered Charity no. 1162580****Annual accounts for the 12 months to September 30th 2024****Section A : Statement of Financial activities**

	12 mths to 30/09/2024 £	12 mths to 30/09/2023 £
INCOME RECEIVED		
Subscriptions from members	1,400.00	1,150.00
Donations	5,907.42	10,637.23
Try out Camps	18,774.86	23,782.15
Volunteer leader training	0.00	2,495.85
Book sales	208.13	105.14
Other	585.00	273.27
	26,875.41	38,443.64
EXPENDITURE		
Central Administration	1,473.59	950.79
Salary and on costs	5,908.00	3,906.00
Insurances	609.63	609.63
Advertising cost including website	270.00	2,408.00
Book costs	66.00	34.00
TryOut camps	23,843.28	24,156.48
Volunteer leader training	0.00	7,664.31
	32,170.50	39,729.21
Net Income/(Expenditure)	-5,295.09	-1,285.57
Total funds brought forward	814.04	2,099.61
Total funds carried forward	-4,481.05	814.04

Section B : Balance sheet

	30/09/2024 £	30/09/2023 £
Stock	6,460.00	6,526.00
Trade Debtors	0.00	2,300.52
Cash at Bank	1,288.10	1,828.82
Total current Assets	7,748.10	10,655.34
Trade creditors and accruals	-3,886.87	-1,559.02
Deposits held	-60.00	0.00
Loan	-8,282.28	-8,282.28
Net Assets	-4,481.05	814.04

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Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Summer Camps Trust

On accounts for the year
ended

30/09/2024

Charity no
(if any)

1162580

Set out on pages

Sheet 1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of 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

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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:

J Blakiston

Date:

13/6/25

Name:

John Blakiston

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

ACMA (Member in practise)

Address:

Rose Cottage , Spring Grove Barns, Bewdley Bypass

Bewdley, Worcs

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

None