

LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTRE SUPPORTERS (LARCS), BAMPTON (DEVON)

England & Wales · Charity number 1163092

Details

Other names	LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTRE SUPPORTERS, BAMPTON, DEVON, LARCS
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2015-08-11
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Library And Resource Centre The Old School Station Road Bampton Tiverton Devon
Phone	01398332466
Email	bamptonlarc@outlook.com
Website	www.bampton.org.uk/library

Activities

Objects: ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION1. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE RESIDENTS OF BAMPTON AND OUTLYING RURAL AREAS IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY PROVIDING PREMISES TO SUPPORT THE PROVISION OF A LIBRARY SERVICE BY DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL; 2. TO PROMOTE LEARNING FOR PLEASURE FOR RESIDENTS NO LONGER IN FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT BY PROVISION OF FACILITIES TO ENABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL CAPABILITIES AND SKILLS.COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENTTHE PROMOTION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN AREAS OF RURAL ISOLATION, AND IN PARTICULAR OF BAMPTON AND OUTLYING AREAS, OF THE FOLLOWING CHARITABLE PURPOSES: 1. THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING PARTICULARLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY AMONG UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE BY (A) THE CREATION OF TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND (B) THE PROVISION OF WORKSPACE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/IT FACILITIES FOR THEIR USE; 2. TO PROVIDE PUBLIC AMENITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY SUCH CHARITABLE MEANS AS THE TRUSTEES SEE FIT; 3. TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND HERITAGE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY THE PRESERVATION OF BUILDINGS OF HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE; 4. THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR THOSE RESIDENTS OF BAMPTON AND OUTLYING AREAS WHO BY REASON OF YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY, DISABILITY AND RURAL ISOLATION HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES WHICH ARE PROVIDED IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE WITH THE AIM OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE;5. TO PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE PREVENTION OF CRIME FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT.YOUNG PEOPLE1. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN ATTENDING BAMPTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, TIVERTON HIGH SCHOOL AND OTHER LOCAL EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS BY PROVISION OF A CENTRE FOR OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS LEARNING AND RESEARCH;2. TO ACT AS A RESOURCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE UP TO THE AGE OF 18 LIVING IN THE AREA OF BAMPTON BY PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES TO: - DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS AND CAPABILITIES SO THAT THEY MAY PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY AS MATURE AND RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS; - RELIEVE UNEMPLOYMENT; - IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH INFIRMITY, DISABILITY, POVERTY OR SOCIAL ISSUES.PROVISION OF A COMMUNITY CENTRE1. TO FURTHER BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS OF BAMPTON AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE OR POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS BY ASSOCIATING TOGETHER RESIDENTS, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN A COMMON EFFORT TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE THE FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATIONS AND LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE RESIDENTS.2. THE TRUSTEES SHALL HAVE POWER TO ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY CENTRE AND TO MAINTAIN AND MANAGE SUCH A CENTRE FOR ACTIVITIES PROMOTED BY THE CHARITY IN FURTHERANCE OF THE ABOVE OBJECTS.RECREATIONAL CHARITIESTO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF BAMPTON AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION AND OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABILITY, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE.

Activities: Provision of social, educational and leisure activities for residents of all ages in Bampton and the surrounding rural areas.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Devon

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£9,386	£6,480	-	-
2024-03-31	£8,263	£6,055	-	-
2023-03-31	£6,022	£7,379	-	-
2022-03-31	£3,957	£6,330	-	-
2021-03-31	£2,293	£4,107	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Oliver Courtney	Chair	2020-10-05
David Graham		2022-09-15
Monica Nichol		2025-04-01

Accounts

Scope

This report highlights the activities of Bampton LARC and does not include details of the Library, run by Libraries Unlimited.

Visitors, volunteers, and general usage

- Usually 3 open sessions per week
- Noticed a decline in open session visitors
- We've retained our core group of very reliable volunteers who deserve enormous thanks for their time
- Improved usage of LARC during 2024 to 2025
 - Income from bookings was up on previous year
 - More independent regular sessions were booked
 - Some new users for one off meetings, such as AGMs

Fund raising and community events

- 2 major fund-raising events in 24 – 25
 - Plant swap in May 24
 - Book sale at Bampton Fair Oct 24
- Significant funds were raised from these events
- Popular summer reading challenge in conjunction with the library

Successes and Challenges

- Successes
 - Most groups who use LARC are very positive about it; they really like the space
 - Monday is always a busy day at LARC, Wellbeing walks, LARC open sessions and library open late afternoon
 - Bookings increased over previous years
 - Generous donations received
 - Positive feedback about our use of Signpost and Facebook
 - Craft sessions (championed by Jo and Gen) started, and were well received and successful (and have continued this year)
 - Library organised events proved popular (summer reading challenge, storytelling, and drumming workshop)
- Challenges
 - The Meet & Chat initiative ran for a while but failed to generate enough attendees to justify the organiser's time

- LARC continues to be an expensive building to heat, our electricity bill is one of the major expenses
- Repairs and renewals can be costly and are increasing as we approach the 10 years since opening (e.g., the outside shutter repair)
- Booking LARC is generally biased towards the start of a week, from midweek onwards to the weekends are sparsely used
- We rarely get new ideas or initiatives suggested for LARC, but we do encourage them

Trustees and management team

- No major changes in 2023-4
- Existing LARC trustees (Oliver Courtney (Chair) David Graham and Kelvin Holdom) have been joined by Monica Nichol
- Geoff Girdlestone has been our Treasurer and Derek Webster helps the management team

Thank You

- Stan and Sarah Vincent
- Pam Wheeler and Libraries Unlimited
- LARC Volunteers
- Geoff Girdlestone for managing our accounts and finances
- Management team at LARC
- All LARC users and supporters

Bampton LARC
Year to 31 March 2024

LARC Published Accounts 2024-2025

Receipts & Payments 2024/25

	Total	2023/24 Total
Donations	952.88	295.50
Grants	0.00	1035.00
Fund raising	820.02	479.50
Lettings & events	3481.00	3648.95
Licence fee LU	2730.00	2000.00
Electricity LU	941.85	718.86
Computer usage	0.00	2.00
Printing & Photocopying	66.52	81.20
Calenders & Books	1.00	2.00
Youth Club	0.00	0.00
Bank Interest	393.24	163.73

Total Receipts	9386.51	8426.74
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Payments

Fundraising costs	0.00	0.00
Event costs	0.00	0.00
Rent	1000.00	1000.00
Business rates	0.00	0.00
Insurance	449.46	392.43
Heat, light & power	2942.33	2932.04
Water	274.67	242.06
Cleaning/Covid supplies	570.00	531.38
Repairs and renewals	626.78	286.76
Holiday Club	0.00	0.00
Telephone & Internet	462.80	591.18
Printing & stationery	25.00	34.16
Wellbeing Group	0.00	0.00
Youth group	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	129.28	45.00

Total Payments	6480.32	6055.01
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Larcs net receipts	2906.19	2371.73
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Statement of Funds at 31/03/2024

Nat West bank balance	6029	3247.00
treasurer	117	258
float	15	15

Cash at bank and in hand	6161	3520
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Investments

United Trust Bank	5768	5503
Fidelity Funds Network see below * (Artemis strategic Bond Fund)	5000	5000
Total Investments	10768	10503

Total funds	16929	14023
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value at 31/03/22 was £7472

£2000 sold on 6 Jan 2023.

value at 31/03/23 was £4985

Accounts

Bampton LARC - Chairman's Report April 2023 to March 2024

Scope

This report covers the activities of Bampton LARC and does not include the Library, run by Libraries Unlimited, who are reporting later in the meeting.

Visitor numbers and volunteers

During the period April 2023 to March 2024, we managed to run open sessions usually 3 times a week depending on volunteers' availability.

We rely on volunteers for day to day running and organisation, the volunteers deserve huge thanks for their efforts and commitment.

Volunteer numbers have stayed steady. As discussed last year, we could open for more hours if we had more volunteers, but without increased visitor demand it is hard to recruit more volunteers. Chicken and egg!

There has been little change in visitor numbers, and we are resigned to the fact we will not reach pre-Covid levels of visitors. People's use of LARC has changed and we no longer have visitors to use the computers, so these were retired as replacement hardware was expensive and unlikely to ever be used.

Fund raising and community events

Volunteers and visitors were key to the success of our two outside fund-raising events. At Bampton Charter Fair in October 2023, we were again lucky with the weather and raised a lot of money on the LARC book stall.

Secondly, in May 2023 the Plant Swap and Sale organised by Jo Holdom was very well supported and a good opportunity to mingle with friends and neighbours and share plants and ideas; it was another fund-raising success.

Events such as these are hugely important to Bampton LARC not just raising money, but also enabling people to see and use the community space if they haven't already done so.

Jo Holdom and Gen Ottaway were instrumental in organising World Book Day Window Trail from LARC and the Summer Reading Challenge for children. We are very lucky to have their help and support.

Donations and grants

Bampton LARC - Chairman's Report April 2023 to March 2024

We were very fortunate to receive a generous donation from The Toucan Café in Bampton. Donations such as this make a huge difference to our finances, and we are very grateful for their generosity. Donations from the public were down as fewer people visit during the open sessions, there was little demand for the technology support which previously attracted donations.

We successfully applied to the National Grid Local Giving Fund and obtained a grant towards heating costs over the cold winter months. This enabled us to open LARC for more hours and keep it warm for visitors. The grant went a long way towards helping with these costs and supported our Warm Space initiative from December to March.

Successes and Challenges for 2023-24

Last financial year we stated we also wanted to be a community hub and be financially viable with income from a range of sources.

This year we managed to increase the number of individuals and groups using LARC. Many have become repeat users and we've had very positive feedback about using LARC which is very gratifying.

Increased LARC bookings have helped to keep LARC going and solvent; this is a major success everyone can be proud of.

Bampton LARC is a community hub used by many:

Creative writing group, Book club, various Well-Being activities including the walking group, Bampton Town Council, Yoga, French Group, Bampton Ladies, Chess Club, several Church groups, Bampton Open Gardens, Signpost, Bampton Heritage and Visitor Centre displays, Meet the Police, numerous groups and committee meetings, and a selection of one-off gatherings.

Running costs are always a challenge for charities such as ours. Fortunately, we negotiated a new and slightly better electricity contract in January at a time when we were concerned costs would increase.

Although we retired all the unused LARC PCs, we retained the Wi-Fi printer and copier so visitors can print from their own devices.

We retained the fast broadband service providing free Wi-Fi for all; this is a major benefit for many LARC users.

LARC is approaching its 10th anniversary and we increasingly need to repair and replace items. One of our challenges is to ensure we

Bampton LARC - Chairman's Report April 2023 to March 2024

have sufficient funds in place to cover expected recurring maintenance and enough funds for unexpected expenses.

There are still quiet, unused times, at LARC, particularly towards the end of the week. We are always looking for more users or ideas to run events and activities at LARC.

Personnel Changes

The LARC Trustees have remained unchanged this year. Oliver Courtney (Chair) David Graham and Kelvin Holdom are Trustees and Geoff Girdlestone has been our Treasurer.

Thank You

The LARC relies on lots of people for its existence, to keep it running and be viable, all of them give their services voluntarily.

We are extremely grateful to Stan and Sarah Vincent, who allow us to use the building at a minimum cost, for the benefit of the community in Bampton. We are all grateful for their generosity.

Thank you to **Libraries Unlimited and, of course, Pam Wheeler** for continuing to run the library in Bampton; we wouldn't be here without them.

Thanks to Geoff Girdlestone for keeping our accounts in order and producing the financial statements.

Thanks also to all the Trustees, the management team and all volunteers who've made it a successful year and one we can all be proud of.

Finally, thanks to anyone accidentally omitted from this report and to the whole community for your support as users, helpers, customers at our sales. It is greatly appreciated!

Bampton LARC Accounts
Year to 31 March 2024

Receipts & Payments 2023/24

	Total	2022/23 Total
Donations	295.50	765.45
Grants	1035.00	144.00
Fund raising	479.50	297.50
Lettings & events	3648.95	2261.65
Licence fee LU	2000.00	2000.00
Electricity LU	718.86	589.71
Computer usage	2.00	7.80
Printing & Photocopying	81.20	110.95
Calenders & Books	2.00	0.00
Youth Club	0.00	0.00
Bank Interest	0.00	97.00

Total Receipts	8263.01	6274.06
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Payments

Fundraising costs	0.00	0.00
Event costs	0.00	0.00
Rent	1000.00	1000.00
Business rates	0.00	0.00
Insurance	392.43	620.76
Heat, light & power	2932.04	3509.94
Water	242.06	185.22
Cleaning/Covid supplies	531.38	459.00
Repairs and renewals	286.76	475.50
Holiday Club	0.00	206.00
Telephone & Internet	591.18	724.17
Printing & stationery	34.16	58.94
Wellbeing Group	0.00	0.00
Youth group	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	45.00	139.51

Total Payments	6055.01	7379.04
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Larcs net receipts	2208.00	-1104.98
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Statement of Funds at 31/03/2024

Nat West bank balance	3247	1134
treasurer	258	163
float	15	15

Cash at bank and in hand	3520	1312
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Investments

United Trust Bank	5339	5339
Fidelity Funds Network see below * (Artemis strategic Bond Fund)	5000	5000

Total Investments	10339	10339
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Total funds	13859	11651
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value at 31/03/22 was £7472

£2000 sold on 6 Jan 2023.

value at 31/03/23 was £4985

0

Accounts

Scope

This report covers the activities of Bampton LARC and does not include the Library, run by Libraries Unlimited, who are reporting later in the meeting.

Visitor numbers and volunteers

Since April 2022, the LARC has been open for general use about 3 days a week. We rely on volunteers for day to day running and organisation, and specifically to enable the premises to be open for public use and to answer questions and help visitors with a friendly welcome.

Our volunteers deserve huge thanks for their efforts and commitment; sometimes it seems a lonely task when visitor numbers are low, but LARC does need volunteers to keep open outside Library hours.

Volunteer numbers did go down after Covid and have stayed down. We could open for more hours if we had more volunteers, so we are always keen to hear of anyone who would like to offer a couple of hours a week or fortnight.

In addition to Bampton LARC general opening times, volunteers have been key to running two outside fund-raising events. Firstly, at the Charter Fair last year; we were unbelievably lucky with the weather and ran a very successful book stall. Secondly, in Spring this year, the Plant Swap and Sale was really well supported and another success. These events importantly raise money to help keep LARC running, but also attract a large number of local residents and help the community spirit.

Challenges for LARC Management

It is worth re-iterating the charitable aims of Bampton LARC:

To advance the education and improve the well-being of all residents by establishing and managing a community centre to support the Library and provide leisure and social activities.

I think we are still achieving those aims, with some important caveats.

The LARC management team have had some hard decisions to make this year because visitor numbers to our open sessions have not recovered since Covid, and costs have risen.

Pre-Covid we had a reasonable number of regular visitors to LARC each session, to use the printing and computing facilities, and to have personal help on technology, or simply drop in for a chat.

Consequently, our income from ad-hoc donations from LARC visitors has generally declined, although we did receive some very generous individual donations this year, including one from Oakford Moorland Club which was greatly appreciated.

A key concern for the team is the continuing uncertain financial situation.

We all appreciate that the cost of living crisis has hit many charities, and Bampton LARC is no exception; the enormous increase in electricity charges and increased general running costs, and reduced donations make it hard to balance the books.

We have made a loss this year of approximately **£1350**, as you will hear later from the financial report. This is less than last year despite rising costs, but still means we are gradually using up our reserves for day to day running costs and repairs and renewals. The cost of heating and keeping LARC as a warm welcoming space has increased a lot.

To put this into context, our electricity bill was over £100 a week during the winter.

Our electricity contract is up for renewal early in 2024 and nearer the time we will have a better feel for future costs and can plan accordingly.

Our greatest challenge is one we have had since Covid; in addition to the hosting the Library, **“what is LARC best used for?”**.

Clearly, we exist to facilitate the Library in Bampton, but we also want to be a community hub and be financially viable with income from a range of sources.

This year, as general visitor numbers have been low, we've actively encouraged individuals and groups to use LARC for clubs and private sessions outside the normal opening hours.

This has been quite successful and a wide range of new LARC bookings are helping keep LARC going. We are pleased to be the Bampton community hub used by:

Creative writing group, book club, toddler's group, well-being activities including the walking group, Bampton Town Council, Yoga, Bampton Ladies, chess club, music evenings, several Church groups, Bampton Open Gardens, Bampton Heritage and Visitor Centre displays over winter, numerous groups and committee meetings, and a selection of one-off gatherings.

In order to support LARC users, in June 2022 we retained and improved the broadband service providing free Wi-Fi for all visitors and negotiated a slightly better deal. We thought long and hard about keeping the broadband, but we felt that many LARC users do want this service.

We have retired all but one of the LARC PCs as they were rarely used and taking up space, but we retained the Wi-Fi printer and copier so visitors can print from their own devices.

There are still quiet, unused times, at LARC so we are always looking for more users or ideas to run events and activities at LARC.

Personnel Changes

The LARC Trustees have seen some changes in the past year. Kelvin Holdom resigned as Chair and fortunately for us has remained as a Trustee, his knowledge of "everything LARC" is invaluable.

I've taken over as Chair of Trustees and will try and keep up the high standards set by Kelvin!

We were pleased to welcome David Graham who joined the Trustees this year and has been managing the weekly rota, and huge thanks go to David Botsford who is stepping down as Trustee after 6 years and to Les

Hartley who was here at the start of LARC and is leaving the management team. We will really miss their knowledge and experience.

So, we are currently back to 3 Trustees, the minimum allowed by our constitution, and looking for more has been a high priority. New Trustees and new volunteers are very scarce, but essential to keep LARC viable.

Thank You

The LARC relies on a huge range of people for its existence and to keep it running. Just to mention a few:

We are extremely grateful to Stan and Sarah Vincent, who allow us to use the building at a minimum cost, for the benefit of the community in Bampton. We are all grateful for their generosity.

Thank you to **Libraries Unlimited** for continuing to provide the library in Bampton which is why LARC was created.

Our thanks go to our wonderful Librarian, Pam. We couldn't manage without her help.

Thanks to Geoff Girdlestone for keeping our accounts in order and producing the financial statements.

Thanks also to all the Trustees, the management team and all volunteers.

Finally, thanks to anyone accidentally omitted from this report and to the whole community for your support as users, helpers, customers at our sales. It is greatly appreciated!

Bampton LARC
Year to 31 March 2023

Receipts & Payments 2022/23

	Total	2021/22 Total
Donations	765.45	195.12
Grants	144.00	0.00
Fund raising	297.50	290.10
Lettings & events	2041.65	1327.70
Licence fee LU	2000.00	2000.00
Electricity LU	589.71	586.87
Computer usage	7.80	8.20
Printing & Photocopying	110.95	63.20
Calenders & Books	0.00	8.10
Youth Club	0.00	0.00
Wellbeing Group	0.00	0.00
Bank interest	65.52	64.71
Cash differences	0.00	0.00
Total Receipts	6022.58	4544.00

Payments

Fundraising costs	0.00	0.00
Event costs	0.00	0.00
Rent	1000.00	1000.00
Business rates	0.00	0.00
Insurance	620.76	579.39
Heat, light & power	3509.94	2697.40
Water	185.22	159.32
Cleaning/Covid supplies	459.00	555.37
Repairs and renewals	475.50	993.96
Holiday Club	206.00	0.00
Telephone & Internet	724.17	788.65
Printing & stationery	58.94	41.00
Wellbeing Group	0.00	0.00
Youth group	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	139.51	101.50
Total Payments	7379.04	6916.59

Larcs net receipts	-1356.46	-2372.59
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Statement of Funds at 31/03/2023

Nat West bank balance	1134	599
treasurer	163	121
float	15	15
Cash at bank and in hand	1312	734

Investments

Bampton LARC
Year to 31 March 2023

United Trust Bank	5307	5242
Fidelity Funds Network see below * (Artemis strategic Bond Fund)	5000	7000
Total Investments	10307	12242
Total funds	11620	12976

* value at 31/03/21 was £7697
value at 31/03/22 was £7472
£2000 sold on 6 Jan 2023.
value at 31/03/23 was £4985

Accounts

LARC Chairman's Report April 2021 to March 2022

This report covers the activities of the LARC and does not include the Library, run by Libraries Unlimited, for which there will be a report later in the meeting.

The past two AGM's have been delayed beyond the end of their respective financial years in March. In 2021 that was because of Covid and this year to allow for adjustments to our management structure to enable the LARC to continue into the future.

Since April 2021, the LARC has been open for 4 days /week, reflecting a combination of availability of volunteers to run the LARC and very welcome regular hirings.

Volunteers are key to many organisations, no less for LARC. Although several of our pre-Covid volunteers were unable to return post lockdown, we were fortunate to have several new volunteers join, which ensured that we could open on 3 days/week for general purposes, with some flexibility to cover inevitable absences. Our volunteers are due our very sincere thanks for their efforts and commitment. And not to forget those 3 hardy volunteers who manned a very wet book stall at the Charter Fair last year! We are of course always looking for more volunteers!

There are two dilemmas for the LARC at the moment. One is the significant financial loss this year, approximately £2300, as you will see later from the financial report. We renewed our electricity contract earlier this year at considerably higher charge and of course this could increase further. Improving our financial situation will be a significant challenge for the management team. The other dilemma is that the general services we offer have been, and still are, relatively little used post lockdown, possibly reflecting the slow return of some to venture into public places, and the possibility that during lockdown, many people set up their own IT facilities. Sue Courtney has continued her smart phone and tablet assistance, for which many thanks, but the cost of supplying Broadband greatly outweighs the income from computer use. The availability of IT facilities we feel is a key part of the service that the LARC can offer to would be hirers, but we are aware of the cost of doing so and we will look into ways of reducing that cost.

The outcome is that some open sessions can be very quiet for the volunteer on duty! We do have occasional visitors asking for information or bus timetables and the water tower is very popular with dogs, but finding ways to encourage more casual visitors is a challenge for the future.

On the positive side however, we *have* stayed open over the last 2 years, working hard to encourage more community use of the LARC for group activities and occasional meetings, which have increased significantly and of course brings in very welcome income. There is room for more, especially evening activities. Fortunately for us, the breakdown of the heating system in the church last winter saw a number of church activities relocating to the warmth of the LARC,

and we were pleased to be able to offer alternative accommodation. Hopefully the church heating will be restored for this coming winter! In addition to the restarted art classes, we were very pleased to accommodate the Creative Writing group, which has uncovered a surprising number of would be authors. Some of the writings are available to read here and vary from the comic to the downright sinister! And this year has seen the take-off of the walking group who use the LARC as a starting place and a finish here with a cuppa. Very well supported, a great service for Bampton and a proper use of the LARC. Congratulations to all concerned!

One loss post lockdown was the Toddler Group, and the need for someone younger and more resilient than me to restart it. Unexpectedly, we were approached by the local 'Action For Kids' representative late last year, who were looking to extend toddler groups into rural areas. Through their initial help and the enthusiasm of some local Mums- its always Mums!- the toddler group is running again on Friday mornings.

As reported above, volunteers are essential to the broad coverage that the LARC has provided in the past. No less is the many successful activities for younger people, especially during the school holidays, that Gen and Jo have run since the LARC first opened. We have run a few activities for younger people this past year but more extensive events will require some new committed organisers.

The very nature of the LARC lends itself to those smaller groups and activities, in need of limited but warm space and facilities, and it would be good to see activities such as bridge, music groups or language classes taking place. The venue is here, we need the organisers!

I said at the start that this report does not include the Library. However, it would be very remiss indeed of us not to acknowledge firstly, the fee that Libraries Unlimited have continued to pay even, when the Library was operating on a restricted basis, and secondly the help that our Librarian has given the LARC this last year. In addition to providing Library services, she has helped to keep the building itself in good order and continued the photocopying services in the absence of a volunteer. Thank you Pam.

I also said at the start that this AGM was delayed to allow for changes to the management team at LARC. We currently have only 3 Trustees, the minimum allowed by our constitution, and looking for more has been a high priority. We are fortunate in appointing a new Trustee, which will be dealt with later on. But I am looking to retire from the chairmanship/LARC in the near future - I will have done 8 years by 2023, near the maximum allowed in our constitution - and setting up a succession strategy was key. Fortunately we have found a way forward which will be reported later in the meeting.

The LARC of course doesn't run on its own and many people make it happen. So to anyone who has helped over this past year, in any way whatsoever, please consider yourselves very much thanked!

And not least of these are Stan and Sarah Vincent, who have made this excellent venue available at a minimum cost, for the benefit of the community in Bampton.

LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTRE SUPPORTERS
BAMPTON DEVON
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

		2021
Incoming Resources		
Donations	195	0
Grants from BTC	0	0
Other trading activities	290	0
Interest and Investment Income	65	92
Income from charitable activities		
Fees and sales	3407	2201
Other income		
Total Receipts	3957	2293
Resources expended		
Costs of generating voluntary income		
Fund raising costs		
Payments for Charitable Activities		
Property costs	4405	2951
Equipment costs		
Other support costs	1925	1156
Total resources expended	6330	4107
Net income/ expenditure	-2373	-1814
Fund balances brought forward	15349	17163
Fund balances carried forward	12976	15349
Funds at 31 March 2022		
Cash in hand	136	84
National Westminster Bank	599	3088
Investments		
United Trust Bank	5242	5177
Fidelity Funds (see below *)	7000	7000
	12976	15349

* Note: value at 31/03/22 was £7472

Accounts

Library And Resource Centre Supporters (LARCS) Chairman 's Report, August 2021 (year April 2020- to March 2021)

LARC acknowledges the grant from Power to Change (Big Lottery) made in February 2016.

The LARC wish to express their appreciation to the Landlords, Stan and Sarah Vincent for their support to LARC since first opening.

Chairman's report, April 2020 to April 2021

At the end of the Chairman's report in April 2020, which coincided with the first Covid lockdown in 2020, I said 'the Chairs report for 2021 is likely to be very different but hopefully positive and forward looking'.

Sad to say, the LARC, like so many other community groups has not fared well during this last year. Our community role was lost at the first lockdown, which until then had been very positive, both financially to the LARC and socially to the community. Apart from a short opening in October, during a 'lull' in restrictions, we have been closed for all of that time. We did comply with Government regulations and carried out a detailed risk assessment, preparing for future opportunities to open up. Automatic hand sanitiser dispensers were installed and face masks, sanitiser wipes and other equipment provided. However, even during periods of less restrictive government precautions, the management team considered the risks too great to justify opening. This reflects not only the national state of the Covid pandemic but also the fact that our volunteers are of older age and therefore more vulnerable to the disease. Consequently, up until March 2021, the LARC remained closed.

As a result, our income was severely reduced, and as you will see from the end of year financial report, we have suffered an increased year end loss. Despite some leeway in paying other fees eg insurance, we have had to meet other financial obligations, including our fee to the Landlord, telephone connection, service and safety checks, heating and lighting. We have reserves to cover this but it will be a challenge when we do reopen to return our income as quickly as possible to pre-Covid levels.

The management team have been actively involved through emails in progress of the LARC, and I would like to thank them for their continued support. The team decided not to apply for Government/MDDC grants during lockdown as we felt that other businesses, whose livelihood was at risk, were more deserving of these grants.

One casualty during this year, partly due to Covid, has been the Youth Club. The LARC isn't the best place for a youth group - difficult to play football in here- but the youth leaders offered a range of activities and support to the youth of Bampton. However, with a combination of reduced staff numbers and indeed a dwindling number of youths, the group finally folded in September 2020. We hold some funds for whenever a youth group reopens, but I would like to express our thanks to the team, largely led by Judi, for their efforts and commitment to the youth of Bampton.

Throughout this period Libraries Unlimited continued to pay their licence fee, and we thank them for their commitment. When lockdown restrictions began to be eased, the Library was able to open up to continue their service to the community, initially through click and collect and then with restricted browsing. This essential service has provided a lifeline to the community and I would like to thank our local Librarian for not only keeping the Library operational but also looking after the LARC when we were closed. Their role in the community during this last year has more than justified the original concept of a joint Library and Resource Centre.

At this time of writing, in August 2021, the LARC has been open with reduced hours since May, and we are able to hold an open AGM to ratify the annual reports, approve other Trustee business and provide attendees with a welcome refreshment. An update of the current situation and our plans for the future will be provided at the AGM. This

update will form part of the annual report for the year ending March 31st, 2022, and it is fervently hoped that this report will be 'positive and forward looking'.

Receipts & Payments 2020/21		1st	2nd	3rd	4th		2019/20
		quarter	quarter	quarter	quarter	Total	Total
Receipts							
	Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	531.37
	Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Fund raising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	173.00
	Lettings & events	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2129.95
	Licence fee LU	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	2000.00	2000.00
	Electricity LU	224.26	0.00	42.01	180.65	446.92	363.62
	Computer usage	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00	15.00	182.60
	printing & Photocopying	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.39	14.39	460.80
	Calenders & Books	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	75.50
	Youth Club	0.00	0.00	161.70	0.00	161.70	97.00
	Wellbeing Group	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
	Bank interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	91.79	91.79	85.47
	Cash differences	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Receipts		724.26	510.00	703.71	801.83	2739.80	6249.29
Payments							
	Fundraising costs					0.00	0.00
	Event costs					0.00	0.00
	Rent	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	1000.00	1000.00
	Business rates	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	579.39
	Heat, light & power	248.61	126.73	605.65	963.60	1944.59	2352.18
	Water	47.03	45.78	0.00	51.50	144.31	179.07
	Cleaning/Covid supplies	20.00	239.34	40.00	10.00	309.34	728.89
	Repairs and renewals	0.00	0.00	0.00	369.39	369.39	785.56
	Holiday Club	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	320.00
	Telephone & Internet	191.29	191.96	190.74	190.75	764.74	728.93
	Printing & stationery	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	513.29
	Wellbeing Group	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	95.00
	Youth group	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	22.00	0.00	22.00	137.50
Total Payments		756.93	853.81	1108.39	1835.24	4554.37	7419.81
Larcs net receipts		-32.67	-343.81	-404.68	-1033.41	-1814.57	-1170.52

**LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTRE SUPPORTERS
BAMPTON DEVON**

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 MAR

Incoming Resources

Donations	0
Grants from BTC	0
Other trading activities	0
Interest and Investment Income	92
Income from charitable activities	
Fees and sales	2201
Other income	
 Total Receipts	 2293

Resources expended

Costs of generating voluntary income
Fund raising costs

Payments for Charitable Activities

Property costs	2951
Equipment costs	
Other support costs	1156
 Total resources expended	 4107

Net income/expenditure -1814

Fund balances brought forward	17163
Fund balances carried forward	15349

Funds at 31 March 2021

Cash in hand	84
National Westminster Bank	3088
Investments	
United Trust Bank	5177
Fidelity Funds (see below *)	7000
	15349

Note: * Value at 31/03/21 7697

RCH 2021

2020

531

150

173

85

4946

5885

4476

2580

7056

-1171

18334

17163

226

4852

5085

7000

17163