

SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY

England & Wales · Charity number 1170711

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-12-12

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 105
New Park Street
Blackburn
Lancashire

Phone 01254 662424

Email blackburn@samaritans.org

Website www.samaritans.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY ARE:1) TO ENABLE PERSONS IN BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AS WELL AS ELSEWHERE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING FEELINGS OF DISTRESS OR DESPAIR, INCLUDING THOSE WHO MAY BE AT RISK OF SUICIDE, TO RECEIVE CONFIDENTIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY OR NIGHT IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THEIR EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF SUICIDE;2) TO PROMOTE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING IN SOCIETY OF SUICIDE, SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR AND THE VALUE OF EXPRESSING FEELINGS WHICH MAY OTHERWISE LEAD TO SUICIDE OR IMPAIRED EMOTIONAL HEALTH; AND3) TO COLLABORATE WITH AND SUPPORT SAMARITANS CENTRAL CHARITY AND ITS AFFILIATED BRANCHES IN FULFILLING THESE OBJECTS.

Activities: We provide emotional support for those in distress or despair, including those with suicidal feelings. We do this by responding to telephone calls, emails, on line chat and by supporting individual callers in face to face conversations.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Lancashire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£28,721	£32,977	-	-
2024-03-31	£29,683	£41,957	-	-
2023-03-31	£28,050	£48,979	-	-
2022-03-31	£22,620	£47,221	-	-
2021-03-31	£123,291	£67,358	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Catherine Elisabeth Wigley		2025-09-25
Jasmine Elizabeth Gohil		2025-09-25
Judith Houghton		2022-09-21
Muhammad Furqan		2024-10-03
Paula Fairbairn		2017-04-11
Pauline Hughes		2023-09-28
Susan Margaret Clarke		2019-09-11
Teresa Sarah Ann Ponton		2023-09-28
The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley		2016-12-12
Yvonne Elizabeth Potts		2023-09-28

Linked charities

- THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY (1170711-1)

SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1170711

Accounts

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Charity Commission Registered No 1170711

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

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**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

The principal objective of the charity is to provide assistance to individuals who are suicidal, despairing or in distress and to advance education by providing society with a better understanding of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings that may lead to suicide.

Trustees

Paula Fairbairn - Director (ex officio)
Susan Margaret Clarke - Treasurer (ex officio)
Teresa Sarah Ann Ponton
Judith Houghton
Yvonne Elizabeth Potts
Mohamed Sidat
Pauline Hughes
Muhammad Furquan -appointed 3rd October 2024

The following Trustees have resigned
Joyce Partlin - resigned 24th April 2024
Jenna Shuttleworth - resigned 17th April 2024
Heidi Marsden - resigned 3rd October 2024
XX - Trustee with dispensation - resigned 3rd October 2024
Janine Clitheroe - resigned 3rd October 2024

Registered address

105 New Park Street
Blackburn
BB2 1DF

Bankers

Natwest Bank
35 King William Street
Blackburn
BB1 7DL

Independent Examiner

Reverend Alan A Clements
15 Carleton Road
Great Knowley
Chorley
PR6 8TQ

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees of The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley have pleasure in presenting their Report and unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025. The legal and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The Financial Statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires Trustees to prepare statements of account for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity, and which enable the Trustees to ascertain the financial position of the charity and also enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2000. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In this respect, the Trustees are pleased to report that the safeguards re fraud prevention are set out in a document entitled "Branch Fraud Safeguards re Payments" which is available, in branch, to all volunteers.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley is a branch of the national Samaritans organisation but is a separate registered charity with independent management.

Whilst the governing body is the Trustees, day-to-day operational management is undertaken by the Branch Leadership team, appointed and led by our Director Paula Fairbairn.

In total we currently have 8 Trustees, two of whom are ex-officio, the Director and the Treasurer with the remainder having been elected by the Members at the Annual General Meeting. The Branch Leadership Team and the Trustees meet on a regular basis to discuss branch leadership matters. For each meeting the Director and Acting Secretary produce an agenda which includes Trustee conflicts of interest, finance, health and safety, risk management, volunteer care, publicity, outreach, training, recruitment, IT and prison matters. For each meeting the Secretary produces minutes which are available, in branch, to all volunteers.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

All Trustees are required to undertake an online training course entitled "Trustees and Branch Leadership Team Induction", developed by Central Charity. They are also required to sign a Trustee Code of Conduct form which includes statements on their responsibilities to disclose any conflicts of interest.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities, which is an annual process.

The Trustees consider that they have met as required and discharged their duties in the best interests of the branch.

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are:

To support people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide, to provide confidential emotional support at any time of the day or night in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicide;

To promote a better understanding in society of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings which may otherwise lead to suicide or impaired emotional health; and

To collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity and its affiliated branches in fulfilling these objectives.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Key Objectives

To maintain the service provided to our callers.

To provide ongoing support to our volunteers to enable them to continue to deliver our service.

To continue to recruit volunteers in order to deliver the best possible service.

Headline Performance

We are continuing to increase the number of hours that the branch is open to meet the needs of our callers.

All volunteers have completed mandatory digital training modules as directed by our Central Charity.

We have opened up three telephone lines which allows more flexibility for our volunteers to sign up to duties when it is convenient for them.

We continue to run, each year, three training cohorts for potential new volunteers

Director's Report

I am in my second year as Director. The leadership team are going from strength to strength and have really supported me - I simply could not have done without them. Some are mentioned further below for specific challenges they have dealt with during the year, but any one not mentioned has also provided amazing support - you know who you are and thanks to each and every one of you.

One of the main challenges this year has been the implementation of the new Listening Centre brought in by Central Charity. The Listening Centre came with lots of challenges as we had to move from hard wired telephone lines (BT) to a Voice over Internet Provider (VoIP) (Gamma). The challenges (which really were many) included dealing with a number of initial Samaritans wide system "glitches" and changing our existing headsets to new headsets which met the VoIP requirements. We also provided each volunteer, who did not like using a headset, with their own personal handset. Monica 1 oversaw the Listening Centre implementation and I find it impossible to express adequately my enormous thanks to her for her role in this respect.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Director's Report (continued)

An ever-present challenge is filling our shifts, to be there as much as possible for our callers. Following the implementation of the new Listening Centre, we were able to increase the number of listening stations from two (the minimum required) to three. Whilst this may seem to be a small change, in fact it provides volunteers with a lot more flexibility in booking their shifts, as a volunteer can become a "third" on duty, even right at the last minute. We continue to be flexible with our rota times and helping volunteers to balance their listening duties with their other life responsibilities as well as focusing on recruiting new volunteers wherever possible.

Each shift also requires a "Leader" who provides support to those on duty. Our Deputy for Leaders and Mentors, together with her team (of one!!) have done a great job in increasing the number of our Leaders whilst ensuring each new volunteer is provided with a mentor.

Filling shifts with volunteers and leaders is no easy process with theory and practice diverging hugely. This is where our Rota Secretary comes into herself. Many of us have been Rota Secretary, for a week or two, over the years and it can be one of the most thankless of tasks. That is why I offer my enormous thanks and recognition to our now regular Rota Secretary who does such a worthwhile job, largely behind the scenes.

Another ever-present challenge is fund raising, given we need to raise in excess of £30,000 each year, to run the branch. Our Deputy for Fundraising continues to ensure day-to-day fundraising is as successful as possible. In addition, John 26 has continued to do an amazing job in raising grants for the branch. It would be remiss of me not to mention Jean 26, a long serving listening volunteer, who for the last few years, as a support volunteer, has run "Pay for a Day" whereby local businesses are asked to pay for one day of our running costs. Jean has expended a huge number of hours on this process and has raised countless thousands of £s for the branch, over the years. She has now retired from this task but we will be ever grateful for her hard and successful work.

Prospective new volunteers apply through an online process, undergo a structured interview by two branch volunteers and, if accepted, then undertake training for three to four hours one evening a week for seven weeks before they come down, under supervision, into the duty room. Recognising the strong link between the recruitment and training process, our Deputy for Training has also taken on the oversight of recruitment which allowed us to have an oversight of the end-to-end journey through recruitment and training. Diane 7 continues to lead on the day-to-day recruitment process but under the oversight of Kathy 19.

Our Volunteer Care team have gone from strength to strength over the year and continue to contact all volunteers on a regular basis. Every listening volunteer was given the opportunity to complete a questionnaire on what helps and hinders about the current rota. Once the findings were analysed, it was agreed with our Vice Director that the current rota met the volunteers needs. We cannot be complacent in this respect and we regularly challenge ourselves as to any improvements that can be made.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Director's Report (continued)

When we started our collaboration with Nightsafe, a local charity providing a drop-in facility and limited overnight accommodation for homeless 16-25 year olds, we agreed that we would attend every six weeks. In 2024 we increased our visits to every two weeks and our collaboration has grown from strength to strength.

During the year we were able, after an absence of a few years, to re-introduce on-going mentoring (OGM) the process by which each listening volunteer has a number of their calls listened into by a fellow volunteer and receives feedback on their call handling.

Another process overseen by our Deputy for Training and Recruitment.

The North West conference went ahead again at Lancaster University and we were able to send five volunteers to this event as well as having another four who assisted over the weekend. It was generally agreed that the event was well worth attending.

And, finally, thanks to every listening and support volunteer for everything you do to enable us to play our incredibly important part in being there for our callers.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Financial Review

The Branch has recorded a deficit on unrestricted funds of £4,256 for the year,
(2024 £11,624)

Reserves Policy

The Trustees take into consideration the level of reserves to be held for the prudent management of our operating expenditure, commitments and contingencies of the branch.

In normal circumstances the Trustees aim to hold reserves at a minimum the equivalent to normal operating expenditure over an 18 month period.

However, due to the current economic situation, the Trustees feel that it would be prudent to hold all reserves indefinitely to meet ongoing expenditure only.

Previously, our policy of making excess reserves available for the benefit of the Samaritan organisation, as a whole, was suspended. This policy will be reviewed by the Trustees on a regular basis.

Investment Policy

The Trustees have considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds, taking account of the requirement that such investments must be secure and that the value of the capital involved must be maintained. The Trustees feel that the investment in National Savings Income Bonds satisfies these criteria. At 31st March 2025 investments held were £80,500 (2024, £81,000) with interest received during the year of £3,022 (2024, £2,689).

The charity also has a bank current account which at the year end held £21,569 (2024, £25,149).

Risk Assessment

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility to assess and manage both the internal and external risks to which the branch may be exposed. The Trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to those risks or actions are being taken to do so. The Trustees review the Branch Risk Register at each of their meetings, to consider whether any changes should be made, both to the risk exposure and actions required.

Independent Examiner

A resolution to appoint Reverend Alan A Clements as Independent Examiner will be put to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 17th July 2025 and signed on it's behalf by:

Paula Fairbairn
Trustee
Director

Pauline Hughes
Trustee
Vice Director

Yvonne Potts
Trustee

The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley
105 New Park Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB2 1DF

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Blackburn with
Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley**

I report on the financial statements of The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley for the year ended 31st March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required. It is my responsibility to:

- 1) examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- 2) to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 3) 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 Commissioners. 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 you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which 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 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion should be drawn in order to enable the proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Rev'd Alan A Clements
15 Carleton Road, Great Knowley, Chorley, PR6 8TQ
Dated

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

		2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
		Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Donations and grants	4	19,809	2,522	22,331	19,367	2,000	21,367
Trading activities	5	3,368	0	3,368	5,627	0	5,627
Investment income	6	<u>3,022</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,022</u>	<u>2,689</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,689</u>
Total income		26,199	2,522	28,721	27,683	2,000	29,683
Expenditure	7	<u>(32,977)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(32,977)</u>	<u>(39,307)</u>	<u>2,650</u>	<u>(41,957)</u>
Net expenditure		(6,778)	2,522	(4,256)	(11,624)	(650)	(12,274)
Transfers - purchase of fixed assets		2,522	(2,522)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net movement of funds		<u>(4,256)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(4,256)</u>	<u>(11,624)</u>	<u>(650)</u>	<u>(12,274)</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (Loss)	(4,256)	(12,274)
Adjustments for depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1027	506
Purchase of fixed assets	(6,664)	0
Changes in:		
Debtors and prepayments	1,165	(304)
Creditors and accruals	4,329	(11,579)
Net cash movements	<u>(4,399)</u>	<u>(23,651)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and equivalents	(4,399)	(23,651)
Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year	<u>106,569</u>	<u>130,220</u>
Cash and equivalents at the end of the year	<u>102,170</u>	<u>106,569</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2025

	2025	2025	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets		145,637		140,000
Current assets				
National Savings Income Bonds	80,500		81,000	
Debtors and prepayments	613		1,778	
Cash at bank	21,569		25,149	
Cash in hand	<u>101</u>		<u>420</u>	
	102,783		108,347	
Current liabilities				
Sundry creditors and accruals	2,908		3,014	
NBC accrual	<u>9,792</u>		<u>5,357</u>	
Net current assets		90,083		99,976
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>235,720</u>		<u>239,976</u>
Reserves as at 1st April 2024		239,976		252,250
Net loss for the year		<u>4,256</u>		<u>12,274</u>
Reserves at 31st March 2025		<u>235,720</u>		<u>239,976</u>
The funds of the charity				
Restricted funds		<u>0</u>		0
Unrestricted funds		<u>235,720</u>		<u>239,976</u>
		<u>235,720</u>		<u>239,976</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 17th July 2025 and signed on it's behalf by:

Paula Fairbairn
Trustee
Director

Pauline Hughes
Trustee
Vice Director

Yvonne Potts
Trustee

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

1 General information

The charity is a registered charity and a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

2 Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 and Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities.

3 Accounting Policies

- a Basis of preparation - these accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.
- b Going concern - the Trustees see no material uncertainties concerning the charity's ability to continue in operation.
- c Fund accounting - unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees to further any of the charity's purposes. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for a particular future project or commitment. Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor and fall into one of two classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.
- d Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.
- e Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the Trustees estimate of likely receivable amount.
- f Covenants, Gift Aid and other income receivable by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made, is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.
- g Income from legacies is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received or when the Trustees are satisfied that the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservative measurable sum.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

3 Accounting Policies (continued)

- h Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.
- i Costs of generating funds are those incurred in fund raising, publicity and public relations.
- j Support costs represent the costs of managing and administering the charity.
- k Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:
- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Freehold property | At valuation |
| Fixtures and fittings | 4 years |
| Computers | 3 years |
| Telephony | 2 years |
- l No provision for taxation is included in the accounts as the charity is entitled to the exemption from tax afforded by Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
4 Donations and grants					0	
Donations	10,770	0	10,770	9,177	0	9,177
Grants	<u>9,039</u>	<u>2,522</u>	<u>11,561</u>	<u>10,190</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>12,190</u>
	19,809	2,522	22,331	19,367	2,000	21,367
5 Trading Activities						
Fundraising events	3,368	0	3,368	5,627	0	5,627
6 Investment income						
Savings bond interest	<u>3,022</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,022</u>	<u>2,689</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,689</u>
	<u>26,199</u>	<u>2,522</u>	<u>28,721</u>	<u>27,683</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>29,683</u>
7 Cost of activities						
Utilities	2,612	0	2,612	2,026	0	2,026
Housekeeping	2,823	0	2,823	2,965	0	2,965
Repairs and renewals	740	0	740	2,609	0	2,609
Conference and training	1,676	0	1,676	1,050	0	1,050
Travel	3,342	0	3,342	5,019	0	5,019
Stationery & photocopier	412	0	412	286	0	286
Telephones and IT	1,800	0	1,800	3,278	0	3,278
Insurance	1,077	0	1,077	1,053	0	1,053
Publicity and recruitment	3,141	0	3,141	4,671	650	5,321
NBC fees	9,792	0	9,792	5,357	0	5,357
Depreciation	1,027	0	1,027	506	0	506
Sundries	2,578	0	2,578	1,911	0	1,911
Fundraising	867	0	867	667	0	667
Darwen Project	0	0	0	1,077	2,000	3,077
HMP Garth expenses	1,090	0	1,090	1,832	0	1,832
Donation to Central Office	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,000</u>
	<u>32,977</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>32,977</u>	<u>39,307</u>	<u>2,650</u>	<u>41,957</u>

8 Net Income

Net income is stated after charging:

Depreciation of fixtures and fittings

£1,027

9 Independent Examiners fee

The independent examiner received payment of £100 . No expenses were incurred.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

10 Employee and staff costs

There were no employees during the year and therefore no staff costs.

11 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

None of the charity's Trustees were directly or indirectly remunerated in any way. It is the policy of the charity to reimburse in full all expenses properly incurred by the Trustees in connection with its charitable activities.

12 Indemnity Insurance

The Samaritans have centrally provided professional indemnity insurance to protect volunteers, Trustees and other volunteer members of all Samaritan branches..

13 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Property	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1st April 2024	163,257	12,315	175,572
Additions	<u>0</u>	6,664	6,664
At 31st March 2025	<u>163,257</u>	<u>18,979</u>	<u>182,236</u>
 Depreciation			
At 1st April 2024	23,257	12,315	35,572
Charge for the year	<u>0</u>	<u>1,027</u>	<u>1,027</u>
At 31st March 2025	<u>23,257</u>	<u>13,342</u>	<u>36,599</u>
 Net Book Value			
At 31st March 2025	<u>140,000</u>	<u>5,637</u>	<u>145,637</u>

In November 2020 a professional valuation of the property was carried out by T V Shaw Ltd. The valuation resulted in a deficit on cost of £23,257.

SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1170711

Accounts

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Charity Commission Registered No 1170711

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

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**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

The principal objective of the charity is to provide assistance to individuals who are suicidal, despairing or in distress and to advance education by providing society with a better understanding of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings that may lead to suicide.

Trustees
Paula Fairbairn - Director (ex officio)
Susan Margaret Clarke - Treasurer (ex officio)
Janine Clitheroe
Judith Houghton

The following Trustees were appointed on
28th September 2023

Teresa Sarah Ann Ponton
Yvonne Elizabeth Potts
Mohamed Sidat
Pauline Hughes
Joyce Partlin
Jenna Shuttleworth
Heidi Marsden
XX - Trustee with dispensation

The following Trustees resigned on 28th September 2023

Margaret Jepson
Monica Devlin
Jane Houghton-Fenning

Registered address
105 New Park Street
Blackburn
BB2 1DF

Bankers
Natwest Bank
35 King William Street
Blackburn
BB1 7DL

Independent Examiner
Reverend Alan A Clements
15 Carleton Road
Great Knowley
Chorley
PR6 8TQ

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
TRUSTEES REPORT**

The Trustees of The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley have pleasure in presenting their Report and unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024. The legal and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The Financial Statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires Trustees to prepare statements of account for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable the Trustees to ascertain the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2000. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In this respect, the Trustees are pleased to report that the safeguards re fraud prevention are set out in a document entitled "Branch Fraud Safeguards re Payments" which is available, in branch, to all volunteers.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley is a branch of the national Samaritans organisation but is a separate registered charity with independent management.

Whilst the governing body is the Trustees, day-to-day operational management is undertaken by the Branch Leadership team, appointed and led by Paula Fairbairn from 28th September 2023. In total we currently have 10 Trustees, two of whom are ex-officio, the Director and the Treasurer with the remainder having been elected by the Members at the Annual General Meeting. The Branch Leadership Team and the Trustees meet on a regular basis to discuss branch leadership matters. For each meeting the Director and Acting Secretary produce an agenda which includes Trustee conflicts of interest, finance, health and safety, risk management, volunteer care, publicity, outreach, training, recruitment, IT and prison matters. For each meeting the Secretary produces minutes which are available, in branch, to all volunteers.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

All Trustees are required to undertake an online training course entitled "Trustees and Branch Leadership Team Induction", developed by Central Charity. They are also required to sign a Trustee Code of Conduct form which includes statements on their responsibilities to disclose any conflicts of interest.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities, which is an annual process.

The Trustees consider that they have met as required and discharged our duties in the best interests of the branch.

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are:

To support people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide, to receive confidential emotional support at any time of the day or night in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicide;

To promote a better understanding in society of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings which may otherwise lead to suicide or impaired emotional health; and

To collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity and its affiliated branches in fulfilling these objectives.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Key Objectives

To maintain the service provided to our callers.

To provide ongoing support to our volunteers to enable them to continue to deliver our service.

To continue to recruit volunteers in order to deliver the best possible service.

Headline Performance

We have increased the number of hours that the branch is open to meet the needs of callers during the night.

All volunteers have completed mandatory digital training modules as directed by Central Charity. In June 2023 we reopened the branch to face-to-face callers from the local community.

There have been three cohorts of volunteers trained during the year, a welcome addition to our total number of volunteers.

Director's Report

I became Director at last year's AGM, held on 28th September, when I was proud to take over from Margaret 28. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Margaret and her team for their work, in particular noting that they continued in office for an additional year when the Director designate was unable to take up the position.

My first task was to appoint Pauline 10 as my Vice Director, together with a new leadership team. My thanks go to them for the fantastic support they have provided to me - it feels that we have moulded into a great team that is very supportive of one another and achieving a lot. I would also like to thank my fellow Trustees for their support and diligence in fulfilling their roles.

Having mentioned Pauline 10 as my Vice Director, I must follow this up by commenting on her role as lead for volunteer care. I think Pauline and her team have done a great job in raising the profile, both proactively and reactively, of being there for our volunteers. They really are doing a fantastic job,

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Director's Report (continued)

A constant challenge is filling our shifts, to be there as much as possible for our callers, and there are many aspects to achieving this. Samaritans vision is for branches to be available to callers 70% during the day (6am - 10pm), 20% during twilight hours (10pm - 2am) and 10% overnight (2am -6am) and we are working very hard to achieve this. Whilst, if all our shifts were kept open, we would meet this target, unfortunately shift closures because of volunteer unavailability, means that we are still not meeting the 10% overnight aspiration. In February we made some changes to the rota following recommendations from an internal working party set up to address a number of concerns including, but not limited to, the overnight challenge and these changes have definitely helped. But we have been doing, and continue to do, much more.

So what else are we doing? A high focus issue is the need for us to raise between £30K and £40K per year to enable the branch to operate on a break even basis, at a time when income generation and expense increase risks are very uncertain - see comments on this in the Trustees Report above. Whilst our general fundraising activities, led by Margaret 28, have been successful to date, traditional opportunities are declining. Those traditional activities continue to be augmented considerably by John 26 who has been hugely successful in obtaining grants from a wide range of organisations. But we need to seek out new sustainable opportunities. All volunteers have been asked for ideas and also everyone has been asked if they wish to join a "fundraising ideas" working party being set up in the near future.

When I took up my role, I created a new Deputy Director role for Outreach & Community. Fatemah 2 has been very active in this role and, in particular, has arranged for us to work in partnership with Nightsafe who operate in a building some 10 minutes walk from the branch. Nightsafe is an organisation supporting 16 to 25 year olds who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and provides short-term accommodation as well as a drop-in day centre, providing support, information, advice and guidance. The expectation is that a couple of listening volunteers will attend Nightsafe at lunchtime, initially every 6 weeks or so, to be available to provide general support, as well as emotional support if required. I feel this is a fantastic opportunity for us to raise awareness of our services within the local community. In addition, we are currently in talks with the Blackburn hospital A&E department as to whether we can provide a regular emotional support service to those attending A&E. I must stress that this is in the initial scoping stage and already a number of significant challenges have been identified, so there is no guarantee that we will be able to achieve a positive outcome in this respect.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Director's Report (continued)

To my considerable surprise, just over two months into my role, I received notice from Central Office that they were starting the Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) review of the branch. The preparation for this process involved a huge amount of work for me just at the time when I was undergoing a very substantial learning curve to come to terms with my new role and its challenges. Whilst this was a real challenge so early in my term of office somewhat ironically I believe the work under taken has been very positive for the branch, particularly from a governance and risk perspective.

There has been a considerable change in the demographics of our volunteers in recent years, resulting in a significant number of shorter serving listening volunteers. This change, combined with the isolation caused during the covid years, has resulted in fewer volunteers knowing one another. To try to address this issue, I asked Michelle 3 to take the lead on organising social events for our volunteers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Michelle and her team for organising a very successful first event in branch and look forward to many more such events.

I started this report with thanks to past and present colleagues, and others have been mentioned along the way. I will end my report with a number of additional comments and thanks. It is only when you have "line of sight" on all activities that you fully appreciate how much support volunteers give and how hard they work. So, in alphabetical order, I will start with Diane 7, who has taken on the lead role for recruitment, and her team. Currently, recruitment seems to be going very well and I have no concerns whatsoever at this time. Next, to Kate 5 who agreed to take on the role of Acting Secretary and has really got to grips with the role, providing great support to me in this respect. Kathy 18 agreed to take on the previously vacant role of Deputy for training and has got a very supportive team. Again, I can just leave her to it with my thanks. Janine 1 is my Deputy for Leaders and Mentors, supported in particular by Yvonne 3. The number of Leaders and Mentors has increased under their stewardship but, probably more importantly, so has the support for them - thanks to Janine and her team. Unexpectedly, my Deputy for prisons, Ian 5, had to resign for personal reasons and Margaret 28 stepped into the role, initially temporarily but now permanently. Thanks to her and her team for their continued support for the Listeners in Garth prison. Mike 19, as Health and Safety Officer and covering Risk, together with his team, is there to ensure that we meet our legal responsibilities in this respect and, most importantly, to ensure as far as possible that we all remain safe in our roles. I doubt that anyone other than myself appreciates how much work Monica 1 does behind the scenes to keep our IT requirements on track, keeping us in line with our data protection responsibilities and ensuring, with her team, that DBS applications run as smoothly as possible - thank you Monica. Sue 26, as our Treasurer, simply keeps everything running smoothly in that respect - thanks Sue. But finally, thanks to every listening volunteer and support volunteer for everything you do to enable us to play our incredibly important role in being there for our callers.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Financial Review

The Branch has recorded a deficit on unrestricted funds of £11,624 for the year, (2023 £18,422)

Reserves Policy

The Trustees take into consideration the level of reserves to be held for the prudent management of the operating expenditure, commitments and contingencies of the branch.

In normal circumstances the Trustees aim to hold reserves at a minimum the equivalent to normal operating expenditure over an 18 month period.

However, due to the current economic situation, the Trustees feel that it would be prudent to hold all reserves indefinitely to meet ongoing expenditure only.

Previously, our policy of making excess reserves available for the benefit of the Samaritan organisation, as a whole, was suspended. This year the Trustees decided to make an exception to this policy and donated £5000 to Samaritans Central Office for the new technology network. However, until the economic situation improves, this policy will be reviewed by the Trustees on a regular basis.

Investment Policy

The Trustees have considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds, taking account of the requirement that such investments must be secure and that the value of the capital involved must be maintained. The Trustees feel that the investment in National Savings Income Bonds satisfies these criteria. At 31st March 2024 investments held were £81,000 (2023, £81,000) with interest received during the year of £2,689 (2023, £894).

The charity also has a bank current account which at the year end held £25,149 (2023, £49,067).

Risk Assessment

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility to assess and manage both the internal and external risks to which the branch is exposed. The Trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to those risks or actions are being taken to do so. The Trustees review the Branch Risk Register at each of their meetings, to consider whether any changes should be made, both to the risk exposure and actions required.

Independent Examiner

A resolution to appoint Reverend Alan A Clements as Independent Examiner will be put to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 16th August 2024 and signed on it's behalf by:



Paula Fairbairn
Trustee
Director



Pauline Hughes
Trustee
Vice Director



Janine Clitheroe
Trustee

The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley
105 New Park Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB2 1DF

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Blackburn with
Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley

I report on the financial statements of The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn
and Ribble Valley for the year ended 31st March 2024 which comprise the statement of
financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements.
The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2)
of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.
It is my responsibility to:

- 1) examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- 2) to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the
Charity Commission under Section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 3) 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 Commissioners. 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 you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not
provide all the evidence which 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
2011 Act; and
to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to
comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion should be drawn in order to enable the proper
understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Alan A Clements

Rev'd Alan A Clements

15 Carleton Road, Great Knowley, Chorley, PR6 8TQ

Dated *24th August 2024*

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*Fellow Association
of Charity Independent-
Examiners.*

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

		2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
		Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments							
Donations and grants	4	19,367	2,000	21,367	16,688	3,731	20,419
Trading activities	5	5,627	0	5,627	6,737	0	6,737
Investment income	6	<u>2,689</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,689</u>	<u>894</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>894</u>
Total income		27,683	2,000	29,683	24,319	3,731	28,050
Expenditure	7	<u>39,307</u>	<u>2,650</u>	<u>41,957</u>	<u>42,741</u>	<u>6,238</u>	<u>48,979</u>
Net expenditure and net movement of funds		<u>(11,624)</u>	<u>(650)</u>	<u>(12,274)</u>	<u>(18,422)</u>	<u>(2,507)</u>	<u>(20,929)</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (Loss)	(12,274)	(20,929)
Adjustments for depreciation of tangible fixed assets	506	2,312
Changes in:		
Debtors and prepayments	(304)	(212)
Creditors and accruals	(11,579)	3,131
Net cash movements	<u>(23,651)</u>	<u>(15,698)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and equivalents	(23,651)	(15,698)
Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year	<u>130,220</u>	<u>145,918</u>
Cash and equivalents at the end of the year	<u>106,569</u>	<u>130,220</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024

	2024	2024	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets		140,000		140,506
Current assets				
National Savings Income Bonds	81,000		81,000	
Debtors and prepayments	1,778		1,474	
Cash at bank	25,149		49,067	
Cash in hand	<u>420</u>		<u>153</u>	
	108,347		131,694	
Current liabilities				
Sundry creditors and accruals	3,014		542	
NBC accrual	<u>5,357</u>		<u>19,408</u>	
Net current assets		99,976		111,744
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>239,976</u>		<u>252,250</u>
Reserves as at 1st April 2023		252,250		273,179
Net loss for the year		<u>(12,274)</u>		<u>(20,929)</u>
Reserves at 31st March 2024		<u>239,976</u>		<u>252,250</u>
The funds of the charity				
Restricted funds		<u>0</u>		650
Unrestricted funds		<u>239,976</u>		<u>251,600</u>
		<u>239,976</u>		<u>252,250</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 16th August 2024 and signed on it's behalf by:



Paula Fairbairn
Trustee
Director



Pauline Hughes
Trustee
Vice Director



Janine Clitheroe
Trustee

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

1 General information

The charity is a registered charity and a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

2 Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 and Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities.

3 Accounting Policies

- a Basis of preparation - these accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.
- b Going concern - the Trustees see no material uncertainties concerning the charity's ability to continue in operation.
- c Fund accounting - unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees to further any of the charity's purposes. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for a particular future project or commitment. Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor and fall into one of two classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.
- d Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.
- e Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the Trustees estimate of likely receivable amount.
- f Covenants, Gift Aid and other income receivable by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made, is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.
- g Income from legacies is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received or when the Trustees are satisfied that the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservative measurable sum.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

3 Accounting Policies (continued)

- h Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.
- i Costs of generating funds are those incurred in fund raising, publicity and public relations.
- j Support costs represent the costs of managing and administering the charity.
- k Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:
- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Freehold property | At valuation |
| Fixtures and fittings | 4 years |
| Computers | 3 years |
| Telephony | 2 years |
- l No provision for taxation is included in the accounts as the charity is entitled to the exemption from tax afforded by Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
4 Donations and grants		0				
Donations	9,177	0	9,177	9,832	0	9,832
Grants	<u>10,190</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>12,190</u>	<u>6,856</u>	<u>3,731</u>	<u>10,587</u>
	19,367	2,000	21,367	16,688	3,731	20,419
5 Trading Activities						
Fundraising events	5,627	0	5,627	6,737	0	6,737
6 Investment income						
Savings bond interest	<u>2,689</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,689</u>	<u>894</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>894</u>
	<u>27,683</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>29,683</u>	<u>24,319</u>	<u>3,731</u>	<u>28,050</u>
7 Cost of activities						
Utilities	2,026	0	2,026	1,457	526	1,983
Housekeeping	2,965	0	2,965	2,670	0	2,670
Repairs and renewals	2,609	0	2,609	2,297	0	2,297
Conference and training	1,050	0	1,050	3,410	0	3,410
Travel	5,019	0	5,019	2,795	1,050	3,845
Stationery & photocopier	286	0	286	354	0	354
Telephones and IT	3,278	0	3,278	1,466	424	1,890
Insurance	1,053	0	1,053	1,007	0	1,007
Publicity and recruitment	4,671	650	5,321	1,755	4,238	5,993
NBC fees	5,357	0	5,357	19,123	0	19,123
Depreciation	506	0	506	2,312	0	2,312
Sundries	1,911	0	1,911	1,541	0	1,541
Fundraising	667	0	667	1,220	0	1,220
Darwen Project	1,077	2,000	3,077	0	0	0
HMP Garth expenses	1,832	0	1,832	1,334	0	1,334
Donation to Central Office	<u>5,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>39,307</u>	<u>2,650</u>	<u>41,957</u>	<u>42,741</u>	<u>6,238</u>	<u>48,979</u>

8 Net Income

Net income is stated after charging:
 Depreciation of fixtures and fittings

£506

9 Independent Examiners fee

The independent examiner received payment of £100 . No expenses were incurred.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

10 Employee and staff costs

There were no employees during the year and therefore no staff costs.

11 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

None of the charity's Trustees were directly or indirectly remunerated in any way. It is the policy of the charity to reimburse in full all expenses properly incurred by its volunteers in connection with its charitable activities.

12 Indemnity Insurance

The Samaritans have centrally provided professional indemnity insurance to protect volunteers, Trustees and other volunteer members of all Samaritan branches..

13 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Property	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1st April 2023 and at 31st March 2024	<u>163,257</u>	<u>12,315</u>	<u>175,572</u>
Depreciation			
At 1st April 2023	23,257	11,809	35,066
Charge for the year	<u>0</u>	<u>506</u>	<u>506</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>23,257</u>	<u>12,315</u>	<u>35,572</u>
Net Book Value			
At 31st March 2024	<u>140,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>140,000</u>

In November 2020 a professional valuation of the property was carried out by T V Shaw Ltd. The valuation resulted in a deficit on cost of £23,257.

SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1170711

Accounts

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Charity Commission Registered No 1170711

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

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**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

The principal objective of the charity is to provide assistance to individuals who are suicidal, despairing or in distress and to advance education by providing society with a better understanding of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings that may lead to suicide.

Charity Commission 1170711

Trustees
Margaret Jepson
Monica Devlin
Paula Fairbairn
Susan Ling - resigned 21st September 2022
Susan Clarke (ex officio)
Judith Houghton - appointed 21st September 2022
John Littlewood - resigned 21st September 2022
Janine Clitheroe
Jayne Leek - resigned 31st January 2023
Jane Houghton-Fenning

Registered address 105 New Park Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB2 1DF

Bankers Natwest Bank
35 King William Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB1 7DL

Independent Examiner Reverend Alan A Clements
15 Carleton Road
Great Knowley
Chorley
PR6 8TQ

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
TRUSTEES REPORT**

The Trustees of The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley have pleasure in presenting their Report and unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023. The legal and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The Financial Statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires trustees to prepare statements of account for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2000. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley is a branch of the national Samaritans organisation but is a separate registered charity with independent management.

The governing body is the Branch Leadership Team, led by Margaret Jepson from June 2019, with 5 trustees elected at the Annual General Meeting by members of the branch and 2 trustees selected by the Director by virtue of their office holding responsibilities in the branch. The Trustees of the branch have met 6 times during this financial year to discuss branch leadership matters. For each of the meetings the Director and Secretary produced an agenda. Each agenda included items for discussion on finance, health and safety, risk management, publicity, fundraising, recruitment and prison matters.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

New Trustees are nominated and seconded by other members and a vote takes place at the Annual General Meeting (or alternatively at an Extraordinary General Meeting) if there are more nominations than vacancies.) All newly appointed trustees attend a formal meeting with the Director and are given a list of Trustee Responsibilities which are fully explained. They also take an online training course created by Samaritans Central Office and are presented with a certificate upon successful completion.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities, which is an annual process.

The Branch Leadership Team feel that as Trustees we have met and overseen our responsibilities in the best interest of all at the Branch.

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are:

To support people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide, to receive confidential emotional support at any time of the day or night in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicide;

To promote a better understanding in society of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings which may otherwise lead to suicide or impaired emotional health; and

To collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity and its affiliated branches in fulfilling these objectives.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Key Objectives

To maintain the service provided to our callers.

To provide ongoing support to our volunteers to enable them to continue to deliver our service.

To continue to recruit volunteers in order to deliver the best possible service.

Headline Performance

We have increased the number of hours that the branch is open to meet the needs of callers during the night.

All volunteers completed mandatory digital training modules and prepared for reintroduction of our face to face service.

There have been three cohorts of volunteers trained during the year, a welcome addition to our total number of volunteers.

Director's Report 2023

This report must begin with thanks to the Branch Leadership Team who agreed to serve for another year, when they should have been replaced. Unfortunately the person selected by the Branch to be the new Director was unable to take up the position. In order to continue the smooth running of the Branch, the existing team agreed to continue for a further year.

The major change in the Branch has been the provision of two shifts which cover the whole of the night, from 11.00pm - 5.00am the following day. This was in response to a call from Central Office to meet the challenge of increasing the number of volunteers available for calls during these hours. The hours between 2.00am and 6am are regarded as hot spots in terms of demand. This is when you cannot call friends or family however supportive, when you feel that you need someone to talk to. Volunteers are to be commended for meeting this challenge at a time when our callers need us most.

The reasons why callers use our service change little, they are mental health issues, family issues, loneliness and isolation and relationship issues. The figures for callers feeling lonely and isolated grew during the pandemic and remain higher than in pre-pandemic times. Those expressing suicidal feelings were about 14% of our callers nationwide.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Director's Report 2023 (continued)

The responses from our volunteers are welcomed by our callers. Samaritans' research showed that people reported a significant reduction in stress after calling Samaritans, on a scale of 10 feeling stress at 7.4 at the beginning of the call and 4.7 at the end of the call. 70% still felt better one week after calling. We cannot solve problems for our callers but what we can do, and will, is to give of our time to listen. Outcome research showed that 74% felt listened to, 74% felt they had options for dealing with difficult situations, 70% more hopeful for the future and 67% felt better able to cope with everyday life. These are excellent outcomes and are testament to the training and professional approach of all our volunteers.

Thanks to our excellent Recruitment and Selection team and our Training team, we have continued to recruit and train new volunteers. We have been able to maintain our goal of training three new cohorts each year, as we always need to replace those volunteers who have had to resign due to a change in their circumstances and we welcome our new volunteers.

Our major contribution outside the Branch is in the support that we provide for Listeners in HMP Garth. Nationally there has been a rise in suicides in prisons and as a Branch we have had an increased number of calls from prisoners. Staffing issues often mean that prisoners are subject to restrictions on prisoner movement that causes some distress. Thanks to Sue 26 and the prison team for their support of the Listeners in Garth and particular thanks to the Listeners who were able to support their fellow prisoners.

Fund raising continues to be a focus for the Branch as our expenditure means that we have had to draw on our reserves. Legacies played a big part in our income over the pandemic period and increased fund raising opportunities are slowly adding to our income. The Pay for a Day team continues to contact local businesses who contribute annually to support our service. Thanks to Jean 26 and Joan 27 who run the scheme and our local business community for their continuing support.

This will be the end of my service as Director and a new Director will take over for the next financial year. It has been a pleasure to serve the Branch, who are an extraordinary group of people, hard working, reliable and good fun to work with. Thank you to all our volunteers. As the publicity states, we are all ordinary people doing extraordinary work.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Financial Review

The Branch has recorded a deficit on unrestricted funds of £18,422 for the year, (2022, £26,792)

Reserves Policy

The Trustees take into consideration the level of reserves to be held for the prudent management of the operating expenditure, commitments and contingencies of the branch.

In normal circumstances the Trustees aim to hold reserves at a minimum the equivalent to normal operating expenditure over an 18 month period.

However, due to the current economic situation, the Trustees feel that it would be prudent to hold all reserves indefinitely to meet ongoing expenditure only. Until the economic situation improves, our previous policy of making excess reserves available for the benefit of the Samaritan organisation as a whole, will be suspended. The Trustees will review this policy periodically.

Investment Policy

The Trustees have considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds, taking account of the requirement that such investments must be secure and that the value of the capital involved must be maintained. The Trustees feel that the investment in National Savings Income Bonds satisfies these criteria. At 31st March 2023 investments held were £81,000 (2022, £60,000) with interest received during the year of £894 (2022, £59).

The charity also has a bank current account which at the year end held £49,607 (2022, £74,511).

Risk Assessment

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility to assess and manage the risks that face the organisation and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.

Independent Examiner

A resolution to appoint Reverend Alan A Clements as independent examiner will be put to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 29TH JUNE 2023 and signed on it's behalf by:



Margaret Jepson
Trustee



Judith Houghton
Trustee



Janine Clitheroe
Trustee

The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley
105 New Park Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB2 1DF

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Blackburn with
Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley**

I report on the financial statements of The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley for the year ended 31st March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- 1) examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- 2) to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 3) 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 Commissioners. 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 you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which 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 2011 Act; and
to prepare accounts which accord to the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.
have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion should be drawn in order to enable the proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Alan A. Clements

Rev'd Alan A Clements

15 Carleton Road, Great Knowley, Chorley, PR6 8TQ

Dated *10th July 2023*

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

		2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
		Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments							
Donations, grants and legacies	4	16,688	3,731	20,419	17,489	2,242	19,731
Trading activities	5	6,737	0	6,737	2,830	0	2,830
Investment income	6	<u>894</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>894</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>59</u>
Total income		24,319	3,731	28,050	20,378	2,242	22,620
Expenditure	7	<u>42,741</u>	<u>6,238</u>	<u>48,979</u>	<u>47,170</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>47,221</u>
Net expenditure and net movement of funds		<u>(18,422)</u>	<u>(2,507)</u>	<u>(20,929)</u>	<u>(26,792)</u>	<u>2,191</u>	<u>(24,601)</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (Loss)	(20,929)	(24,601)
Adjustments for depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,312	4,077
Changes in:		
Debtors and prepayments	(212)	1,190
Creditors and accruals	3,131	7,667
Net cash movements	<u>(15,698)</u>	<u>(11,667)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and equivalents	(15,698)	(11,667)
Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year	<u>145,918</u>	<u>157,585</u>
Cash and equivalents at the end of the year	<u>130,220</u>	<u>145,918</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2023

	2023	2023	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£
	NOTE			
Tangible fixed assets	13	140,506		142,818
Current assets				
National Savings Income Bonds		81,000	60,000	
Debtors and prepayments		1,474	1,262	
Business reserve account		0	11,084	
Cash at bank		49,067	74,511	
Cash in hand		<u>153</u>	<u>323</u>	
		131,694	147,180	
Current liabilities				
Sundry creditors and accruals		542	682	
NBC accrual		<u>19,408</u>	<u>16,137</u>	
Net current assets		111,744		130,361
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>252,250</u>		<u>273,179</u>
Reserves as at 1st April 2022		273,179		297,780
Net loss for the year		<u>(20,929)</u>		<u>(24,601)</u>
Reserves at 31st March 2023		<u>252,250</u>		<u>273,179</u>
The funds of the charity				
Restricted income funds		650		3,157
Unrestricted income funds		<u>251,600</u>		<u>270,022</u>
		<u>252,250</u>		<u>273,179</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 29TH JUNE 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Margaret Jepson
Trustee



Judith Houghton
Trustee



Janine Clitheroe
Trustee

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1 General information

The charity is a registered charity and a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

2 Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3 Accounting Policies

- a Basis of preparation - these accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

- b Going concern - the trustees see no material uncertainties concerning the charity's ability to continue in operation.

- c Fund accounting - unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment. Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor and fall into one of two classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

- d Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.

- e Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the trustees estimate of likely receivable amount.

- f Covenants, Gift Aid and other income receivable by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made, is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

3 Accounting Policies (continued)

g Income from legacies is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received or when the trustees are satisfied that the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservative measurable sum.

h Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.

i Costs of generating funds are those incurred in fund raising, publicity and public relations.

j Support costs represent the costs of managing and administering the charity.

k Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Freehold property	At valuation
Fixtures and fittings	4 years
Computers	3 years
Telephony	2 years

l No provision for taxation is included in the accounts as the charity is entitled to the exemption from tax afforded by Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
4 Donations and legacies						
Donations	9,832	0	9,832	14,222	0	14,222
Grants	6,856	3,731	10,587	3,005	2,242	5,247
Legacies	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>262</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>262</u>
	16,688	3,731	20,419	17,489	2,242	19,731
5 Trading Activities						
Fundraising events	6,737	0	6,737	2,830	0	2,830
6 Investment income						
Savings bond interest	<u>894</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>894</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>59</u>
	<u>24,319</u>	<u>3,731</u>	<u>28,050</u>	<u>20,378</u>	<u>2,242</u>	<u>22,620</u>
7 Cost of activities						
Utility costs	1,457	526	1,983	1,984	0	1,984
Canteen and cleaning	2,670	0	2,670	2,543	0	2,543
Repairs and renewals	2,297	0	2,297	591	0	591
Conference and training	3,410	0	3,410	1,401	0	1,401
Travel	4,129	1,050	5,179	3,984	0	3,984
Postage and stationery	354	0	354	425	0	425
Telephones/IT	1,466	424	1,890	2,525	0	2,525
Insurance	1,007	0	1,007	891	0	891
Publicity and recruitment	1,755	4,238	5,993	2,880	0	2,880
NBC fees	19,123	0	19,123	16,133	0	16,133
Depreciation	2,312	0	2,312	4,077	0	4,077
Sundries	1,541	0	1,541	1,891	0	1,891
Fundraising costs	1,220	0	1,220	345	0	345
Schools Project	0	0	0	0	51	51
Listener Anniversary Film	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,500</u>
	<u>42,741</u>	<u>6,238</u>	<u>48,979</u>	<u>47,170</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>47,221</u>

8 Net Income

Net income is stated after charging:
 Depreciation of fixtures and fittings

£2,312

9 Independent Examiners fee

The independent examiner received payment of £100 . No expenses were incurred.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

10 Employee and staff costs

There were no employees during the year and therefore no staff costs.

11 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

None of the charity's trustees were directly or indirectly remunerated in any way. It is the policy of the charity to reimburse in full all expenses properly incurred by its volunteers in connection with its charitable activities.

12 Indemnity Insurance

The Samaritans have centrally provided professional indemnity insurance to protect volunteers, trustees and other volunteer members of all Samaritan branches..

13 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Property £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1st April 2022 and at 31st March 2023	<u>163,257</u>	<u>12,315</u>	<u>175,572</u>
Depreciation			
At 1st April 2022	23,257	9,497	32,754
Charge for the year	<u>0</u>	<u>2,312</u>	<u>2,312</u>
At 31st March 2023	<u>23,257</u>	<u>11,809</u>	<u>35,066</u>
Net Book Value			
At 31st March 2023	<u>140,000</u>	<u>506</u>	<u>140,506</u>

In November 2020 a professional valuation of the property was carried out by T V Shaw Ltd. The valuation resulted in a deficit on cost of £23,257.

SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1170711

Accounts

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Charity Commission Registered No 1170711

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

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YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
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Charity Commission 1170711

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Susan Clarke (ex officio)
Michael Walmsley - resigned 30th September 2021
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15 Carleton Road
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PR6 8TQ

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
TRUSTEES REPORT**

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Structure, Governance and Management

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**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

New Trustees are nominated and seconded by other members and a vote takes place at the Annual General Meeting (or alternatively at an Extraordinary General Meeting) if there are more nominations than vacancies.) All newly appointed trustees attend a formal meeting with the Director and are given a list of Trustee Responsibilities which are fully explained. They also take an online training course created by Samaritans Central Office and are presented with a certificate upon successful completion.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities, which is an annual process.

The Branch Leadership Team feel that as Trustees we have met and overseen our responsibilities in the best interest of all at the Branch.

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are:

To support people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide, to receive confidential emotional support at any time of the day or night in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicide;

To promote a better understanding in society of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings which may otherwise lead to suicide or impaired emotional health; and

To collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity and its affiliated branches in fulfilling these objectives.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Key Objectives

To maintain the service provided by our callers after the difficulties caused by the pandemic.

To provide ongoing support to our volunteers to enable them to continue to support our service.

To continue to recruit volunteers in order to deliver the best possible service.

Headline Performance

Telephone and email services have been maintained and a second online chat shift has been adopted

All volunteers completed digital training modules on Safeguarding and the annual Ongoing Training was held, the first since the pandemic.

There have been three cohorts of volunteers trained during the year, a welcome addition to our total number of volunteers.

Director's Report 2022

This year has seen a return to the more usual service provided by the Branch. All our volunteers who were shielding have returned and are contributing to our service. We continue to provide a listening service by phone, email and online chat. We have yet to return to face to face conversations with visitors and are awaiting advice from Central Charity on the safest way to do this. Pre pandemic this was a small but valuable contribution, with about 50 visitors a year, to members of our community who were in crisis and needed someone to talk to.

Suicide remains the biggest killer of men over 50, particularly those less well off. Economic disadvantages over the past year have also left young adults experiencing feelings of defeat, entrapment, shame and hopelessness. Triggering events for young people were a drop in income during the pandemic, loss of jobs, borrowing money from friends and family, not being able to pay bills and ineligibility for financial support from the government. Whilst national suicide rates did not rise during the pandemic, either nationally or internationally, we must not be complacent in thinking that the pandemic had no effect.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Director's Report 2022 (continued)

Thanks to our excellent Recruitment and Selection and Training teams, we have continued to recruit new volunteers. We have had three new cohorts as we always need to replace those volunteers who have had to resign due to a change in their circumstances. We welcome our new volunteers.

The Samaritans in the North West organised a Regional Conference for Samaritans and we were delighted to send 15 delegates for a weekend of lectures and workshops based very much on the lived experience of some of our callers. We learnt from men who had been suicidal and how to help those who self harmed. We also made our first foray into fancy dress in the evening which gave a different perspective on some of our volunteers and was great fun.

We have begun to again work outside the Branch with partners. We have provided emotional support for employees of Capita and Nightsafe and awareness raising activities at Accrington railway station with colleagues from Network Rail. We were very pleased to support the first Blackburn Pride event where we had a stall and joined in the march.

Our major contribution outside the Branch is the support which we provide for the Listeners in HMP Garth. Nationally there has been a rise in suicides in prisons and as a Branch we have received an increased number of calls from prisoners. During the pandemic, prisoners were locked up for 23 hours a day and although this has eased, there are still restrictions on prisoner movement that causes some distress. We are now back supporting HMP Garth and have trained new Listeners. Thanks to Sue 26 and the prison team for their support of the Listeners and particular thanks to the Listeners who were able to support their fellow prisoners.

We have had a slow return to fundraising activities. Since the pandemic the Lions of Blackburn held the first bonfire for two years and we assisted at the entrance gate. In return we received a large donation from the Lions. Great Harwood Agricultural Show returned and we were able to fundraise and also raise awareness of our service. The Pay for a Day team continue to contact local businesses who contribute annually to support our services. Thanks to Jean 26 and Joan 27 who run this scheme.

This will be the end of my term as a Director and a new Director will take over for their three year term. The Branch can only run with a team of committed members. I would like to thank the Branch Leadership Team for their unstinting help and support. Of course the greatest thanks must go to our extraordinary volunteers who turn up week after week to listen to our callers. We know from research done by Samaritans that over 75% of callers felt better after having spoken to a Samaritan and after three weeks, 70% still felt better. These excellent results are a tribute to all volunteers.

Thank you to all our volunteers. As the publicity states, ordinary people doing extraordinary work.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Financial Review

The Branch has recorded a deficit on unrestricted funds of £26,224 for the year, compared to a surplus of £54,967 in the previous year.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees take into consideration the level of reserves to be held for the prudent management of the operating expenditure, commitments and contingencies of the branch.

In normal circumstances the Trustees aim to hold reserves at a minimum the equivalent to normal operating expenditure over an 18 month period.

However, due to the current world situation and the likelihood of a major recession, the Trustees feel that it would be prudent to hold all reserves indefinitely to meet ongoing operating expenditure only. Until the economic situation improves our previous policy, of making excess reserves available for the benefit of the Samaritan organisation as a whole, will be suspended. The Trustees will review this policy periodically.

Investment Policy

The Trustees have considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds, taking account of the requirement that such investments must be secure and that the value of the capital involved must be maintained. The Trustees feel that the investment in National Savings Income Bonds satisfies these criteria. At 31st March 2022 investments held were £60,000 with interest received during the year of £59 (2021, £505). The charity also has a bank current account which at the year end held £74,511 (2021 £86,086) as well as a Business Reserve Account which held £11,084 (2021 £11,084)

Risk Assessment

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility to assess and manage the risks that face the organisation and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.

Independent Examiner

A resolution to appoint Reverend Alan A Clements as independent examiner will be put to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on

and signed on its behalf by

Margaret Jepson
Director

Jane Houghton-Fenning
Trustee

Jayne Leek
Trustee

The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley
105 New Park Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB2 1DF

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Blackburn with
Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley**

I report on the financial statements of The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley for the year ended 31st March 2022 which comprise the statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required. It is my responsibility to:

- 1) examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- 2) to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 3) 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 Commissioners. 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 you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which 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 2011 Act; and
to prepare accounts which accord to the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.
have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion should be drawn in order to enable the proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Rev'd Alan A Clements
15 Carleton Road, Great Knowley, Chorley, PR6 8TQ
Dated

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

		2022	2022	2022	2021	2021	2021
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Income and endowments							
Donations, grants and legacies	4	17,489	2,242	19,731	106,828	9,186	116,014
Trading activities	5	2,830	0	2,830	6,772	0	6,772
Investment income	6	<u>59</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>505</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>505</u>
Total income		20,378	2,242	22,620	114,105	9,186	123,291
Expenditure	7	<u>47,170</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>47,221</u>	<u>59,138</u>	<u>8,220</u>	<u>67,358</u>
Net (expenditure)/ income and net movement of funds		<u>(26,792)</u>	<u>2,191</u>	<u>(24,601)</u>	<u>54,967</u>	<u>966</u>	<u>55,933</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (Loss)/income	(24,601)	55,933
Adjustments for depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4,077	26,556
Changes in:		
Debtors and prepayments	1,190	(1,763)
Creditors and accruals	7,667	(9,292)
Purchase of fixed assets	0	(8,538)
Net cash movements	<u>(11,667)</u>	<u>62,896</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and equivalents	(11,667)	62,896
Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year	<u>97,585</u>	<u>34,689</u>
Cash and equivalents at the end of the year	<u>85,918</u>	<u>97,585</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

	NOTE	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	13		142,818		146,895
Investments					
National Savings Income Bonds			60,000		60,000
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments		1,262		2,452	
Business reserve account		11,084		11,084	
Cash at bank		74,511		86,086	
Cash in hand		<u>323</u>		<u>415</u>	
		87,180		100,037	
Current liabilities					
Sundry creditors and accruals		682		492	
NBC accrual		<u>16,137</u>		<u>8,660</u>	
Net current assets			70,361		90,885
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>273,179</u>		<u>297,780</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds			3,157		966
Unrestricted income funds			<u>270,022</u>		<u>296,814</u>
			<u>273,179</u>		<u>297,780</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

Approved by the Board of Trustees on

and signed on its behalf by:

Margaret Jepson
Director

Jane Houghton-Fenning
Trustee

Jayne Leek
Trustee

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

1 General information

The charity is a registered charity and a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

2 Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3 Accounting Policies

- a Basis of preparation - these accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.
- b Going concern - the trustees see no material uncertainties concerning the charity's ability to continue in operation.
- c Fund accounting - unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment. Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor and fall into one of two classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.
- d Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.
- e Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the trustees estimate of likely receivable amount.
- f Covenant, Gift Aid and other income receivable by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made, is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

3 Accounting Policies (continued)

- g Income from legacies is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received or when the trustees are satisfied that the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservative measurable sum.
- h Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.
- i Costs of generating funds are those incurred in fund raising, publicity and public relations.
- j Support costs represent the costs of managing and administering the charity.
- k Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:
- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Freehold property | At valuation |
| Fixtures and fittings | 4 years |
| Computers | 3 years |
| Telephony | 2 years |
- l No provision for taxation is included in the accounts as the charity is entitled to the exemption from tax afforded by Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

	2022	2022	2022	2021	2021	2021
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
4 Donations and legacies						
Donations	14,222	0	14,222	18,967	0	18,967
Grants	3,005	2,242	5,247	19,327	9,186	28,513
Legacies	<u>262</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>262</u>	<u>68,534</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>68,534</u>
	17,489	2,242	19,731	106,828	9,186	116,014
5 Trading Activities						
Fundraising events	2,830	0	2,830	6,772	0	6,772
6 Investment income						
Savings bond interest	<u>59</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>505</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>505</u>
	<u>20,378</u>	<u>2,242</u>	<u>22,620</u>	<u>114,105</u>	<u>9,186</u>	<u>123,291</u>
7 Cost of activities						
Utility costs	1,984	0	1,984	2,163	0	2,163
Canteen and cleaning	2,543	0	2,543	2,671	0	2,671
Repairs and renewals	591	0	591	104	0	104
Training and travel	5,385	0	5,385	2,211	0	2,211
Postage and stationery	425	0	425	936	0	936
Telephones/IT	2,525	0	2,525	1,876	0	1,876
Insurance	891	0	891	820	0	820
Publicity	2,312	0	2,312	999	0	999
NBC fees	16,133	0	16,133	8,750	0	8,750
Depreciation	4,077	0	4,077	3,299	0	3,299
Sundries	1,891	0	1,891	1,436	0	1,436
Fundraising costs	345	0	345	663	0	663
Recruitment costs	568	0	568	0	0	0
Property revaluation deficit	0	0	0	23,257	0	23,257
Schools Project	0	51	51	0	8,220	8,220
Schools Year 11 Animation	0	0	0	9,953	0	9,953
Listener Anniversary Film	<u>7,500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>47,170</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>47,221</u>	<u>59,138</u>	<u>8,220</u>	<u>67,358</u>

8 Net Income

Net income is stated after charging:

Depreciation of fixtures and fittings	4077	3299
Property revaluation deficit	<u>0</u>	<u>23257</u>
	<u>4077</u>	<u>26556</u>

9 Independent Examiners fee

The independent examiner received payment of £100 . No expenses were incurred.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

10 Employee and staff costs

There were no employees during the year and therefore no staff costs.

11 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

None of the charity's trustees were directly or indirectly remunerated in any way. It is the policy of the charity to reimburse in full all expenses properly incurred by its volunteers in connection with its charitable activities.

12 Indemnity Insurance

The Samaritans has centrally provided professional indemnity insurance to protect volunteers, trustees and other volunteer members of all Samaritan branches..

13 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Property	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1st April 2021 and at 31st March 2022	<u>163,257</u>	<u>12,315</u>	<u>175,572</u>
Depreciation			
At 1st April 2021	23,257	5,420	28,677
Charge for the year	<u>0</u>	<u>4,077</u>	<u>4,077</u>
At 31st March 2022	<u>23,257</u>	<u>9,497</u>	<u>32,754</u>
Net Book Value			
At 31st March 2022	<u>140,000</u>	<u>2,818</u>	<u>142,818</u>

In November 2020 a professional valuation of the property was carried out by T V Shaw Ltd. The valuation resulted in a deficit on cost of £23,257.

SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY

England & Wales - Charity number 1170711

Accounts

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Charity Commission Registered No 1170711

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

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**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

The principal objective of the charity is to provide assistance to individuals who are suicidal, despairing or in distress and to advance education by providing society with a better understanding of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings that may lead to suicide.

Charity Commission 1170711

Trustees Margaret Jepson
Monica Devlin
Paula Fairbairn
Laura Hughes - resigned 31st March 2021
Susan Clarke (ex officio)
Michael Walmsley
David Yates - resigned 1st October 2020
Janine Clitheroe - appointed 1st October 2020
Jayne Leek - appointed 1st October 2020
Jane Houghton-Fenning - appointed 1st April 2021

Registered address 105 New Park Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB2 1DF

Bankers Natwest Bank
35 King William Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB1 7DL

Independent Examiner Rev'd Alan A Clements
15 Carleton Road
Great Knowley
Chorley
PR6 8TQ

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021
TRUSTEES REPORT**

The Trustees of The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley have pleasure in presenting their Report and unaudited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2021. The legal and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The Financial Statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires trustees to prepare statements of account for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2000. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley is a branch of the national Samaritans organisation but is a separate registered charity with independent management.

The governing body is the Branch Leadership Team, led by Margaret Jepson from June 2019, with 6 trustees elected at the Annual General Meeting by members of the branch and 2 trustees selected by the Director by virtue of their office holding responsibilities in the Branch. The Trustees of the branch have met 8 times during this financial year to discuss Branch Leadership matters. For each of the meetings the Director and Secretary produced an agenda. Each agenda included items for discussion on finance, health and safety, risk management, publicity, fundraising, recruitment and prison matters.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

New trustees are nominated and seconded by other members and a vote takes place at the Annual General Meeting (or alternatively at an Extraordinary General Meeting) if there are more nominations than vacancies. All newly appointed trustees attend a formal meeting with the Director and are given a list of Trustee Responsibilities which are fully explained. They also take an online training course created by Samaritans Central Office and are presented with a certificate upon successful completion.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities, which is an annual process.

The Branch Leadership Team feel that as Trustees we have met and overseen our responsibilities in the best interest of all at the Branch.

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are:

To support people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide, to receive confidential emotional support at any time of the day or night in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicide;

To promote a better understanding in society of suicide, suicidal behaviour and the value of expressing feelings which may otherwise lead to suicide or impaired emotional health; and

To collaborate with and support Samaritans Central Charity and its affiliated branches in fulfilling these objectives.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Key Objectives

To maintain the service provided by our callers during the difficulties caused by the pandemic.

To provide ongoing support to our volunteers to enable them to continue to support our service.

To continue to train and develop volunteers in order to deliver the best possible service.

Headline Performance

The Branch was able to not only maintain our service but also to implement the pilot service of online chat.

Volunteers who were isolating or shielding stayed in contact with the Branch and returned to duties when they were able.

Two training courses were completed during the year

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Trustees Report 2021

This has been a difficult year, ruled by responses to the pandemic. On the positive side, the Branch continued to support callers by phone and email. Callers needed support for the emotional stress of everyday life events as well as the effects of the pandemic. Our callers were in line with the findings of Samaritans research with the University of Glasgow. Coronavirus and its effects were a specific concern to about 22% of our callers. Isolation and loneliness affected many callers with increasing concerns for family members as the pandemic went on. Those with mental health diagnosis found the conditions particularly difficult, with an increase in suicidal thoughts and talked in their calls about reduced access to the mental health support they previously used, the loss of community support and difficulties in contacting GPs and key workers. Young people struggled with family tensions, lack of peer support and negativity towards their future prospects. Calls from prisoners have increased as they were forced to spend more time in their cells, had reduced activities, reduced visits and little or no access to the Listeners. The Branch supports HMP Garth but has not been able to visit the prison during the last year.

Our volunteers are to be applauded for the support they were able to provide and continue to provide. Some volunteers continue to shield in their own homes and the Branch is at about 90% of our total pre-pandemic level of listening volunteers who continue to provide the service.

The Recruitment, Selection and Training teams adapted and used digital resources to ensure that training continued to enable new Samaritans to join the Branch.

We introduced a new service, on line chat. The Branch is part of a pilot scheme for Samaritans to provide this new form of support. Thanks to the enthusiasm of our volunteers the Branch has trained volunteers in this new approach and now has two dedicated shifts for this service.

The community events in which the Branch usually participates have been cancelled and fundraising has been severely curtailed. Fortunately, the Branch received three legacies and some grants for charities and this has meant that we were able to comfortably sustain our service.

This has been a demanding year during which our volunteers responded to the challenge by not only continuing to provide our service but also by expanding the services offered. The Branch is a volunteer only organisation and all are to be commended for their outstanding contribution over this year.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Financial Review

The Branch has recorded a surplus on unrestricted funds of £54,967 for the year, compared to a surplus of £25,129 in the previous year.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees take into consideration the level of reserves to be held for the prudent management of the operating expenditure, commitments and contingencies of the branch. Due to the uncertainty of restrictions caused by Covid 19, reserves need to be maintained at a level which ensures that core activity can continue during this period of unforeseen difficulty. In normal circumstances the Trustees aim to hold reserves at a minimum the equivalent to normal operating expenditure over an 18 month period. However, due to the current uncertainty the Trustees feel that it will be prudent to hold reserves sufficient to cover normal operating expenditure over a 3 year period. Should reserves materially exceed the 3 year period, the trustees will consider making the excess available for the benefit of the Samaritans organisation as a whole. The Trustees will review this policy periodically.

Investment Policy

The Trustees have considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds, taking account of the requirement that such investments must be secure and that the value of the capital involved must be maintained. The trustees feel that the investment in National Savings Income Bonds satisfies these criteria. At 31st March 2021 investments held were £60,000 with interest received during the year of £505 (2020, £692). The charity also has a bank current account which at the year end held £86,086 (2020 £23,488) as well as a Business Reserve Account which held £11,084 (2020 £11,079)

Risk Assessment

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility to assess and manage the risks that face the organisation and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.

Independent Examiner

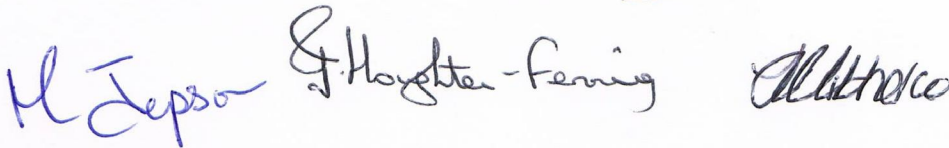
A resolution to appoint Rev'd Alan A Clements as independent examiner will be put to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021
TRUSTEES REPORT**

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on ~~3rd SEPTEMBER~~ ²⁰²¹ and signed on its behalf by



Margaret Jepson
Director

Jane Houghton-Fenning
Trustee

Janine Clitheroe
Trustee

The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley
105 New Park Street
Blackburn
Lancashire
BB2 1DF

**THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Samaritans of Blackburn with
Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley**

I report on the financial statements of The Samaritans of Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley for the year ended 31st March 2021 which comprise the statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- 1) examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- 2) to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 3) 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 Commissioners. 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which 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 2011 Act; and
to prepare accounts which accord to the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.
have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion should be drawn in order to enable the proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Alan A. Clements.

Rev'd Alan A Clements Fellow Association of Charity Independent Examiners.
15 Carleton Road, Great Knowley, Chorley, PR6 8TQ

Dated 13th. September 2021

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

		2021	2021	2021	2020
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
		Funds	Funds		Unrestricted
		£	£	£	£
	Note				
Income and endowments					
Donations, grants and legacies	4	110,865	9,186	120,051	49,927
Trading activities	5	2,735	0	2,735	6,724
Investment income	6	<u>505</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>505</u>	<u>692</u>
Total income		114,105	<u>9,186</u>	123,291	57,343
Expenditure	7	<u>59,138</u>	<u>8,220</u>	<u>67,358</u>	<u>32,214</u>
Net income and net movement of funds		<u>54,967</u>	<u>966</u>	<u>55,933</u>	<u>25,129</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	55,933	25,129
Adjustments for depreciation of tangible fixed assets	26,556	1,594
Changes in:		
Debtors and prepayments	(1,763)	247
Creditors and accruals	(9,292)	4,762
Purchase of fixed assets	(8,538)	(98,811)
Net cash movements	<u>62,896</u>	<u>(67,079)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and equivalents	62,896	(67,079)
Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year	<u>34,689</u>	<u>101,768</u>
Cash and equivalents at the end of the year	<u>97,585</u>	<u>34,689</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

	NOTE	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	13		146895		164.913
Investments					
National Savings Income Bonds			60,000		60,000
Current assets					
Debtors and prepayments		2452		689	
Business reserve account		11084		11079	
Cash at bank		86086		23488	
Cash in hand		<u>415</u>		<u>122</u>	
		100,037		35,378	
Current liabilities					
Sundry creditors and accruals		492		12,260	
NBC accrual		<u>8,660</u>		<u>6,184</u>	
Net current assets			90,885		16,934
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>297,780</u>		<u>241,847</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds			966		0
Unrestricted income funds			<u>296,814</u>		<u>241,847</u>
			<u>297,780</u>		<u>241,847</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 15 form part of these financial statements

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 3RD SEPTEMBER 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Margaret Jepson
Director



Jane Houghton-Fenning
Trustee



Janine Clitheroe
Trustee

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

1 General information

The charity is a registered charity and a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

2 Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland, the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3 Accounting Policies

- a Basis of preparation - these accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.
- b Going concern - the trustees see no material uncertainties concerning the charity's ability to continue in operation.
- c Fund accounting - unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for a particular future project or commitment. Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor and fall into one of two classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.
- d Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Gifts in kind are valued and brought in as income and the appropriate expenditure.
- e Gross fundraising income from events organised by the charity itself is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Where deemed material, fundraising proceeds not yet received by the charity at the year end have also been taken to income at the trustees estimate of likely receivable amount.
- f Covenant, Gift Aid and other income receivable by the charity in respect of which a claim for repayment of tax has or will be made, is grossed up for the tax recoverable and this gross amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020

3 Accounting Policies (continued)

g Income from legacies is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received or when the trustees are satisfied that the charity has a legally enforceable right of receipt of a conservative measurable sum.

h Revenue grants for immediate financial support and assistance are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities on receipt and on satisfaction of any preconditions.

i Costs of generating funds are those incurred in fund raising, publicity and public relations.

j Support costs represent the costs of managing and administering the charity.

k Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets of material value held by the charity for its own use on a straight line basis so as to write off their cost over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Freehold property	At valuation
Fixtures and fittings	4 years
Computers	3 years
Telephony	2 years

l No provision for taxation is included in the accounts as the charity is entitled to the exemption from tax afforded by Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	2021	2021	2021	2020
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
	£	£	£	£
4 Donations and legacies				
Donations	18,967	0	18,967	11,340
Grants	19,327	9,186	28,513	38,587
Legacies	<u>68,534</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>68,534</u>	<u>0</u>
	106,828	9,186	116,014	49,927
5 Trading Activities				
Fundraising events	6,772	0	6,772	6,724
6 Investment income				
Savings bond interest	<u>505</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>505</u>	<u>692</u>
	<u>114,105</u>	<u>9,186</u>	<u>123,291</u>	<u>57,343</u>
7 Cost of activities				
Utility costs	2,163	0	2,163	2,265
Canteen and cleaning	2,671	0	2,671	2,092
Repairs and renewals	104	0	104	854
Training and travel	2,211	0	2,211	7,106
Postage and stationery	936	0	936	284
Telephones/IT	1,876	0	1,876	3,377
Insurance	820	0	820	824
Publicity	999	0	999	3,743
NBC fees	8,750	0	8,750	7,909
Depreciation	3,299	0	3,299	1,594
Parking permits and sundries	1,436	0	1,436	1,716
Fundraising costs	663	0	663	450
Property revaluation deficit	23,257	0	23,257	0
Schools Project	0	8,220	8,220	0
Schools Year 11 Animation	<u>9,953</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9,953</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>59,138</u>	<u>8,220</u>	<u>67,358</u>	<u>32,214</u>
8 Net Income				
Net income is stated after charging:				
Depreciation of fixtures and fittings			3299	1594
Property revaluation deficit			<u>23257</u>	<u>0</u>
			<u>26556</u>	<u>1594</u>
9 Independent Examiners fee				
The independent examiner received payment of £100 . No expenses were incurred.				

THE SAMARITANS OF BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN, HYNDBURN AND RIBBLE VALLEY
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

10 Employee and staff costs

There were no employees during the year and therefore no staff costs.

11 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

None of the charity's trustees were directly or indirectly remunerated in any way. It is the policy of the charity to reimburse in full all expenses properly incurred by its volunteers in connection with its charitable activities.

12 Indemnity Insurance

The Samaritans has centrally provided professional indemnity insurance to protect volunteers, trustees and other volunteer members of all Samaritan branches..

13 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold Property £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1st April 2020	159,903	7,131	167,034
Additions	<u>3,354</u>	<u>5,184</u>	<u>8,538</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>163,257</u>	<u>12,315</u>	<u>175,572</u>
Depreciation			
At 1st April 2020	0	2,121	2,121
Charge for the year	<u>0</u>	<u>3,299</u>	<u>3,299</u>
Revaluation deficit	<u>23,257</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>23,257</u>
At 31st March 2021	<u>23,257</u>	<u>5,420</u>	<u>28,677</u>
Net Book Value			
At 31st March 2021	<u>140,000</u>	<u>6,895</u>	<u>146,895</u>

In November 2020 a professional valuation of the property was carried out by T V Shaw Ltd. The valuation resulted in a deficit on cost of £23,257 which has been included in these accounts.