



Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st March 2023

Samaritans of Bracknell, Wokingham, Ascot & Districts

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st March 2023

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Trustees

Mrs Barbara Ann Denyer

Mr Nicholas John Tuggey (Resigned 24 November 2022)

Mrs Katherine Veronica Parsons

Mr John David Williams

Mr James David Reid

Ms Cathrine Deborah Wratten (Appointed 21 December 2022)

Principal Office

Hope Cottage
2 Mount Pleasant
Bracknell
Berkshire
RG12 9AD

Bankers

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

Independent Examiners

Mr. M. T. Harrison
1 Cheshire Park
Warfield
Bracknell
RG42 3XA

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1 Status and Administration

Samaritans of Bracknell, Wokingham, Ascot & Districts is a registered charity. The registered number is 1170901.

Trustees

The following persons acted as trustees during the accounting period.

Name

Mr Nicholas John Tuggey (Resigned 24 November 2022)

Mr John David Williams

Mrs Katherine Veronica Parsons

Mrs Barbara Ann Denyer

Mr James David Reid

Ms Cathrine Deborah Wratten (21 December 2022)

2 Structure, governance and management

The charity, Samaritans of Bracknell, Wokingham, Ascot and Districts, is a branch of a national organisation called Samaritans, a company limited by guarantee and incorporated under the Companies Act 1948 on 11th April 1963, whose registered office is at The Upper Mill, Kingston Road, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AF.

The governing document of the charity is the Samaritan branch model constitution amended in December 2016 and adopted by the members on 14th June 2018.

Trustees are elected by members of the charity.

3 Objects and Activities

The objects of the charity, as set out in the constitution, are to work for the assistance of persons who are suicidal, despairing or in distress.

In order to further the above objectives, the charity provides a service primarily intended for the benefit of persons in Bracknell, Wokingham, Ascot and the surrounding area (but without specific limitations as to area) to enable such persons to receive immediate help, compassion and befriending from members of the charity selected and prepared for the purpose working under direction; and also where appropriate in accordance with Samaritan procedure, referral to persons having specialist skills; and to support Samaritans (i.e. the national charity) and aid in the establishment and support of probationary branches and the support of recognised branches of Samaritans.

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

4. Achievements and performance

The branch received 16,606 contacts during the year that ended 31st Dec 22.

As usual three recruitment and training courses for new Samaritans were run and currently there are 92 listening volunteers and 15 support volunteers working together to provide emotional support by telephone for those callers who need it.

The branch leadership team met regularly through the year to agree on necessary maintenance of the building, and the purchase of new equipment. The team uses regular financial reports to inform these decisions and to respond to other requests for funds, for example, for publicity materials and for training courses.

After Covid restrictions lifted we were able to resume fundraising events, in the form of our Samaritan Run, supermarket tin collections, Wokingham Theatre event, which are all opportunities to raise funds and promote the work carried out by our volunteers. Our Samaritan Run had several corporate sponsors, which enabled us to cover some of the costs incurred.

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We have been able to raise the charity's profile in the local community by attending local schools and colleges. We joined volunteers in another branch, Reading to support our presence at a music festival.

5. Financial Review

- a) **Unrestricted Funds:** Details of the breakdown of expenditure are given in the accounts. All of the funds have been applied for the purpose of the day to day running of a Samaritans branch. The main sources of income are the fund raising events when permitted, grants, donations, collections and various initiatives by the volunteers. The fund stands at £88,154.
- b) **Designated fund:** This fund arose from fund raising Theatre evening. Funds will be allocated to branch improvements.
- c) **Availability of funds:** Apart from the Premises Capital Reserve, which is held in the form of freehold property revalued at £225,000 at the end of 2000, all other funds are held in cash or cash equivalents. The trustees consider that the charity has sufficient funds to carry out its objectives.
- d) **Policy on reserves:** All surplus funds are invested in bank accounts principally with the Charities Aid Foundation.

6. Trustees Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year that properly present the charity's receipts and payments during the year and its assets and liabilities at the end of the year. In preparing those statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Make judgements that are reasonable and prudent
- 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 proper accounting records which enable them to ensure that the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities comply with the Charities Act 2006. 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.

Approved on behalf of the Trustees on 29 November 2023

J D Williams
Trustee

Mrs B A Denyer
Trustee

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Samaritans of Bracknell, Wokingham, Ascot and Districts.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period end 31 March 2023 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustee and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act: and
- State whether particular matters come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act: and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting recordshave not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mike Harrison
Independant examiner
1 Cheshire Park,
Warfield,
Bracknell,
Berkshire RG42 3XA
Date:- 30 November 2023

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Receipts and Payments

Receipts	31/03/2023			31/03/2022
	Unrestricted	Designated	Total	
Donations	13,749		13,749	13,087
Collections	115		115	991
Henley Coral Society	-		-	
Grant from head office			-	
National Lottery			-	
Sams Run	13,245		13,245	3,750
Wokingham Theatre		2,948	2,948	345
Clothes sale			-	
Other	97		97	134
Interest	527		527	39
	27,732	2,948	30,680	18,346

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Payments					
Direct charitable expenditure					
Fund raising expenses	8,233		8,233		329
Telephone/Internet	1,132		1,132		1,129
Meetings and training	1,793		1,793		556
Domestic and welfare	807		807		147
Publicity	530		530		75
Printing and stationery	1,087		1,087		477
	13,582	-	13,582		2,713
Management and administration expenses					
Water, Gas and electricity	3,988		3,988		1,521
Building Maintenance	2,043		2,043		4,094
Travel Expenses	500		500		54
Cleaning	1,751		1,751		3,369
Insurance	1,099		1,099		968
Valuation fees	-		-		900
Furniture and equipment	333		333		438
BAD Contribution	20,891		20,891		913
Miscellaneous	1,427		1,427		473
Bank Charges	92		92		96
	32,124	-	32,124		12,826
Total Payments	45,706	-	45,706		15,539
Surplus (Deficit) for the year	(17,974)	2,948	(15,026)		2,807
Funds at 1 April 2022	103,180	-	103,180		100,373
Funds at 31 March 2023	85,206	2,948	88,154		103,180

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Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fixed asset		
Freehold property	225,000	225,000
Cash Funds		
Current and deposit accounts	88,154	103,180
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	313,154	328,180
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Represented by:		
Funds		
Unrestricted funds	85,206	103,180
Designated Funds	2,948	-
Property revaluation fund	225,000	225,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	313,154	328,180
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The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were approved on 29 November 2023

J D Williams

Trustee

Mrs B A Denyer

Trustee

Samaritans of Bracknell, Wokingham, Ascot & Districts

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1. The financial statements are prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with those aspects of the SORP: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2005, and other accounting standards, which apply to accounts following a Receipts and Payments format.
2. Voluntary income relating to donations, grants and legacies is included when received.
3. Freehold premises were re-valued at £225,000 on 20th December 2000. Subsequent expenditure has been written off as incurred. In accordance with the constitution, title to the branch premises is registered in the name of The Samaritans (Company Registration Number 757372).
4. Equipment expenditure is written off as incurred during the year.
5. Gift Aid and covenanted income received excludes the associated tax repayment due to the charity. The tax repayment is shown in the year in which it is received.