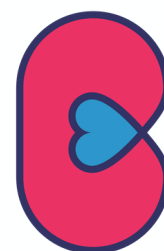




b:friend Annual Report

Nov-22/Oct-23



b:friend

Norah & Harvir

“



Norah: “I feel that my life has become richer since I have a befriender. It becomes richer the more people you know, and are in touch with, and it widens your horizons. I feel better having contact with other people, everyone needs that. It is nice to be interested in others, and have someone else who is interested in you.”

Harvir: “Norah has not only given me amazing friendship these past few months but has shared wisdom, knowledge and compassion in such a unique way. I'm really lucky to have become friends with Norah.”

Norah: “It clicked so easily with him, he is so easy to be with. I was a bit nervous at first, what if I didn't have anything in common with a younger man? But Harvir is lovely. I feel he is not just doing this out of duty, but a true friendship developed between us.”

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A message from our CEO

As I reflect on the past year at b:friend, I can't help but feel incredibly proud of what we've achieved together. Taking the reins as CEO in 2022 from Mike, b:friend's founder, has been quite the journey, and I've loved every minute of it.

This incredibly passionate and creative team have been a real pleasure to get to know and I'm in awe of them for their tireless commitment to the cause. I've met so many volunteers who are the backbone of our organisation, dedicating their time and energy to building connections and fostering friendships. Their kindness has made a world of difference in our community, and I'm endlessly grateful for their dedication.

Getting to know our older neighbours over countless cups of tea has been a real privilege. Hearing their stories has really brought home the profound impact of b:friend. It's also opened my eyes to the societal issues they face – from loneliness and isolation to health challenges and beyond.

Stories are what b:friend is built on. Some of them are included in this report, along with a handful of stats and updates that hopefully give you an idea of what we've been up to and the successes and challenges that the last year has presented.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has been a part of our journey this past year – our volunteers, staff, supporters, and partners. Your generosity and support have been invaluable, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to work alongside each and every one of you. Here's to another year of friendship, connection, and positive change.

Cheers,

Colette Bunker, Chief Executive Officer of b:friend



Vision Mission Values

Vision

At b:friend, our vision is a world where all older neighbours can connect, laugh and inspire others every day.

Loneliness sucks, and we want to help end it. For older people, loneliness is something that doesn't happen overnight, it creeps up on you. It's influenced by life events such as deteriorating health, decreased mobility and the passing away of partners and friends. Having no family close by and having to stop driving (from health or confidence issues) can also lead to an older person spending more time alone in their home. 42% of people over 65 live alone. This is set to rise to over 50% by 2041 (ONS data).

Loneliness can lead to depression, coronary disease, weaker immune systems and dementia – it's as bad for your health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day. Not only do we want older people to live longer and healthier lives, we want them to have fun! So we don't take life too seriously and we make sure to challenge stereotypes when it comes to ageing. We also believe that society is missing out on the stories and experiences that older people have to offer. Reconnecting isolated people with their community can lead to younger generations gaining insights and wisdom from their older neighbours.



Vision Mission Values

Mission

Our mission? To facilitate meaningful friendships and enjoyable connections between people and communities



We want to reignite that spark of joy in older people that they may have lost along the way, something that only true friendships can do. So we're not time-limited and we never charge for friendship. That way, both older neighbours and befrienders know that their connection is genuine and long lasting. Real friendship and social connection can create a sense of self-worth, build confidence and resilience and improve mental and physical wellbeing. In many cases, **friendship really can save lives.**

Values

Our values are at the heart of everything we do.

We are...





FUN

No two weeks are the same with b:friend. We celebrate later years and we know from experience that being old in body doesn't mean being old in mindset. Mental wellbeing is our priority, having something to look forward to and having a good old giggle should be something everyone can enjoy.



BOLD

We challenge the stigma around ageing; bingo is banned at b:friend. We'd much rather be cheerleading, boxing or exploring exotic cultures. We never sit still, we are constantly thinking up new, innovative ideas and ways of making older people's lives richer.

DOWN-TO-EARTH

We are firmly rooted in the local community and everything we do is with a strong sense of place. Being led by our community anchors us to our purpose. You'll see no fancy business speak here, we say what we mean and we mean what we say.



EMBRACING

Friendship is for everyone and everyone is welcome at b:friend. We strive to break down divisions created by age, heritage, digital skills and social norms and make sure people feel comfortable to be themselves.

PASSIONATE

The cause drives us and we believe in it whole heartedly. We always have the voice and the best interests of our older neighbours in mind, but you'll never hear us use the word 'beneficiary'. Our older neighbours give as much joy and value back to their befrienders and their communities as they receive.



WHAT WE DO

A year in numbers

by the end of FY 22/23 we have delivered...



34,440

Volunteering hours



11

Social Clubs benefiting

169

older neighbours per week

528

Social Club sessions where no two weeks are the same (that's over 1000 hours of laughter yoga, ballet, neurobics, mandala art, murder mysteries, drumming, boxing, curling and armchair travels to Croatia, Egypt and Hungary...plus hundreds more fun sessions!)

694

Active friendships (That's over

36,000

cuppas!)



2,619

Friendships created since inception



181

New pairings



WHAT WE DO

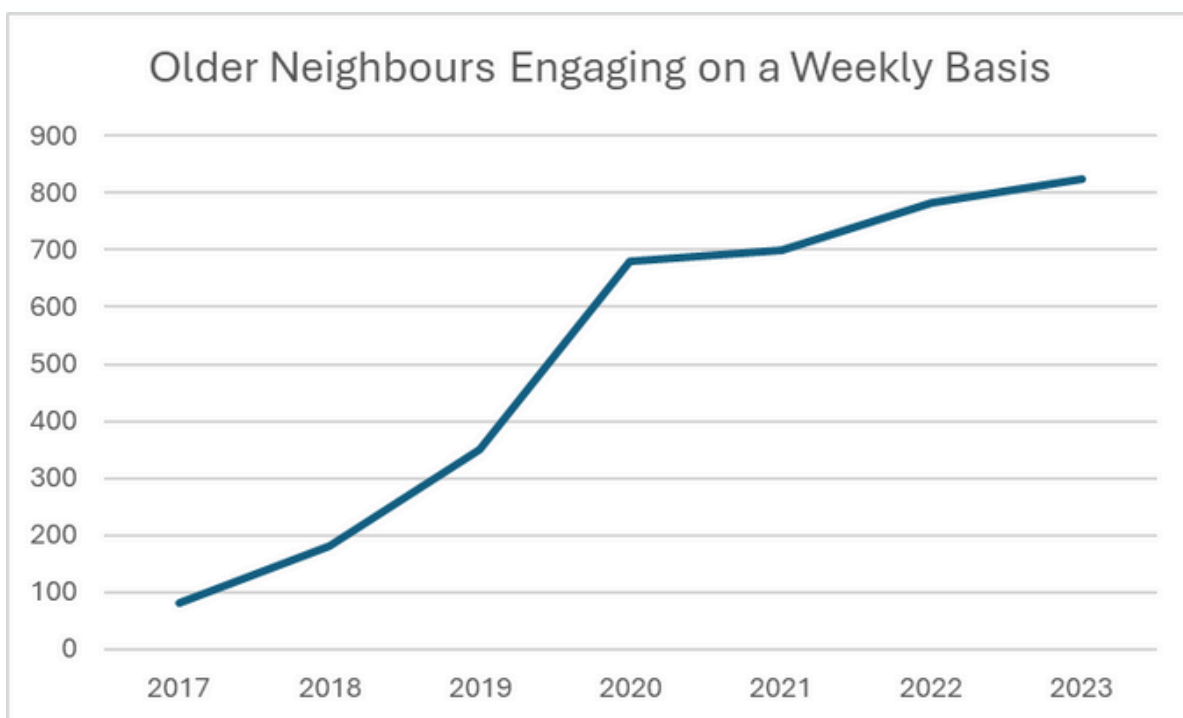
A year in numbers



825

older neighbours engaging on a weekly basis

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
80	180	350	680	700	782	825



Our focus for 22/23

Our strategic focus for 22/23 was two-fold:



1

Futureproofing Infrastructure

B:friend has grown year on year in terms of both turnover and number of people supported. This year our focus was to ensure that all our systems, processes, policies and procedures were robust and fit for purpose as we grow. We have focused on safeguarding in particular through new training, policies and processes and set ourselves a target to appropriately respond to all serious incidents within one working day. We have also made changes to our team roles and structure in order to create capacity for growth.

2

Service Design

B:friend has a focused offering; one to one friendships and Social Clubs. Because of this simplicity, we have the capacity to really master our approach to creating community connection. This year we spent time as an organisation distilling down our 'recipes for success' as well as experimenting with different delivery models such as volunteer-led Social Clubs, online Social Clubs and blended telephone/face to face befriending to ensure we remain flexible and can adapt to differing needs. Our focus on service design also included the formation of our 'Friends of b:friend' consultation group to guide us in our work and keep us focused on our ultimate goals. We have also put new impact measurement processes in place in order to become more evidence based and data-driven as an organisation.

HIGHLIGHTS



Expansion

A hugely successful partnership with Strata as their Charity of the Year, led to an incredible fundraising total of £145,000 raised by Strata's staff, suppliers, family and friends. The funds raised have helped b:friend take the first steps to expanding into the new region of Nottinghamshire, with the aim of changing the lives of 126 older neighbours in the region within the first year.

New Clubs

We identified a need and demand for a new Club in Askern, Doncaster, this year, and we also launched our first ever volunteer-led Club in Chesterfield, a model that we want to replicate in all the areas we work in to reach even more isolated people. Both Clubs have gone from strength to strength, and this means 30 more older neighbours can benefit from weekly activities and social connection. By the end of the year, we were also preparing to launch our first online Social Club, partnering with other organisations that could offer digital inclusion training and referrals.



HIGHLIGHTS

Innovative projects



We often hear from our older neighbours that they feel overlooked, ignored and invisible in their community, so a few years ago b:friend created a theatre show called '**b:heard**', where we hire out a local theatre and paying audiences are regaled with tales and adventures from some of our older neighbours. This year we had a sold-out show and the stories were captured for posterity by Heritage Doncaster.



We also experimented with a project called '**b:seen**', an equivalent for those with artistic skills, where we held a month long exhibition of their works in the lobby of a local theatre and held a launch party. Participants in these events said they felt valued, 'seen' and one b:heard performer said they felt like a 'rock star for the night'.

Thanks to Temasek, a corporate partner, we were also able to launch our '**buck-it**' project, where older neighbours could choose to do something they never thought they would get a chance to do in later life. Outings included a glider flight 2000ft above the Peak District, a trip to Ru Paul's Drag Race Live, and afternoon tea on a London Bus.



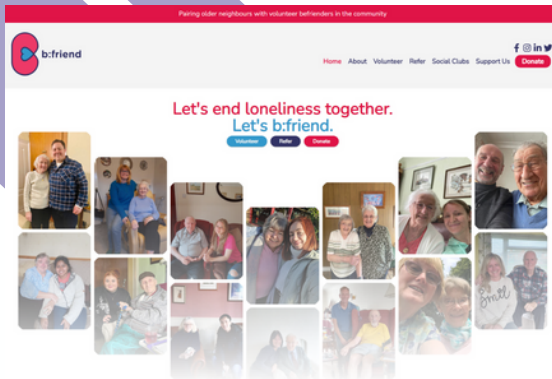
"I had an amazing day at the Gliding Club. It was fantastic! It's been exactly 70 years since I'd flown as a schoolboy in the Air Training Corps.

(John, buck-it project participant)



HIGHLIGHTS

New Website



This year, we launched a shiny new website with the aim of providing seamless user journeys for volunteers, referrers and supporters. Thanks to input from our 'Friends of b:friend' consultation panel, we have content designed by and for older neighbours who visit our site. We also now have dynamic content where our community can keep up to date and involved with everything we're up to.

Let's party!

Another first for b:friend, thanks to funding from TNLCF: Awards for All, we could bring all 160 Social Club members together in one room to celebrate the King's Coronation.

It's really good to have a chance to celebrate with people of your own age. There was a singer, and it is surprising how older people like to get into the swing of things. It takes years off you, really.

(Older neighbour Terry about the Coronation Party)



CHALLENGES

It hasn't all been plain sailing but we believe the work we have put in this year has, and will continue to, allow us to adapt to challenges as they occur.



Cost of living crisis



This year we have made great efforts to respond to the widescale impact of the cost of living crisis. Our Social Clubs moved beyond a place to have fun each week, and became a vital source of warmth and sustenance, especially through the winter months. We benefited from our close-knit networks in the public, private and voluntary sectors in various ways; some came along to our Social Clubs and gave talks on keeping a warm home, budgeting and how to make sure you're claiming all the benefits you're entitled to. Others we knew had services we could signpost to for the most vulnerable. Thanks to cost-of-living specific funding, in certain instances we could provide warm food and supermarket vouchers to help ease the pressure on our older neighbours. We now have a model of support that we can replicate in future years.

Fundraising Environment

We are incredibly grateful to our supporters this year, in particular our friends at Strata and all those who fundraised with them for what has been a record year for income at b:friend. That said, as we look ahead, with the increased costs that come with organisational growth and high inflation, and as the fundraising environment continues to get more competitive, sustainability has never been more important at b:friend. We want to be around sparking new friendships and community connections for many years to come, so this year, we invested in a Fundraising Manager role in order to build capacity to seek more funding and help us diversify our income streams. We now have a strategy in place for the coming years to work towards our financial sustainability in the longer term.

Falling volunteer numbers

This is a national issue and b:friend have not been immune. Volunteering take-up is lower than pre-pandemic levels and we have been working really hard to make sure people understand that befriending with us isn't your typical volunteering role. Loneliness hasn't gone away now that the pandemic has ended and it's important that we all take the time to nurture our relationships and be open to situations for new friendships to blossom. We have invested in a Communications Officer role and are experimenting with different ways of reaching people to ensure that we continue to grow our movement of kindness and friendship as the years go on. We now have a communications strategy in place that is dynamic and focuses on volunteer recruitment in order to guide us in our decision making for the coming years.



Our plans for 23/24

In the upcoming year, our focus will be on further expansion as we extend our services into Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. Additionally, we will remain committed to enhancing our digital infrastructure and diversifying our income streams. Our efforts in South Yorkshire will proceed as usual, with an unwavering dedication to continual service enhancement and reaching out to support as many isolated older neighbours as we can. Alongside this, we will be launching innovative projects that aim to increase awareness of loneliness and isolation and shine a light on the value of older people in the community.

Delivery targets



- 24% increase in older neighbours supported
- Maintaining 85%+ improvement in older neighbour wellbeing after 6 months
- Create 42,706 volunteering hours

Income targets



- Achieve an income stream split of 75% trusts and foundations and 25% 'other' income



I didn't have anybody until I met [my befriender] Diane. I don't know if I could have coped without her... She's my best friend.

(Older neighbour John)

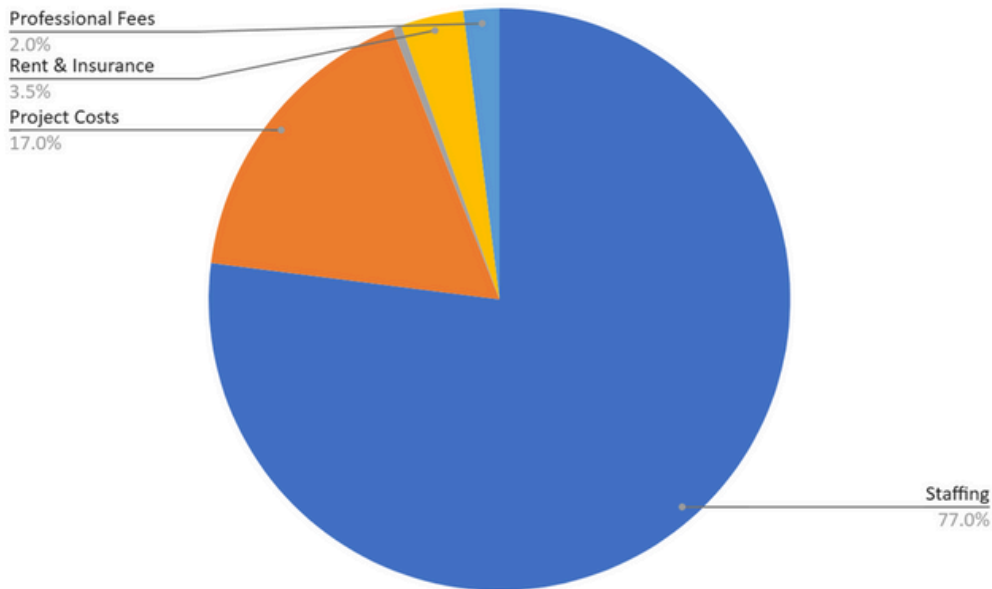
FINANCE

How we spent £1

The majority of our costs are on staffing who deliver our befriending project across the region, support volunteers and older neighbours and make local connections.

The full cost of running a weekly social club for 1 year = £5,533

The full cost of setting up a befriending pairing for 1 year = £230



77%

Staffing

3.50%

Rent & Insurance

17%

Project Costs

0.50%

Professional fees

0.50%

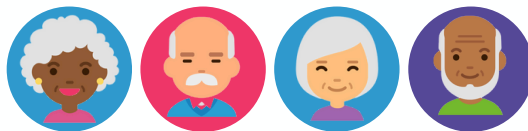
Marketing

OUR IMPACT



From our 1:1 befriending, our impact shows there is a **66% increase in overall life satisfaction** after 6 months and **92% say their life had become richer** since being involved with b:friend.

Here's what our older neighbours said:



"b:friend has saved my life. I was ready to give up when I lost my husband, but now I have something to look forward to."

"It's (the befriending) been a real lift for me – it's got me wanting to keep going to the gym and other places – I feel less mixed up in my head."

"My befriender made a difference to my life, you know, because I didn't want to be here before I met her. It's changed my life."



OUR IMPACT



Of our Social Club members:



96% Made new friendships

77% Learnt something new



74% Felt more connected to the community

54% Have become more physically active



"My doctor told me to come to the Club because I was in a bad way after my wife died, and the counselling didn't help. It's the best thing I could have done. I really enjoy it."

Our volunteers rate their befriending experience 9/10
(where 1 is poor and 10 is excellent)



"It's very much a two-way street. We get as much out of it as they do. There's a huge age gap between me and my neighbour, you might think what on earth do you have in common. I know I find it as uplifting as she does".



CASE STUDIES

Volunteer Chris' befriending journey



Chris came to us as a volunteer to help out at our Balby Club because he was feeling lonely and wanted to get involved. As he got to know b:friend he decided to become a befriender too and now visits not one but three older neighbours, Alan, Frank and Stephen every week. Last Christmas he visited Alan on Christmas Day and Frank on Boxing Day. Chris told Karen, our Befriending Coordinator, "My week is so full now and I'm so much happier. I don't know what I did with myself before I was introduced to b:friend".

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"My week is so full now and I'm so much happier. I don't know what I did with myself before I was introduced to b:friend".

John's gliding adventure

John, a former university professor, found himself feeling isolated and lonely in his later years, so we matched him with his now good friend Evelyn. John had been a keen glider as a teen and never thought he would get the chance to do it again, so as part of our 'buck-it' project we arranged a glider flight for him 2000ft above the Derbyshire Peak District. It was touch and go as to whether or not John would be able to fly - one of the criteria was to be able to get in and out of a bathtub unaided and at the time we arranged the flight, he wasn't sure he could do it. But over the weeks leading up, and with encouragement from Evelyn, John practiced every day until he had developed the strength and mobility to take that glider flight. In a Christmas card to Sara, his Befriending Coordinator, John wrote, "I have been elated about that for the rest of the year...thank you, thank you, thank you!"



++ "I have been elated about that for the rest
++ of the year...thank you, thank you,
++ thank you!"
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CASE STUDIES

Sue & Shane: a friendship across generations

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Shane and Sue met through b:friend over two years ago. After Sue lost her husband and Shane's grandmother passed away, they were both looking for a meaningful connection – and found friendship in an unexpected place.

The duo quickly formed a firm friendship. They enjoyed catching up over a cuppa or going out together, and Shane even met Sue's family. Shane introduced Sue to his partner, Max, who also joined the visits. Max performs as a drag artist, and Sue has been to see his shows with Shane and loved them.

Sue said: "I was lonely you see. I'd been married for 53 years and knew my husband for 58 years and all of a sudden he was gone. So, to me I was lonely."

"I've been 58 years really in my own little world, and I've come out of it, and it's different and it's nice."

Although Sue attended a bereavement support group and her family encouraged her to get out more, she said she felt it didn't help, so she used to stay in a lot. She said the befriending with Shaun was just what she needed: "I just needed somebody different. (...) I really enjoyed the fact it was different. It's happened to be a new life to me. I've never done this before and you know, I've been 58 years really in my own little world, and I've come out of it, and it's different and it's nice."

Shane said: "I lost one of my grandparents, I lost my Nana, and I felt like I've got a bit of a hole in my life. I saw this advert on Facebook and I thought, 'why not I'll give it a go', and I got paired with Susan. I remember coming around the first day and I expected a shy, retiring elderly, maybe watching *The Chase* on an evening, and it's certainly not what I've got! But we're very happy, aren't we? I think we suit."

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Our partners

We'd like to extend thanks to the awesome organisations that partner with our project. Their commitment to reducing isolation is significant & we're able to achieve huge impact as a result of their belief in a more connected society.



Our People: The Team



Colette Bunker,
Chief Executive Officer



Karen Booker,
Befriending Coordinator



Rayella Broomhead,
Programme Manager



Laura Coucom,
Befriending Coordinator



Sara Kopecsni,
Senior Communications Officer



Rachael Mullen,
Befriending Coordinator



Jenny Pitman,
Programme Manager



Helen Twelves,
Fundraising Manager



Maryanne Wylde,
Project Officer

Our People: The Board of Trustees



Simon Moxon,
Chair of the Board of Trustees



Clare Legg,
Treasurer



Becky Marlor



Matthew Lollar



Let's end loneliness together, let's b:friend!

b:friend is a charity registered in the UK with registered Charity Number 1171148.



B:FRIEND
(A charitable incorporated organisation limited by guarantee)

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023**

CHARITY NUMBER 1171148

COMPANY NUMBER CE009648

B:FRIEND

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BALANCE SHEET	8
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**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE PERIOD
ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023.**

The Management Committee presents its report and accounts for the year ended 31 October 2023.

Charity information
Management Committee

Simon Moxon	Chairsperson – Appointed April 2023
Lucy Cole	Acting Chairperson – Resigned July 2023
Tara Walker	Treasurer – Resigned March 2024
Clare Legg	Treasurer – Appointed March 2024
Louis Stokes	Non-Executive member – Resigned August 2023
Kloe Tegg	Non-Executive member – Resigned February 2023
Matthew Lollar	Non-Executive member – Appointed April 2023
Rebecca Roberts	Non-Executive member – Appointed April 2023

Charity Registration number	1171148
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Charity registered office and Operational address	Unit 315 The Workstation 15 Paternoster Row Sheffield S1 2BX
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Secretary	None
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Independent examiner	Smith Craven (Yorkshire) Ltd Sidings House Sidings Court Doncaster DN4 5NU
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Bankers	Santander UK Plc Doncaster
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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

The organisation is a charitable incorporated organisation formed on 17 January 2017 and registered as a charity.

The charity was established under a Constitution which establishes the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Constitution.

In the event of the charity being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and Appointment of Management Committee

The Trustees of the charity for the purposes of charity law and under the charity's Constitution are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Constitution the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the charity are to promote social inclusion amongst elderly persons, in particular, but not exclusive to over 65's, resident in England and Wales and the surrounding areas who are excluded by society, by provision of:

- Befriending services through weekly outreach to individuals.

Such other ways from time to time as the trustees see fit in furtherance with said objects. B:Friend is a not-for-profit organisation.

B:Friend pairs volunteer befrienders with socially isolated older neighbours in the community with the aim of reducing loneliness by reengaging with people and places around them. Our key activities are 1:1 befriending pairings, visiting once a week for a "cuppa" and a chat. B:Friend also provides two hour social clubs, held in various locations that offer peer support through a range of physically and mentally stimulating sessions.

All activities undertaken by the charity are to benefit people in the community, be they volunteers or older neighbours, and all remain equitable with services free at the point of delivery.

Trustees ensure all activities are in accordance with the charity objects outlined in the constitution and are for the public benefit.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

Achievements and performance

- In the reporting period, the charity has created over 290 x 1:1 befriending pairings across Doncaster, Barnsley, Sheffield, Rotherham, Chesterfield, Bolsover and North East Derbyshire. In addition to this our team has supported and managed an additional 700 x 1:1 befriending pairings already in existence.
- Facilitated approximately 1008 hours of Social Club activity across the region with weekly activity, peer support and entertainment.
- Collaborated with 89 other charity and community groups, along with statutory health and social care colleagues, on wider social challenges faced across towns and cities we work in.
- Created over 32,160 volunteer hours providing community connection for our isolated older neighbours.

Financial Review

Principal Funding Sources

B:Friend was grateful to receive funding from: The National Lottery Community Fund, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Coalfields Regeneration Trust, South Yorkshire Community Fund, Derbyshire Voluntary Action, Irwin Mitchell, Masonic Charitable Trust, Rank Foundation. Sheffield City Council and Voluntary Action Rotherham.

Reserve Policy

As a policy, it has always been felt prudent to maintain reserves at a level whereby at least three months expenditure, but ideally six months expenditure, could be met in the event of a significant loss of funding.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

Statement of Management Committee's Responsibilities

Charity law requires the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the CIO as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial period. In preparing those financial statements, the Management Committee should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

The Management Committee is responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities SORP (FRS102). The Management Committee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Members of the Management Committee

Members of the Management Committee, who are trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2.

In accordance with charities law, as the CIO's trustees, we certify that:

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant accounting information of which the charity's independent examiners are unaware; and
- as the trustees of the CIO, we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant accounting information and to establish that the charity's independent examiners are aware of that information.

Approval

This report was approved by the Management Committee on 21-6-24 and signed on its behalf by:



Clare Legg

Treasurer

B:FRIEND

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the trustees of B:Friend on the accounts for the period ended 31 October 2023 set out on pages 7 to 15

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144(2) of the Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

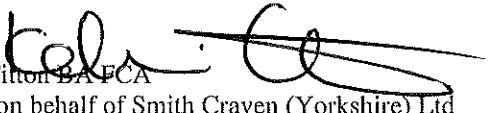
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and;
or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Kelvin Filton BA FCA
For and on behalf of Smith Craven (Yorkshire) Ltd
Sidings Court
Doncaster DN4 5NU

Dated: 9/7/24

B:FRIEND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds £	Prior year funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES	3				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and gifts		174,812	238,043	412,855	304,569
Charitable activities		-	-	-	-
Total		<u>174,812</u>	<u>238,043</u>	<u>412,855</u>	<u>304,569</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED	4				
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		927	-	927	898
Charitable activities		99,813	152,113	251,926	248,880
Total		<u>100,740</u>	<u>152,113</u>	<u>252,853</u>	<u>249,777</u>
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
<i>Net movement in funds</i>		74,073	85,930	160,002	54,791
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		85,625	156,612	242,237	187,448
<i>Total funds carried forward</i>		<u>159,698</u>	<u>242,542</u>	<u>402,240</u>	<u>242,237</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the period. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

B:FRIEND

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31ST OCTOBER 2023

Company No: CE009648

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Prior year funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	-	1,550	1,550	1,489
Total fixed assets		-	1,550	1,550	1,489
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	-	3,925	3,925	15,644
Cash at bank and in hand		159,698	305,426	465,124	296,720
Total current assets		159,698	309,351	469,049	312,364
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year					
	9	-	68,360	68,360	71,615
Net current assets		159,698	240,991	400,689	240,749
Total assets less current liabilities		159,698	242,541	402,240	242,238
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
	10				
Restricted income funds		-	242,542	242,542	156,612
Unrestricted designated funds		145,000	-	145,000	-
Unrestricted funds		14,698	-	14,698	85,626
Total funds		159,698	242,542	402,240	242,238

Approved by the trustees on 21-6-24

Signed:



On behalf of the trustees

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2023

1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note to these accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of incoming resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met.

Contractual income and performance related grants

This is only included in the SoFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.

Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised.

Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity.

Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable

Donated services and facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2023

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES**Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

ASSETS**Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity**

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £250.

They are valued at cost

The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

3 ANALYSIS OF INCOMING RESOURCES

3.1	This year £	Last year £
Donations and Gifts		
Grants	248,252	256,309
Donations	164,603	48,260
	<hr/> 412,855	<hr/> 304,569

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2023

4 ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	This year £	Last year £
Raising funds				
Advertising	927	-	927	898
Total expenditure on raising funds	927	-	927	898
Charitable activities				
Other expenditure	99,813	152,113	251,926	248,880
Total expenditure on charitable activities	99,813	152,113	251,926	248,880
Total expenditure	100,740	152,113	252,853	249,778

5 PAID EMPLOYEES

5.1 Staff costs	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	176,343	181,508
Social security costs	10,027	11,356
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	3,718	3,209
Total staff costs	190,088	196,073

No employees received employee benefits for the reporting period of more than £60,000.

	This year £	Last year £
Total amount paid to key personnel	£45,760	£60,041

5.2 Average head count in the year	This year	Last year
Officers and administration	6	6
Support workers		
CEO	1	1
Management		1
	7	8

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2023

6 DETAILS OF CERTAIN ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE**6.1 Trustee remuneration and expenses**

No members of the management committee received any remuneration during the year.

£91.58 expenses were reimbursed to the management committee during the year.

6.2 Fees for examination of the accounts	This year £	Last year £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,985	1,890
	<hr/> 1,985	<hr/> 1,890

7 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Cost	Computer equipment	Total
At the beginning of the year	17,119	17,119
Additions	1,146	1,146
Disposals	-	-
At end of year	<hr/> 18,265	<hr/> 18,265
Depreciation		
	Basis Rate	Straight Line 3 years
At the beginning of the year	15,630	15,630
Depreciation	1,084	1,084
Disposals	-	-
At end of year	<hr/> 16,714	<hr/> 16,714
Net book value		
At the beginning of the year	1,489	1,489
At end of year	1,551	1,551

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2023

8 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

Analysis of debtors	This year £	Last year £
Funding debtors	2,000	14,010
Prepayments and accrued income	1,925	1,634
Total	<hr/> 3,925	<hr/> 15,644

9 CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS

Analysis of creditors	This year £	Last year £
Trade Creditors	2,183	1,473
Accruals and deferred income	66,177	70,141
Taxation and social security	-	-
Total	<hr/> 68,360	<hr/> 71,614

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2023**

10 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**10.1 Restricted funds held**

Fund name	Purpose and restrictions
Voluntary Action Rotherham	to provide cores service provision in Rotherham
Barnsley MBC	to provide core service provision in the Dearne area
South Yorkshire Community Fund	to provide core service provision in the Mexborough area
South Yorkshire Community Fund	to provide core service provision in the Doncaster Central area
Coalfields Regeneration Trust - Barnsley South	to provide core service provision in Worsborough, Wombwell and Darfield
BOPPA	funding for physical activity sessions at the Dearne social clubs
Derbyshire Voluntary Action	to provide core service provision in Chesterfield, North East Derbyshire and Bolsover
Big Lottery Reaching Communities	to provide core service provision in Doncaster
SYCF Green	funding for outings and other activities that connect older neighbours with nature
Sheffield City Council - Covid recovery fund	to provide core service provision in Sheffield
Doncaster MBC	to provide doncaster clubs a warm place in winter
SYCF: Community Resilience A585035	sheffield befriending
SCC: East LAC	coronation celebration for sheffield social club
Talbot Trust	sheffield befriending
TNLCF: Awards for All	social group sessions
LNER	doncaster befriending
BMBC: Barnsley Better Bonds	funding for outings
Elise Pilkington	rotherham befriending
McCarthy Stone: Spring Grants	core funding
Peoples Postcode Lottery	core funding
Rank Foundation	core funding

10.2 Restricted funds summary

	Balance b/f	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfer to	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	Unrestricted	£
				£	
Doncaster MBC		4,860	2,360		2,500
Voluntary Action Rotherham	15,063				15,063
SYCF: Community Resilience A585035	4,738		4,738		-
Barnsley MBC	62,774	28,500	19,385		71,889
Big Lottery Reaching Communities	48,865	116,200	90,240		74,825
SCC: East LAC	-	395	140		255
SYCF: Cost of Living Grant (Sheffield)	-	6,825	885		5,940
SYCF: Tween Bridge Wind Farm Community	-	4,900	2,343		2,557
Talbot Trust	-	2,500	773		1,727
TNLCF: Awards for All	-	9,991	5,018		4,973
BMBC: Barnsley Better Bonds	-	500	166		334
Coalfields Regeneration Trust - Barnsley South	5,820				5,820
BOPPA	500		148		353
Derbyshire Voluntary Action - Feeling Connected	4,030				4,030
Sheffield City Council - Covid Recovery Fund	10,774		1,717		9,057
SYCF Green	4,050	9,086	3,019		10,117
Elise Pilkington		6,000	2,897		3,103
McCarthy Stone: Spring Grants		5,000			5,000
Peoples Postcode Lottery		25,000			25,000
Rank Foundation		18,286	18,286		-
Total	156,612	238,043	152,113	-	242,542

10.3 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,550	1,550
Current assets	159,698	309,351	469,049
Current liabilities	-	(68,360)	(68,360)
Net assets at 31 October 2023	159,698	242,542	402,240

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2023

11 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the period.