

SAMARITANS OF HARROGATE AND DISTRICT

England & Wales · Charity number 1173716

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-07-07

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

Contact

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Website <http://www.samaritans.org/branches/samaritans-harrogate-and-district>

Activities

Objects: TO ENABLE PERSONS IN HARROGATE AND DISTRICT 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; 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 OBJECTS.

Activities: TO ENABLE PERSONS IN HARROGATE AND DISTRICT 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.

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

- North Yorkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£47,471	£47,250	-	-
2024-03-31	£50,430	£55,611	-	-
2023-03-31	£61,148	£52,561	-	-
2022-03-31	£55,685	£67,978	-	-
2021-03-31	£55,848	£37,629	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adrian Ross MacIntyre		2024-10-19
Carol Chapman		2025-12-01
Edward Andrew Philip Tuley		2025-12-01
James D'Souza		2023-10-22
Marianne Tharby		2025-10-18
Rosamund Elizabeth Kendrew		2026-04-27
Rosemary Evans		2023-10-22

Linked charities

- SAMARITANS OF HARROGATE AND DISTRICT (1173716-1)

SAMARITANS OF HARROGATE AND DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1173716

Accounts

SAMARITANS

Harrogate & District



Annual Report 2024–25

Our vision



Every life lost to suicide is a tragedy, and our vision is that fewer people die by suicide.

Our mission



To be there for anyone who needs someone. To give people ways to cope and be there for others. And to campaign to make suicide prevention a priority.

Our values



Listening

Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them.

Confidentiality

If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings.

Non-judgmental

We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection.



People making their own decisions

We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and that telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them.

Human contact

Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair.

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Director's Introduction

It's been another remarkable year for Harrogate Samaritans - one marked by continued compassion, commitment and resilience. As I reflect on the past 12 months, I am struck again by the extraordinary generosity of our volunteers, who have given so much of themselves in support of others. Every hour you've listened, every shift you've covered, every piece of behind-the-scenes work you've done - it all adds up to a branch that continues to make a real and lasting difference in people's lives.

This report sets out the many ways in which Harrogate Samaritans has delivered on our mission between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025. We have continued to make a high-quality contribution to Samaritans' round-the-clock listening service, with a strong presence across the phones, webchat, and providing a visible and reassuring presence in our local community. This year we answered over 25,000 calls and completed 757 web chats. These numbers speak to the scale of the emotional need we are responding to — and to the dedication of every volunteer who helped us meet it.

One of the consistent themes of the year has been teamwork. Whether it's the seamless collaboration between Listening Volunteers and Leaders, the quiet diligence of the Rota, Recruitment and House teams, the steadfast care shown by our Volunteer Care team, the nurturing of our Mentor, Training and Education teams, or the innovation of our Fundraising and Finance teams, to name just a few, I've seen time and again how volunteers come together to make something greater than the sum of its

parts. The team that supports Wealstun Prison is a clear example of this. Their work — offering training, supervision, and support to Listeners in custody — is a powerful extension of the Samaritan mission, and their efforts continue to be valued by both the men inside and the prison's leadership team. Special recognition is due to Malcolm 245 for his 30 years of dedicated service in this area — a remarkable milestone.

Recruitment and training continue to be a key priority for the branch. In a climate where many branches are struggling to attract new volunteers, Harrogate has once again shown its strength, thanks in large part to the determination and persistence of our recruitment and interview teams. Nine new volunteers completed in-branch training this year, and a further five opted for the flexibility of the online programme. Not everyone makes it all the way through, but each applicant represents a new connection to our community, and we are fortunate to have such a strong pipeline of potential Listening Volunteers.

The leadership of our Rota Team deserves a particular mention this year. They've worked tirelessly to keep the rota running smoothly, while making adjustments to reduce volunteer email fatigue — something many of us can appreciate. The use of WhatsApp has helped streamline communication, and the efforts of the rota coordinators have ensured we continue to meet our shift commitments and serve our callers without interruption.

We've also seen valuable developments in outreach. A new initiative working with local charities supporting young people with autism shows real promise, and we hope to build on these relationships in the year ahead. Outreach is an area of great opportunity — it not only increases awareness of Samaritans in our local community, but helps ensure that our service is genuinely accessible to all who need it.

Behind every shift taken and every caller supported are the countless tasks that keep the branch running — managing finances, fundraising, IT, governance, volunteer care, and more. I want to thank each and every Deputy Director, Trustee, and volunteer who has taken on these responsibilities this year. Whether you've

led a team or supported an event, whether you've counted coins, updated software, or simply offered a word of encouragement, your contribution matters — and is seen. Indeed, our recognition through the North Yorkshire Community Award for Best Volunteer Group last year is a well-deserved external validation of your efforts.

This was also a year of transition in branch leadership. I stepped into the role of Interim Director in November 2024, following Mark Edwards completing his three-year term. I want to thank Mark for his leadership and service over the past few years. I also extend a warm welcome to Ross McIntyre, who joined our Trustee team, and offer thanks to the Trustees who have continued in post, providing vital continuity and support.

Harrogate Samaritans is made up of people who care — about our callers, about our community, and about each other. In a world that can sometimes feel fractured and uncertain, this simple truth is something to be proud of. Thank you all for your time, your patience, your kindness, and your belief in what we do.

**With heartfelt gratitude,
Frank Jones
Branch Director (Interim)
Harrogate & District Samaritans**

Branch Leadership

Samaritans of Harrogate and District, an affiliated branch of the national Samaritans organisation, is an independent charity (Registration No. 1173716). The branch was established in 1976 and converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 October 2017. Its operation and conduct are governed by a Constitution dated 7 July 2017. The principal office is at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate, HG1 1BX.

Branch Leadership Team

Following consultation with branch members, our Director is appointed for a three-year term by the Trustee Board of the Samaritans Central Charity. The Director heads a Branch Leadership Team which, in addition to being responsible for the provision and quality of support for callers and volunteers, manages the branch and its premises.

This team comprises 5 Trustees and 8 Deputy Directors. Deputies are selected by the Director and, with effect from our 2018 Annual General Meeting, all Trustees other than the Director are elected annually.

The Trustees have legal responsibility for the operation of the branch and we currently have Deputies with the following operational responsibilities:

- Education and Outreach
- Fundraising
- IT
- Mentoring
- Prison
- Recruitment and Interviewing
- Rural Initiative
- Rota
- Training
- Volunteer Care

Our Trustees

Frank Jones was appointed Interim Director on 19 October 2024. The following Trustees stood down at the last AGM:

Mark Edwards	Branch Director
Mandy Fallon	Vice Director
Jo Johnson	Vice Director

At the same AGM on 19 October 2024 the following Trustees were elected:

Ross McIntyre	Trustee Without Portfolio
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The following Trustees continued their terms:

Carol Chapman	Branch Secretary
Rosemary Evans	Branch Treasurer
James D’Souza	Trustee Without Portfolio
Zoe Partridge	Branch Minutes Secretary

What we do

Our aim is to improve the emotional health of people who contact us and our mission is that fewer people die by suicide. We provide emotional support round the clock to people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide. In planning all activities of the Branch, the Trustees are conscious of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Our Volunteers

Our listening volunteers support people in distress over the phone, by email, and face to face. On every shift at least four volunteers are required to support callers: two volunteers in the branch providing direct support, another volunteer, known as a Leader, available by phone for unexpected problems and for debriefs at the end of each shift; and one of our Deputy Directors on standby for real emergencies.

Sometimes people are referred to us for support by other organisations, such as mental health services and the police.

We give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others. We want to celebrate those moments of connection between people that can protect and even save lives.

Harrogate is a very caring Branch. Our volunteers are supported by the Volunteer Care team who look after the wellbeing of all our fellow Sams, both Listening and Support volunteers. The team responds to anyone with a concern, whether it's taking

a disturbing call, or going through a difficult patch in their own life.

Caller contacts

In the year leading up to 31 March 2025 Harrogate Samaritans answered 25,171 calls, completed 757 web chats, and made 94 call backs to callers who needed additional help and support after their initial contact with us. In all, the volunteers at Harrogate Samaritans made 26,022 separate contacts with callers who were in distress or despair in order to listen and provide a space to talk in confidence.

In addition to these contacts many Samaritans have been approached by members of the public whilst at Outreach or Fundraising events either to receive emotional support in this setting or to share stories of how their interactions with our ESOS trained Samaritans have made a real difference to their lives, and at times have saved their life. It's these interactions that can inspire and bring home the reality of the work that we do by being there for callers when they need us any time of day or night.

The Last Year

The year to 31 March 2025 was yet another busy and interesting time for our branch.

Volunteer Care

The Volunteer Care team at Harrogate Samaritans is supported by Kirsty 1046 (Deputy Director), Jan 929 and Sheila 581. The Volunteer Care team continues to play a vital role in sustaining the wellbeing and engagement of volunteers at Harrogate Samaritans. Their remit includes coordinating monthly updates to branch leadership, supporting volunteers through leave of absence and transitions, and fostering a compassionate culture of retention and reintegration.

Over the past year, Volunteer Care has:

Supported volunteer transitions, including managing communications for those stepping down and coordinating thank-you gestures with appropriate consent.

Maintained confidential oversight of leave of absence cases, with proactive check-ins to ensure volunteers feel supported and ready for return.

Provided direct support to individuals on long-term absence or illness, offering tailored reintegration plans in line with the Volunteer Care Policy (e.g., mentored shifts and additional training).

Welcomed new volunteers, meeting incoming cohorts at the close of training sessions to introduce the care offer and answer questions.

Facilitated communication through a dedicated WhatsApp group, enhancing coordination and peer support.

As of this report, the branch supports 121 active listening volunteers, a modest decrease offset by strong recruitment, with an encouraging number of new volunteers currently in training both in-branch and online.

The continued presence and adaptability of the Volunteer Care team underpin the branch's commitment to volunteer wellbeing and operational continuity.

Prison Support

Harrogate branch has a team that works with Wealstun prison near Wetherby, and has been providing support there since 1995 (the first Listener scheme was established in Swansea in 1991). The work that they do is covered by a national agreement between Samaritans and His Majesty's Prison & Probation Service (HMPPS). Wealstun is a male prison close to Wetherby. It is a Category C prison – so does not have the higher-risk prisoners that might be found in other prisons. It focuses on education, preparation for employment and preparing men to rejoin society. The skills that prisoners develop in Listener training are life skills which are valuable in all aspects of their lives. Over

time they see how these men change as they develop self-respect and self-confidence and realise the importance of good listening.

Their role is to train Listeners and to support them. The training covers the same ground that all new Samaritans experience, but is tailored to the face-to-face support that Listeners give to other men. They support Listeners in meetings twice a month and visit the prison to meet with them when necessary, including after any death in custody.

The team know their work is valued and appreciated, not just by our Listeners and other men, but also by the prison's senior management team. They meet annually with Diane Lewis, the Number 1 Governor, and aim to meet bi-monthly with the governor responsible for safer custody, Richard North while also attending a Safer Prisons meeting once a month.

Working as a Samaritan in Wealstun is face-to-face and hands-on. It is a vital part of Samaritans outreach, this group of men are at an alarmingly raised risk of suicide. They have often experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), have been marginalised, sometimes leaving prison with little to look forward to.

The Prison Team offer input to the induction of new officers and the education of the wider staff group. They are able to arrange no-obligation visits (with team members present) for anyone interested in finding out what it's really like inside a prison.

Within Harrogate Branch, original Prison Team volunteer Malcolm 245 first entered Wealstun in 1995. This was celebrated in April 2025 with a meal to recognise 30 years of continued prison work. In October the branch said farewell to Neil 897 who stepped down from both Branch Prison Support Officer and Listening Volunteer.

Deputy for Prisons Gilly 350 would like to thank all Prison Team members over this past year: Bonnie 1016, Chris 1020, Hilary 895, Jane 1036, Julian 1018, Kevin 1067, Rebecca 1044, Robyn 1053 and Ann 1109. This is in addition to those volunteers from Bradford branch who have supported essential training. It is clear that the volunteers who work in this area are passionate about their involvement with our Listeners at Wealstun.

Recruitment

The Branch continues to be very fortunate that it is attracting applications from people who wish to be Samaritans at a time where many other branches across the country are struggling to recruit. However, it is very important to attract new Samaritans to our branch. Everyone is empowered to spread the word and encourage people to visit the website and learn more about the work that the Recruitment Team do and how they can become involved either as a support or a listening volunteer. Some people think they need to be a 'special person' to become a Samaritan (and of course they all are!) but Samaritans come in all different shapes and sizes as indeed do our callers.

Interviewing started early in November 24 with both evening and daytime interviews. Further interview sessions also ran in early January ensuring a good selection of recruits for training. The team were able to recruit 9 people who were trained inhouse by the Training Team and another 5 who opted for the flexibility of the online training. Sadly, for various reasons some people dropped out along the way.

This has left the branch in a good position for the next round of interviews due to be held in July, inviting people to interview who have expressed an interest in joining in on this fantastic journey to support our callers.

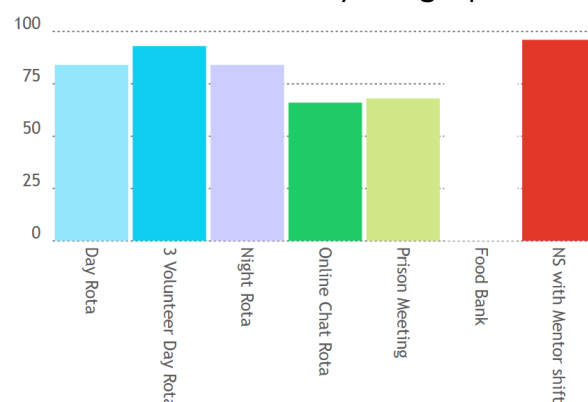
A group of splendid interviewers continue to volunteer for time for interview sessions despite what sometimes seems to be a recurring inevitability of folks just not turning up for their interviews and not making contacting us to let us know.

Grateful thanks have been expressed specifically to Bev795 and all the interviewers who give up so much of their time to ensure that plenty of recruits are passed through for training.

Rota Team

The Rota team work quietly behind the scenes, constantly scanning the rota, spotting gaps and opportunities and assisting with emergency situations. This year they have endeavoured to reduce the number of emails sent to volunteers whilst balancing the need for information about

understaffed shifts. The introduction of WhatsApp has been helpful. The branch itself is providing an excellent service to callers demonstrated by the graph below.



This great team who work together to keep shifts open and listeners informed are made up of Liz 901, Marianne 980, Michael 924, Rachel 994, and Anne 974.

Leaders

For every listening shift that operates, a 'Leader' is required to remotely support the volunteers on shift. Without this support, the listening shift is unable to operate.

Harrogate branch currently has a team of 24 leaders supporting 22 leading shifts per week. Each leading shift covers a minimum of two listening shifts.

The team is made up of listening volunteers and is a position open to anyone with approximately 9-12 months experience as a listening volunteer and on completion of the relevant online training module. The leader team is supported by a Deputy Director and when required, the Branch Director. Team meetings are held quarterly, providing the opportunity to

share experiences, local branch and central office news and any concerns. These meetings are open to the entire branch.

The role of the leader is to be available by phone throughout the duration of the shift should the listening volunteer require any guidance or support and at the end of each shift in order to debrief with volunteers. The purpose of the debrief is essential in expressing gratitude for the time given and to ensure volunteers have offloaded any concerns. Unlike listening shifts, there is no minimum of time given per month, simply what time the leader feels able to commit to.

Opportunities are always open for additional members to join the leader team in order to effectively support the running of the branch and to allow appropriate cover during Leave of Absence. Often volunteers feel wary about the role, fearing they don't know enough/have enough experience in order to make a good leader. In fact, the most important skill is that of listening in order to support the volunteer at the end of their shift. As a listening volunteer we never know what we will encounter during a shift and this is the same for a leader whilst supporting a shift. Teamwork is essential and if the leader does not know the answer to something then there is always someone willing and able to offer additional support or advice.

The leader team at Harrogate is exceptional for which we are hugely grateful for their service and commitment.

Outreach Initiative

At the end of March a group of volunteers met up with 3 local charities all supporting young people with autism. This was a very educational session where learning was mutually shared to benefit both the needs of our local young people with autism and gain an understanding of how the Samaritans service can support those struggling to cope. This was followed up with an autism focused event at the Wesley Chapel. The new collaboration is one that will be built on and strengthened in future years.

Outreach has also continued to include a strong presence at Harrogate Town Football Club where the Harrogate and District Samaritans banner has been on display to all match attendees and spectators of the 7 televised matches.

Strong connections also continued with Andy's Man Club following their presentation at the 2024 AGM and a joint session on mental health awareness was delivered to the NHS in Leeds who host a monthly Mans Action Awareness Network for all employees of the Trust.

Grants and Donations

Fundraising is essential for the viability of our Branch and every donation, large or small, helps us to maintain our service and support people in emotional distress.

Donations

We would like to thank the following:

Volunteers, their families and former volunteers

Harrogate Round Table

Skipton Craven Rotary Club

Pannal Methodist Church

Unilever

Belgrade Insulation

Harrogate Phatry Club

Atlas Fitness

The Tannin Level

Rudding Park

Lockheed Martin

Co-op Local Community Fund

Nidderdale Round Table

Baltzersens

The Local Lotto

Grants

We were fortunate to obtain grants from:

Liz & Terry Bramhall Foundation

St. James Place Charitable Foundation

The Linden Charitable Trust

Yorkshire Building Society

Two Ridings Community Fund

Arnold Clark Community Fund

Dept of Health Suicide Prevention Fund

Golf Day

We were fortunate to be able to hold another Golf Day in October. £4,750 was raised for our funds due to very generous donations and sponsorship for which we are most grateful. We would like to thank all those involved including Otley Golf Club for the use of their facilities.

Collections

Our participation in various local events helped to raise vital funds. These included Sarah Millican Show, Harrogate Christmas Market, Asda Harrogate, Hampsthwaite Garage and the sale of Christmas Cards and various Raffles.

How to donate

Online donations can be made via Enthuse at samaritans.org/Harrogate or <https://www.justgiving.com/samaritans-harrogate>

Donations can be made via online shopping at easyfundraising.org.uk.

Cheques can be sent to us at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate HG1 1BX. Standing Order forms are also available for regular donations.

Financial Review

Investments Policy

Various investments were acquired several years ago following the receipt of legacies to help cover future potential operating shortfalls and also to provide a reliable source of income. These investments were sold in March 2025, and the proceeds invested in two high interest bearing accounts with United Trust Bank. Investment income is included in the Statement of Receipts and Payments.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that, in the light of past history, up to 30 months running costs is an appropriate level of reserves, and the Trustees review our reserves policy annually.

As at 31 March 2025 our unrestricted reserves excluding fixed assets were £99,858 which represents 23.2 months of operating costs, based on average expenditure over the last 3 accounting periods. The Trustees believe this to be a healthy level of reserves given the plans for the coming year.

Trustees' reporting responsibilities

The Trustees are required by the Branch Constitution and charity law to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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.

Teresa Hitchens FCCA of Hitchens Consultancy Ltd was appointed as the Charity's independent examiner in November 2023 and has expressed her willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Trustees on 28 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Frank Jones
Branch Director

Financial Statements

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Samaritans of Harrogate and District

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on the following pages.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My Independent Examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity, the Charity's Members as a body, and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my Independent Examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity Trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Hitchens Consultancy Limited
40 Gascoigne Crescent
Harrogate
HG1 4AJ



Teresa Hitchens FCCA
Date: 25 July 2025

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2025

Notes	This year 2024/25			Previous year 2023/24
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	Total £
Receipts				
Donations 2	12,403	-	12,403	22,260
Legacies	589	-	589	500
Fundraising events	9,765	-	9,765	452
Grants 2	10,539	7,659	18,198	21,279
Covenants & Gift Aid	2,473	-	2,473	2,064
Tax refunds	1,244	-	1,244	981
Investment income	1,939	-	1,939	1,933
Interest received	861	-	861	961
Provision for deferred final receipt	(2,220)	2,220	-	-
	37,592	9,879	47,471	50,430
Payments				
Direct charitable expenses 3	22,935	11,094	34,029	37,608
Fundraising expenses 4	4,699	41	4,740	3,076
Management & admin costs 5	6,487	445	6,932	13,105
Governance costs 6	889	660	1,549	1,822
	35,010	12,240	47,250	55,611
Net receipts / (payments)	2,582	(2,361)	221	(5,181)
Investment sales	37,736	-	37,736	-
Investment purchases	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	67,040	5,507	72,547	77,728
Cash funds this year end	107,358	3,146	110,504	72,547
Cash funds				
HSBC Current bank account			26,996	20,738
Virgin Money savings account			-	32,137
CAF Current bank account			1,618	1,332
CAF Savings account			12,790	18,240
United Trust 3 month bond			29,000	-
United Trust - 200 Day Notice			40,000	-
Provisions float			100	100
			110,504	72,547

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

Cash funds	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
HSBC Current bank account		23,850	3,146
CAF Current bank account		1,618	
Short term bank deposits		81,790	-
Provisions float		100	-
		<u>107,358</u>	<u>3,146</u>
<i>Restricted funds detail</i>	8	<i>National Lottery Community Fund</i> £	<i>DHSC Suicide Prevention Grant</i> £
<i>Balance b/fwd at 31-03-24</i>		5,507	-
<i>Receipts 24-5</i>		-	6,279
<i>Payments 24-5</i>		(2,361)	(8,499)
<i>Balance c/fwd at 31-03-25</i>		<u>3,146</u>	<u>(2,220)</u>
Investment assets	9	Cost £	Current value £
Blackrock Charities UK Bond Fund		17,423	-
M & G Equities Investment Fund for charities (Charifund)		11,850	-
		<u>29,273</u>	<u>-</u>
Assets retained for the Charity's own use	10		Current value £
Premises at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate	11		175,000
			<u>175,000</u>
Liabilities		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Independent Examiner's fee 2025 – estimated		500	-
Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity 2025	12	7,000	-
- subject to agreement		<u>7,500</u>	<u>-</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 28 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Rosemary Evans

Branch Treasurer

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements

Samaritans of Harrogate and District

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2025

1 General Information and Accounting Policies

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charities Commission for England and Wales and is governed by the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The statement of accounts has been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011, the Statement of Recommended Practice and Accounting by Charities (SORP 2005) and the Charity's governing document.

Going concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. They continue to believe that the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the annual financial statements.

Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity. Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Receipts

Voluntary income, including donations, legacies and grants, that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised on receipt. Investment income is recognised on receipt.

Payments

Liabilities are stated as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on a payment basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of Trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to Trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Support costs

Support costs are those costs incurred in connection with the central and administration function of the Charity and are allocated to charitable functions on a proportionate basis to the direct costs.

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2025

Notes	This year 2024/25			Previous year 2023/24
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds £	funds £	£	£
2 Donations				
Organisation donations	8,685	-	8,685	7,374
Individual donations	3,718	-	3,718	14,886
Trust donations	-	-	-	-
	12,403	-	12,403	22,260
Grants				
HMPPS Listener Scheme Grant	2,039	-	2,039	4,179
Grants	8,500	7,659	16,159	17,100
	10,539	7,659	18,198	21,279
3 Direct charitable expenses				
Volunteer training and support costs	638	26	664	178
Volunteer travel expenses	7,061	172	7,233	6,471
Advertising and publicity	63	8,028	8,091	4,956
Directors' expenses	-	-	-	7
Share of premises overheads	16,074	1,967	18,041	25,996
Restricted grant funded overheads adjustment	-901	901	-	-
	22,935	11,094	34,029	37,608
4 Fundraising expenses				
Fundraising expenses	4,364		4,364	2,534
Share of premises overheads	335	41	376	542
	4,699	41	4,740	3,076
5 Management and admin costs				
Postage, printing and stationery	948	404	1,352	2,635
Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity	3,420	-	3,420	5,866
Voluntary donation to Samaritans Regional Charity			-	2,000
Sundry expenses	1,784	-	1,784	2,062
Share of premises overheads	335	41	376	542
	6,487	445	6,932	13,105
6 Governance costs				
Independent examiner's fee	500		500	1,020
AGM/Branch meeting costs	389	660	1,049	802
Legal fees	-		-	-
	889	660	1,549	1,822

Samaritans of Harrogate and District

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2025

This year 2024/25				Previous year Total
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	
	£	£	£	£
7 Premises overheads				
Water, light and heat	3,801		3,801	4,489
Repairs and renewals	3,090	1,380	4,470	11,832
Cleaning and housekeeping	3,410		3,410	2,877
Equipment purchases	1,545	669	2,214	2,415
Telephones	1,181		1,181	2,010
Insurance	1,709		1,709	1,573
Business rates	2,008		2,008	1,885

8 Restricted Fund Provision

£2,220 was transferred from unrestricted to restricted reserves as a provision to cover a final deferred payment of the DHSC Suicide Prevention grant, due in May 2025.

9 Investments

Quarterly valuations were received until the investments were sold in March 2025. Disposal proceeds totalled £37,736, representing an overall gain of £8,463. The historic cost of these investments was £29,273 with quarterly income received.

10 Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment

The Charity has use of various sundry items of furniture and office equipment purchased over the years. The cost and market value of these sundry assets are negligible to the Charity.

11 Premises

The Charity's freehold premises at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate were last valued informally on an open market basis by Mr S. G. Archer, BSc, FRICS, of Verity Frearson Ltd on 12 October 2017.

12 Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity

The branch is required to make a contribution toward the cost of administrative expenses to Samaritans Central Charity. This contribution is based on 4% of income plus a percentage of reserves on a sliding scale. The contribution for the year to 31 March 2025 is estimated at £7,000, subject to agreement, and will be paid during the year to 31 March 2026.

13 Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

None of the Trustees were directly or indirectly remunerated during the year. £7,864 expenses were paid to 5 Trustees (£3,736 fundraising: £2,745 outreach: £930 premises: £354 travel: £99 administration).

14 Staff Costs

The Charity does not have any paid staff.

We're here to listen

Call free day or night on

116 123

Email

jo@samaritans.org

Web

samaritans.org/harrogate

Visit us

5 Mount Parade

Harrogate

HG1 1BX

SAMARITANS

Samaritans of Harrogate and District is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales (1173716). Our registered office is located at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 1BX.

SAMARITANS OF HARROGATE AND DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1173716

Accounts

SAMARITANS

Harrogate & District



Annual Report 2023–24

Our vision



Every life lost to suicide is a tragedy, and our vision is that fewer people die by suicide.

Our mission



To be there for anyone who needs someone. To give people ways to cope and be there for others. And to campaign to make suicide prevention a priority.

Our values



Listening

Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them.

Confidentiality

If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings.

Non-judgmental

We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection.

People making their own decisions

We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and that telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them.

Human contact

Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair.

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Director's Introduction

Another successful year has flown past and here I am writing my third and final report as Director. Once again, I have to start by saying a huge thank you to you all, our amazing volunteers, both listeners and supporters. You have given up your time and skills so freely to support our callers and the branch in general throughout another year.

Each year we hope that events in our country and the wider world will ease the burden on everyone but sadly things are slow to improve. We still see the effect of issues in the callers we listen to. The Cost-of-Living Crisis, Ukraine War, the Gaza Conflict, a change in government and what we are seeing as long-term mental health effects of the last few years still rumbles on. Our service is still needed even more than ever.

In our branch, as ever, we have continued to support our callers in a professional, empathetic and caring way. In doing this we have vastly improved the number of shifts we have kept open, especially the number of night shifts we have delivered. This is truly amazing.

I would like to thank again Mandy 881 and Jo 937 for their support over the last year through the good and shall we say more difficult times. In addition, the Branch Leadership Team and Trustees have each worked in different ways to keep our branch going. They have led on new developments, kept us safe and compliant, interviewed and recruited a further 22 volunteers and ensured we are financially sound. These volunteers in turn have been

mentored and thanks to Donna 838 for leading this dedicated group of volunteers.

Our core priority is delivering listening on the phone, and via online chat and we have done really well in delivering a high-quality service. I am always thankful to our dedicated team of leaders led by Sarah 905 who support us after each shift with care and compassion.

In addition to this, we train and support our extended team at Wealstun Prison. A huge thank you to Neil 897 and his team as well as the guys who deliver the service day in and day out in prison who offer invaluable support to their fellow prisoners. We have trained over 25 new listeners in the prison over the last year.

Our training and recruitment team, whilst at the moment is a diminishing band of dedicated folk, has worked hard to keep us topped up with new volunteers. This year Jules 944 has led a revitalised Outreach Team and our standing and presence in the community has improved. Our work at the food bank is a particular success. Thank you once again to this dedicated band of volunteers.

Thanks also to Carol 933, Andrew 935, Lisa 962, Jan 929 and Anne 974 who have led successful teams in Fundraising, IT, Education, Volunteer Support and Rota Management. Without these Deputies and their Teams our branch would just not be able to function. We have to remember everyone that leads or volunteers in these teams do so on top of their regular commitments to listening. I am so grateful and really appreciate this.

A special mention must go to the recruitment and DBS team. Their work was significantly increased this year due to the need to renew DBS for everyone. The team worked hard to ensure each volunteer completed their checks. Ros 907 steps down in this role this year but leaves a small team to continue her great work.

It would probably destroy a small rainforest in paper if I listed the huge number of events we have held or attended this year. We have done so many events from talks to train stations, farming initiatives to food banks, and our 75-year birthday celebrations to Sarah Millican Tour collections. All supported by you our great Harrogate Branch.

As I step down in this role I want to say that I really do appreciate every single hour you all give and am so appreciative for all of your support that you have shown me during the last 2 years 9 months of my tenure as Branch Director. I am proud of each and every one of you and proud of what we do collectively to support those in our world that need a friendly, non-judgemental listening ear.

Thank you all so much!

Best Wishes

Mark Edwards

Branch Director

Branch Leadership

Samaritans of Harrogate and District, an affiliated branch of the national Samaritans organisation, is an independent charity (Registration No. 1173716). The branch was established in 1976 and converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 October 2017. Its operation and conduct are governed by a Constitution dated 7 July 2017. The principal office is at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate, HG1 1BX.

Branch Leadership Team

Following consultation with branch members, our Director is appointed for a three-year term by the Trustee Board of the Samaritans Central Charity. The Director heads a Branch Leadership Team which, in addition to being responsible for the provision and quality of support for callers and volunteers, manages the branch and its premises.

This team comprises 2 Vice Directors, 7 Trustees and 11 Deputy Directors. Deputies are selected by the Director and, with effect from our 2018 Annual General Meeting, all Trustees other than the Director are elected annually.

The Trustees have legal responsibility for the operation of the branch and we currently have Deputies with the following operational responsibilities:

Education and Outreach
Fundraising
IT
Mentoring
Prison
Recruitment and Interviewing
Rural Initiative
Rota
Training
Volunteer Care

Our Trustees

Mark Edwards has been our Director since 10 March 2022. On the same date Jo Johnson and Mandy Fallon were appointed as Vice Directors.

At the Annual General Meeting on 21 October 2023 the following Trustees were elected:

Rosemary Evans	Branch Treasurer
James D'Souza	Trustee Without Portfolio
Zoe Partridge	Branch Minutes Secretary

The following Trustees continued their terms:

Carol Chapman	Branch Secretary
Mark Edwards	Branch Director Trustee
Jo Johnson	Vice Director
Mandy Fallon	Vice Director

What we do

Our aim is to improve the emotional health of people who contact us and our mission is that fewer people die by suicide. We provide emotional support round the clock to people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide. In planning all activities of the Branch, the Trustees are conscious of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Our Volunteers

Our listening volunteers support people in distress over the phone, by email, and face to face. On every shift at least four volunteers are required to support callers: two volunteers in the branch providing direct support, another volunteer, known as a Leader, available by phone for unexpected problems and for debriefs at the end of each shift; and one of our Deputy Directors on standby for real emergencies.

Sometimes people are referred to us for support by other organisations, such as mental health services and the police.

We give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others. We want to celebrate those moments of connection between people that can protect and even save lives.

Harrogate is a very caring Branch. Our volunteers are supported by the Volunteer Care team who look after the wellbeing of all our fellow Samaritans, both Listening and Support volunteers. The team responds to anyone with a concern, whether it's taking a disturbing call, or going through a difficult patch in their own life.

Caller contacts

In the year leading up to 31 March 2024 Harrogate Samaritans answered 20,794 calls, an increase of 1199 from 31 March 2023. They completed 840 web chats compared to 620 a year earlier and made 105 call backs to callers who needed additional help and support after their initial contact with us. In all, the volunteers at Harrogate Samaritans made 21,686 separate contacts with callers who were in distress or despair in order to listen and provide a space to talk in confidence. The overall number of contacts has increased by 1199 from the year before, illustrating the increasing demand for our service.

In addition to these contacts many Samaritans have been approached by members of the public whilst at Outreach or Fundraising events either to receive emotional support in this setting or to share stories of how their interactions with our ESOS trained Samaritans have made a real difference to their lives, and at times have saved their life. It's these interactions that can inspire and bring home the reality of the work that we do by being there for callers when they need us any time of day or night.

The Last Year

The year to 31 March 2023 was yet another busy and interesting time for our branch.

Volunteer Care

The Volunteer Care team at Harrogate Samaritans is supported by Jan 929 (Deputy Director), Sheila 581 and Alison 972. They provide a brief monthly report of New Samaritans to the team and issue a list of those volunteers that are leaving which is displayed on the notice board each month. VC have stopped putting up those volunteers on Leave of Absence (LOA) as some LOA are private and those volunteers may not want it to be known that they are on LOA, and they want to be respectful of that.

Volunteer Care monitor some of those listeners that may not have been able to sign up for listening sessions for some time so that they can check in on them to see if they are ok and if they need additional support to return to calls.

The team also support those volunteers who might be on long term absence due to sickness and keep in touch by email or phone to make sure they feel supported in a way that suits them.

At the time of this report there were 123 listening volunteers in Harrogate Branch and we appreciate all the good work that they do. This figure is an increase of 7 volunteer listeners from last year. On average there are 3 volunteers who decide to leave each month who are then

potentially replaced by the New Samaritans who are trained by the Branch Training Team to enable them to take up their listening duties.

The Volunteer Team have also taken the time to produce a Volunteer Care Policy to look at how they support volunteers coming back from longer term absence and suggest mentored shifts, inhouse or online training and provide in person support led by Donna 838 and the Training Team Deputy Director.

For the support of the volunteers, there is a private WhatsApp group run by the Volunteer Care Team. In this group each member of the VC team has an allocated number of volunteers to support on an 'as and when needed' basis. They liaise with each other regularly.

The team does invaluable work, openly offering support and kindness to other volunteers should they ever need it. This enhances the whole ethos of trying to fully support our volunteers in their listening duties and other roles within the branch so they can continue to support our callers when it matters most.

Prison Support

The work that Samaritans do in prisons up and down the country is exceptional, extremely valuable and essential. A couple of years ago at the Great Yorkshire Show, Princess Anne expressed, to a couple of Harrogate volunteers, her admiration for what we do in prisons. She had no doubt about the positive impact that our efforts have within the prison system. She had a particularly positive view of our selection and training of prisoner volunteers to be Listeners – both for the positive impact on the Listeners themselves and because peer support is so important in that environment. Those of us working on the Prison Team at Harrogate would fully endorse that Royal view – because we see it working first-hand every time we go into our prison for our twice-monthly support meetings; every time we hold a selection day to choose new volunteers for training; and every time we see the Prison Governor present Samaritans Training Certificates to a new cohort of successful Listeners. It is a real privilege and richly satisfying to be doing the work we do.

Harrogate branch has a team that works with Wealstun prison near Wetherby, and has been providing that support since the early 90's – not long after the first Listener scheme was established in Swansea. The work that we do is covered by a national agreement between Samaritans and His Majesty's Prison & Probation Service (HMPPS). Wealstun is a male prison and is primarily a training and re-settlement establishment. In prison terminology it is a Category C prison – so tends not to have

the higher-risk prisoners that might be found in Category A or B prisons. It has a strong focus on education, work-skills development and preparing men to rejoin society. The kind of skills that prisoners develop in Listener training are life skills and an important part of rehabilitation and restoration of self-respect. We see, up close, how these men change and develop as they realise how much they are learning.

We know that our work is valued and appreciated, not just by our Listeners and other inmates, but also by the prison's senior management team. This has always been evident in the trust and respect we receive, but more recently in an invitation to a special afternoon tea – to say thank you to the many volunteer groups doing superb work in the prison. We were well represented on the day to hear the Governor's warm thanks, and every member of the Samaritans prison team received a personal Certificate of Appreciation.

Working in the prison environment is not to everyone's taste, but please do not make the mistake of pre-judging what it's like or be swayed too much by branch calls you may have taken from prisoners. We're always pleased to arrange no-obligation visits (with team members present) for anyone interested in learning what it's really like "inside". Just talk to any of us. We'll answer your questions honestly and, if you want, arrange a visit to Wealstun.

Finally, I have to say a very warm thank you to all our team members over this past year: Bonnie 1016, Chris 1020, Gillian 350, Hilary 895, Jane 1036, Julian 1018, Kevin 1067, Liz 565, Robyn 1053. You have done a superb job, and I'm proud of what we've all achieved.

Recruitment

We continue to be very fortunate that the Harrogate Branch is attracting applications from people who wish to be Samaritans when we are told that many branches are struggling to recruit. It is very important that we do attract new Samaritans to our branch. Everyone can help to spread the word, encourage people to visit the website and learn more about the work that we do and how they can become involved. I know from my own personal experience that people think it takes a 'special person' to become a Samaritan (and of course you all are!) but it's important to tell people that we are all very different and that we receive excellent training and ongoing support.

Our first interviews this year took place in January when we recruited 3 new people for our inhouse training and 5 volunteers for the new online training which is run centrally on Zoom. The flexibility of the online training has already proved a winning formula for some of our trainees who have been able to attend online from abroad whilst working or on holiday.

We have also been holding interviews in June and July, three in the evening and one during the day. So far 13 new people have

had successful interviews and will be attending their training programme in September and October 2024.

Our superb team of interviewers continue to give their time, and expertise which enables us to meet our recruitment targets.

DBS

The last couple of months have been a very busy time as all volunteers renewed their Disclosure and Barring Service Certificates.

The small and newly formed DBS team has steered us through this challenging exercise, so well done to them and to you all.

Rural Initiative

Harrogate volunteers continue to play a key role in the region's Rural Initiative which was established over 4 years ago. The initiative aims to reduce the suicide rate amongst those living in rural communities and especially those working in farming, who appear particularly vulnerable to mental health problems given the specific financial, physical and mental challenges they face.

This has been a busy year with Harrogate volunteers attending the Annual Farming Remembrance Plough Service at Ripon Cathedral, manning stands at 2 agricultural machinery shows in Harrogate and Thirsk, at the Yorkshire Young Farmers Rally at York Auction Mart, several shifts on our stands at the Great Yorkshire Show and Nidderdale Show. We

were also guests at the Yorkshire Women in Farming Conference in October.

Your support for events this year has been amazing and is really appreciated. Thank you.

Outreach Initiative

This year has seen the launch of our first ever Strategic Outreach Plan for Harrogate. Our plan was created alongside North Yorkshire Council Public Health using the latest statistics to inform us of who our most at-risk groups are and how we could support those individuals. Our volunteers have been working with dedication and kindness to begin delivering this plan amongst our community.

One of the key highlights of the Outreach initiative has been the launch of a formal partnership with the local food bank to deliver emotional support and awareness every month. This has been well received within the local community and has now become a regular feature of our off-site volunteering rota.

We are fortunate in Harrogate to also be able to support the young people who begin their training at the Army Foundation College. This has allowed the Outreach Team to set up an ongoing relationship with them, meeting over 800 new recruits so far to raise awareness of our service.

We are all too aware of how the impact of drugs and alcohol can affect mental and physical health as well as relationships,

and the Outreach Team have established connections with a new local drug and alcohol recovery network to raise awareness of our service.

Local awareness has been key to the outreach strategy and this has been achieved by working with Public Health to erect permanent suicide awareness signage in 2 local high risk areas as well as the delivery of awareness packs to many local pubs and GP surgeries in Harrogate and District.

As a result of this work over a thousand more individuals within our local community now know where to find us if they need help.

Our fantastic partnership with Network Rail in particular the support we receive from staff at Harrogate Train Station has allowed us to be present on the platform to engage with local people on their commute. We have been able to share Samaritans published materials with them that provide guidance on what to do if they spot someone who is suicidal on the railway. This has opened up many conversations and during these sessions we have been pleased to hear directly how Samaritans has impacted someone's life, and at times saved a life due to their existence.

Grants and donations

Fundraising is essential for the viability of our Branch and every donation, large or small, helps us to maintain our service and support people in emotional distress.

Donations

We would like to thank the following:

Volunteers, their families and former volunteers

CAMEO – Gracious Street Methodist Church, Knaresborough

Harrogate Round Table

Harrogate 41 Club

Skipton Craven Rotary Club

Harrogate Nuns

Harrogate Decorative & Fine Arts Group

Fisher Singers

Watsons of Harrogate

Belzona

Baltzersens

The Local Lotto

Mrs Katherine M Coward

Grants

We were fortunate to obtain grants from:

The Sylvia & Colin Shepherd Charitable Trust

The Linden Charitable Trust

LNER Customer & Community Investment Fund

Two Ridings Community Fund

National Lottery Community Fund

Collections

Our participation in various local events helped to raise vital funds. These included The Great Yorkshire Show, Harrogate Christmas Market, Nidderdale Show, Harrogate Town FC, Alfie Boe Concert and the sale of Christmas Cards and various raffles.

How to donate

Online donations can be made via Enthuse at [samaritans.org/Harrogate](https://www.samaritans.org/Harrogate) or <https://www.justgiving.com/samaritans-harrogate>

Donations can be made via online shopping at [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://www.smile.amazon.co.uk)

Cheques can be sent to us at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate HG1 1BX. Standing Order forms are also available for regular donations.

Financial Review

Investments Policy

Various investments were acquired several years ago following the receipt of legacies to help cover future potential operating shortfalls and also to provide a reliable source of income. This investment income is included in the Statement of Receipts and Payments.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that, in the light of past history, up to 30 months running costs is an appropriate level of reserves, and the Trustees review our reserves policy annually.

As at 31 March 2024 our unrestricted reserves excluding fixed assets were £99,673 and this represents 20.37 months of operating costs, based on average expenditure over the last 3 accounting periods. The Trustees believe this to be a healthy level of reserves given the plans for the coming year.

Trustees' reporting responsibilities

The Trustees are required by the Branch Constitution and charity law to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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.

Teresa Hitchens FCCA of Hitchens Consultancy Ltd was appointed as the Charity's independent examiner during the year and has expressed her willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Trustees on 26 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Mark Edwards
Branch Director

Financial Statements

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Samaritans of Harrogate and District

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on the following pages.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My Independent Examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity, the Charity's Members as a body, and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my Independent Examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity Trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Hitchens Consultancy Limited
40 Gascoigne Crescent
Harrogate
HG1 4AJ



Teresa Hitchens FCCA
Date: 26 June 2024

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	This year 2023/24			Previous year 2022/23
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 12 months £	Total 12 months £
Receipts					
Donations	2	22,260	-	22,260	22,354
Legacies		500	-	500	-
Fundraising events		452	-	452	6,550
Grants	2	11,679	9,600	21,279	25,149
Covenants & Gift Aid		2,064	-	2,064	2,224
Tax refunds		981	-	981	2,695
Investment income		1,933	-	1,933	1,894
Interest received		961	-	961	282
		40,830	9,600	50,430	61,148
Payments					
Direct charitable expenses	3	34,441	3,167	37,608	40,233
Fundraising expenses	4	3,047	29	3,076	2,818
Management & admin costs	5	12,208	897	13,105	7,623
Governance costs	6	1,822	-	1,822	1,888
		51,518	4,093	55,611	52,562
Net receipts / (payments)		(10,688)	5,507	(5,181)	8,586
Investment sales		-		-	-
Investment purchases		-		-	-
Cash funds last year end		75,326	2,402	77,728	69,142
Cash funds transfer this period end		2,402	(2,402)		
Cash funds this year end		67,040	5,507	72,547	77,728
Cash funds					
HSBC Current bank account				20,738	4,088
Virgin Money savings account				32,137	32,000
CAF Current bank account				1,332	838
CAF Savings account				18,240	40,702
Provisions float				100	100
				72,547	77,728

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

Cash funds	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
HSBC Current bank account		15,231	5,507
CAF Current bank account		1,332	-
Short term bank deposits		50,377	-
Provisions float		100	-
		<u>67,040</u>	<u>5,507</u>
Investment assets	8	Cost £	Current value £
Blackrock Charities UK Bond Fund		17,423	14,568
M & G Equities Investment Fund for charities (Charifund)		11,850	22,565
		<u>29,273</u>	<u>37,133</u>
Assets retained for the Charity's own use	9		Current value £
Premises at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate	10		175,000
			<u>175,000</u>
Liabilities		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Independent Examiner's fee 2024		500	-
Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity 2024 – subject to agreement	11	4,000	-
		<u>4,500</u>	<u>-</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 26 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Rosemary Evans

Rosemary Evans, Branch Treasurer

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2024

1 General Information and Accounting Policies

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charities Commission for England and Wales and is governed by the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The statement of accounts has been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011, the Statement of Recommended Practice and Accounting by Charities (SORP 2005) and the Charity's governing document.

Going concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. They continue to believe that the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the annual financial statements.

Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity. Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Receipts

Voluntary income, including donations, legacies and grants, that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised on receipt. Investment income is recognised on receipt.

Payments

Liabilities are stated as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on a payment basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of Trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to Trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Support costs

Support costs are those costs incurred in connection with the central and administration function of the Charity and are allocated to charitable functions on a proportionate basis to the direct costs.

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	This year 2023/24			Previous year 2022/23
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds £	funds £	£	£
2 Donations					
Organisation donations		7,374	-	7,374	12,499
Individual donations		14,886	-	14,886	9,855
Trust donations		-	-	-	-
		<u>22,260</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,260</u>	<u>22,354</u>
Grants					
HMPPS Listener Scheme Grant		4,179	-	4,179	2,149
Grants		7,500	9,600	17,100	23,000
		<u>11,679</u>	<u>9,600</u>	<u>21,279</u>	<u>25,149</u>
3 Direct charitable expenses					
Volunteer training and support costs		178	-	178	241
Volunteer travel expenses		6,423	48	6,471	6,406
Advertising and publicity		3,224	1,732	4,956	710
Directors' expenses		7	-	7	48
Share of premises overheads	7	24,609	1,387	25,996	32,827
		<u>34,441</u>	<u>3,167</u>	<u>37,608</u>	<u>40,232</u>
4 Fundraising expenses					
Fundraising expenses		2,534	-	2,534	2,134
Share of premises overheads	7	513	29	542	684
		<u>3,047</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>3,076</u>	<u>2,818</u>
5 Management and admin costs					
Postage, printing and stationery		1,837	798	2,635	2,822
Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity	11	5,866	-	5,866	2,280
Voluntary donation to Samaritans Regional Charity		2,000	-	2,000	
Sundry expenses		1,992	70	2,062	1,837
Share of premises overheads	7	513	29	542	684
		<u>12,208</u>	<u>897</u>	<u>13,105</u>	<u>7,623</u>
6 Governance costs					
Independent examiner's fee		1,020		1,020	960
AGM/Branch meeting costs		802		802	928
Legal fees		-		-	-
		<u>1,822</u>		<u>1,822</u>	<u>1,888</u>

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2024

		This year 2023/24			Previous year 2022/23
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £	Total £
7 Premises overheads					
Water, light and heat		4,489		4,489	3,874
Repairs and renewals		11,831		11,831	12,651
Cleaning and housekeeping		2,877		2,877	3,026
Equipment purchases		970	1,445	2,415	9,390
Telephones		2,010		2,010	1,923
Insurance		1,573		1,573	1,548
Business rates		1,885		1,885	1,783
		25,635	1,445	27,080	34,195
Allocated to:	%				
Direct charitable expenditure	96	24,609	1,387	25,996	32,827
Fundraising & Publicity	2	513	29	542	684
Management & administration	2	513	29	542	684
		25,635	1,445	27,080	34,195

8 Investments

Quarterly valuations are received and as at 31 March 2024 there was an overall gain of £7,860. The historic cost of these investments was £29,273 and quarterly income is received.

9 Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment

The Charity has use of various sundry items of furniture and office equipment purchased over the years. The cost and market value of these sundry assets are negligible to the Charity.

10 Premises

The Charity's freehold premises at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate were last valued informally on an open market basis by Mr S. G. Archer, BSc, FRICS, of Verity Frearson Ltd on 12 October 2017.

11 Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity

The branch is required to make a contribution toward the cost of administrative expenses to Samaritans Central Charity. This contribution is based on 4% of income plus a percentage of reserves on a sliding scale. The contribution for the year to 31 March 2024 is estimated at £4,000, subject to agreement, and will be paid during the year to 31 March 2025.

12 Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

None of the Trustees were directly or indirectly remunerated during the year.

£3,959 expenses were paid to 6 Trustees (£1,160 fundraising: £1,070 travel: £884 premises: £845 administration).

13 Staff Costs

The Charity does not have any paid staff.

We're here to listen

Call free day or night on

116 123

Email

jo@samaritans.org

Web

samaritans.org/harrogate

Visit us

5 Mount Parade

Harrogate

HG1 1BX

SAMARITANS

Samaritans of Harrogate and District is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales (1173716). Our registered office is located at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 1BX.

SAMARITANS OF HARROGATE AND DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1173716

Accounts

SAMARITANS



Annual Report 2022-23

Our vision



Every life lost to suicide is a tragedy, and our vision is that fewer people die by suicide.

Our mission



To be there for anyone who needs someone. To give people ways to cope and be there for others. And to campaign to make suicide prevention a priority.

Our values



Listening

Exploring feelings alleviates distress and helps people to reach a better understanding of their situation and the options open to them.

Confidentiality

If people feel safe, they are more likely to be open about their feelings.

Non-judgmental

We want people to be able to talk to us without fear of prejudice or rejection.

People making their own decisions

We believe that people have the right to find their own solution and that telling people what to do takes responsibility away from them.

Human contact

Giving people time, undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces distress and despair.

Contents



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Section 7 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	12-18

Director's Introduction

Wow doesn't time fly when you are having fun! My second report and AGM. As always, I have to start by saying a huge thank you to you all, our amazing volunteers, both listeners and supporters. You have given up your time and skills so freely to support our callers and the branch in general throughout another year.

Last year I spoke about the effects of emerging from the pandemic and hoped the next year would see improvements in our country's welfare. Sadly, things have got more difficult, especially with the war in Ukraine, the cost of living crisis and what we are seeing as the long-term mental health effects of the last few years. Our service is needed even more than ever.

However, in our branch we have stepped up to this challenge and supported more callers in the first 6 months of this year than we did last year and that's down to your hard work and dedication. We've significantly reduced the number of night shifts that we have had to close which is amazing and has gained us praise from both our regional leaders and central office.

I established the strapline for my tenure of *"More People Doing Less"*. And this has been so generously embraced by all our volunteers. When I began approx. 50% of our team had a second role as of April this year 77% had more than one role. That is amazing. For some people, this means jobs are not so onerous.

I would like to thank Mandy 881 and Jo 937 for their support over the last year through

the good, and shall we say more difficult times. In addition, the Branch Leadership Team and Trustees have each worked in different ways to keep our branch going. They have led on new developments, kept us safe and compliant, interviewed and recruited a further 26 volunteers and ensured we are financially sound.

Our core priorities are delivering listening services on the phone, and providing online chat engagement and we have done really well in delivering a high-quality service in both. I am always thankful to our dedicated team of Leaders who support us after each shift with both care and compassion.

In addition to this, we train and support our extended team at Wealstun Prison and the guys who deliver the service day in and day out offer invaluable support to prisoners. We have trained over 26 new listeners in the prison over the last year.

Our in house Training and Recruitment Team has worked hard to keep us topped up with new volunteers even under the challenges of their group currently being a diminishing band of dedicated folk.

We have made further improvements and refurbishments to the branch this year and thanks to Carol 933 and Andrew 935 we have now got top-of-the-range sleeping arrangements and a new training room with state-of-the-art IT.

Sticking on this theme we are blessed with an amazing Fundraising Team and we have raised, as you will see later in this report, incredible amounts of money through talks, flag days, golf events, and the amazing number of successful bids that have been written. All this money is professionally managed by Peter who works quietly behind the scenes. He will be stepping down at the AGM and we thank him for his diligent work in keeping us all in order for the past 4 years. Thank you Peter.

Looking to the next year I am excited to see how our new Outreach Strategy emerges under the leadership of Jules 944.

Best Wishes

Mark Edwards

Branch Director

Next year sees Samaritans take pride of place at the London Marathon as the official charity of the year. We hope to hold a massive event in Harrogate and paint the town green. This is a one-off chance to really promote our service both nationally and locally and I hope that we can continue to grow our service here in Harrogate.

I know there is much more I could celebrate and many more individuals I could thank but that would involve destroying a small rainforest to create the paper to allow me to do so. Suffice to say I really do appreciate every single hour you all give to enable our branch to be successful. I am proud of each and every one of you and what we do collectively to support those in our world that need a friendly, confidential and non-judgemental listening ear.

Thank you all so much!

Branch Leadership

Samaritans of Harrogate and District, an affiliated branch of the national Samaritans organisation, is an independent charity (Registration No. 1173716). The branch was established in 1976 and converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 October 2017. Its operation and conduct are governed by a Constitution dated 7 July 2017. The principle office is 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate, HG1 1BX.

Branch Leadership Team

Following consultation with branch members, our Director is appointed for a three-year term by the Trustee Board of the Samaritans Central Charity. The Director heads a Branch Leadership Team which, in addition to being responsible for the provision and quality of support for callers and volunteers, manages the branch and its premises.

This team comprises 2 Vice Directors, 6 Trustees and 11 Deputy Directors. Deputies are selected by the Director and, with effect from our 2018 Annual General Meeting, all Trustees other than the Director are elected annually.

The Trustees have legal responsibility for the operation of the branch and we currently have Deputies with the following operational responsibilities:

Education and Outreach
Fundraising
IT
Mentoring
Prison
Recruitment and Interviewing
Rural Initiative
Rota
Training
Volunteer Care

Our Trustees

Mark Edwards has been our Director since 10 March 2022. On the same date Jo Johnson and Mandy Fallon were appointed as Vice Directors.

At the Annual General Meeting on 15 October 2022 the following Trustees were elected at that meeting:

Peter Wilson	Branch Treasurer
Carol Chapman	Branch Secretary
Neil McLaughlin	Trustee Without Portfolio
Mark Edwards	Branch Director Trustee
Jo Johnson	Vice Director
Mandy Fallon	Vice Director

What we do

Our aim is to improve the emotional health of people who contact us and our mission is that fewer people die by suicide. We provide emotional support round the clock to people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide. In planning all activities of the Branch, the Trustees are conscious of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Our Volunteers

Our listening volunteers support people in distress over the phone, by email, and face to face. On every shift at least four volunteers are required to support callers: two volunteers in the branch providing direct support, another volunteer, known as a Leader, available by phone for unexpected problems and for debriefs at the end of each shift; and one of our Deputy Directors on standby for real emergencies.

Sometimes people are referred to us for support by other organisations, such as mental health services and the police.

We give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others. We want to celebrate those moments of connection between people that can protect and even save lives.

Harrogate is a very caring branch. Our volunteers are supported by the Volunteer Care team who look after the wellbeing of all our fellow Sams, both Listening and Support volunteers. The team responds to anyone with a concern, whether it's taking a disturbing call, or going through a difficult patch in their own life.

Outreach

Outreach continue to strengthen our relationship with the local community. They have an invaluable connection with the local railway stations and offer support to railway staff and the general public in the event of incidents on the railway.

They also talk to adult groups about the work we do and attend many local shows and events.

Alongside York Branch we also advised SCO on their latest Real People Real Stories Campaign which targeted rural communities.

Education

The team have been along to Harrogate College for a couple of mornings where they were able to have some really good conversations with young people aged 16-18. They shared the space with other Charities and contributed to an environment where young people were able to come and ask questions for an NCS project they were engaging in. This was the second year that the Education team have taken part in this initiative and hope to continue this partnership.

The Last Year

The year to 31 March 2023 was yet another busy and interesting time for our branch.

Caller contacts

In the year leading up to 31 March 2023 Harrogate Samaritans answered 19,733 calls, completed 680 web chats, and made 74 call backs to callers who needed additional help and support after their initial contact with us. In all, the volunteers at Harrogate Samaritans made 20,487 separate contacts with callers who were in distress or despair in order to listen and provide a space to talk in confidence.

Volunteer Care

The Volunteer Care team at Harrogate Samaritans is supported by Jan 929, Deputy Director and Sheila 581 and Alison 972. They provide a brief monthly report of New Samaritans to the team and issue a list of those volunteers that are leaving which is displayed on the notice board each month. VC have stopped putting up those volunteers on Leave of Absence (LOA) as some LOA are private and those volunteers may not want it to be known that they are on LOA, and they want to be respectful of that.

Volunteer Care monitor some of those listeners that may not have been able to sign up for listening sessions for some time so that they can check in on them to see if they are ok and if they need additional support to return to calls.

The team also support those volunteers who might be on long term absence due

to sickness and keep in touch by email or phone to make sure they feel supported in a way that suits them.

At the time of this report there were 123 listening volunteers in Harrogate Branch and we appreciate all the good work that they do. This figure is an increase of 7 volunteer listeners from last year. On average there are 3 volunteers who decide to leave each month who are then potentially replaced by the New Samaritans who are trained by the Branch Training Team to enable them to take up their listening duties.

The Volunteer Team have also taken the time to produce a Volunteer Care Policy to look at how they support volunteers coming back from longer term absence and suggest mentored shifts, inhouse or online training and provide in person support led by Donna and the training Team DD.

For the support of the volunteers, there is a private WhatsApp group run by the Volunteer Care Team. In this group each member of the VC team has an allocated number of volunteers to support on an as and when needed basis they liaise with each other regularly.

The team does invaluable work openly offering support and kindness to other volunteers should they ever need it. This enhances the whole ethos of trying to fully support our volunteers in their listening

duties and other roles within the branch so they can continue to support our callers when it matters most.

Prison Support

Harrogate branch provides a Prison Support Team to work with Wealstun prison near Wetherby to promote and support the Listener Scheme - a scheme where prisoners, on a voluntary basis, without payment or reward, volunteer to be trained in Samaritans listening skills. They then go on to use those skills - to support fellow prisoners cope with emotional distress, and to reduce suicide within the prison. Samaritans Prison Team members select and train those Listener Volunteers; and the satisfaction gained from visibly seeing them change their self-perceptions, their attitudes to others, and their own personal relationships, is moving. Seeing how proud they are when they receive their certificates on successful completion of core training, is amazing.

After Core Training is completed, our job is then to provide them with effective ongoing support through twice-monthly debriefing meetings – the equivalent for them of our shift debriefs to Leaders. Ongoing training is important too, and now includes Postvention Training so that Listeners can play an active and valuable part in dealing with the fallout following a death by suicide in the prison.

Wealstun prison is principally a training and resettlement establishment, mainly preparing its 800+ inmates for their eventual release. It suffers from most of the ills of the prison system e.g., a high proportion of prisoners with mental health

issues; patches of bullying and violence; long periods of isolation and loneliness, and often a lack of family support and care. All potentially leading to emotional distress, self-harm and suicidal thoughts and acts. In that environment, a sound and effective Listener Scheme is essential.

We currently have a record number of Listeners on the Wealstun team (22), and the Prison Team has done a sterling job in running core training, managing the regular support meetings, and delivering ongoing training (including postvention training). We also run a short monthly session for new prison staff and officers going through their induction process - ensuring that they are aware of the scheme and their part in it. One of the highlights is that we have two of our Listeners perform a short role play in front of the new staff that illustrates brilliantly the value and difficulty of the work that Listeners do.

We know that our work is valued and appreciated by the senior management team at the prison, and this is reflected in the trusted status of Samaritans and Listeners.

More and more Samaritans are coming to see our work up close. Hilary has brought several volunteers across from the Bradford branch, keen to better understand what we do and to give a better context to their prison calls. Maybe this year is the one for you to raise your hand and come and see the great job our Listeners are doing, to understand why we are all so passionate about what we do, and to improve your own knowledge of

the prison environment and the lives of prison inmates.

Recruitment

In summer 2022 we had a few busy months when we were able to recruit enough applicants to fill Mark's Summer Training Course, the Autumn Training Course and one person who took part in online Zoom training delivered by Samaritans Central Office, the latter being a new initiative for Samaritans.

In January 2023 we started the interview process for this year and we have been successful in recruiting 10 applicants for Mark's Summer Course (held for the first time during the day) and 6 volunteers for our usual Spring Training Course.

We are very fortunate that the Harrogate Branch are attracting people who would like to take the training course when many branches are struggling to recruit. It is very important that we do attract new Samaritans and to encourage people to visit the website and learn more about the

work that we do and how they can become involved.

We have a fantastic team of interviewers who give up lots of their time to enable us to meet our recruitment targets.

Rural Initiative

Harrogate Branch volunteers play a key role in the region's Rural Initiative, which was established 3 years ago, with the objective of helping to reduce the suicide rate amongst those living in rural communities and working in farming in particular.

It has taken some time to get back on track since Covid but in the past year our volunteers have attended the Annual Farming Remembrance Plough Service at Ripon Cathedral, presented at the Regional Conference in March, manned stands at Yorkshire Young Farmers Rally, Yorkshire Agricultural Machinery Show, the Nidderdale Show and as in previous years we were the lead branch for the 4-day Great Yorkshire Show.....an all-round amazing effort!

Grants and donations

Fundraising is essential for the viability of our Branch and every donation, large or small, helps us to maintain our service and support people in emotional distress.

Donations

We would like to thank the following:

Volunteers, their families and former

Volunteers

Marks & Spencer

Harrogate Round Table

Two Ridings Community Fund

Harrogate Golf Club

Charles & Elsie Sykes Trust

Sarah Millican

National Lottery Community Fund

The Morrisons Foundation

Wm Morrison Supermarket

ASDA Foundation

HSBC Bank, Harrogate

Stumps Garage

The Local Lotto

Golf Day

We were fortunate to be able to hold another Golf Day during the year. Over £4000 was generated towards our funds due to very generous donations and sponsorship for which we are most grateful and would wish to thank all those involved in this event including Harrogate Golf Club for the use of their facilities.

Collections

As we recovered from the challenges of COVID-19 we were once again able to participate in various local events which helped raise vital funds. These included Great Yorkshire Show, Harrogate Christmas Market, Nidderdale Show, Flag Day, Carol Singing, Harrogate Beer Festival and the sale of Christmas Cards and various Raffles.

How to donate

Online donations can be made via Enthuse at [samaritans.org/Harrogate](https://www.samaritans.org/Harrogate) or <https://www.justgiving.com/samaritans-harrogate>

Donations can be made via online shopping at [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://www.smile.amazon.co.uk)

Cheques can be sent to us at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate HG1 1BX. Standing Order forms are also available for regular donations.

Financial Review

Investments Policy

Various investments were acquired several years ago following the receipt of legacies to help cover future potential operating shortfalls and also to provide a reliable source of income. This investment income is included in the Statement of Receipts and Payments.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that, in the light of past history, up to 30 months running costs is an appropriate level of reserves, and the Trustees review our reserves policy annually.

As at 31 March 2023 our unrestricted reserves excluding fixed assets were £108,100 and this represents 24.60 months of operating costs, based on average expenditure over the last 3 accounting periods.

Although higher than the normal cover of 18 months it is anticipated that there will be some large expenditure in the coming financial year in respect of premises and training facilities improvements which is likely to reduce this figure.

Trustees' reporting responsibilities

The Trustees are required by the Branch Constitution and charity law to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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.

HPH Chartered Accountants were re-appointed as the Charity's independent examiners during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Trustees on 06 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Mark Edwards
Branch Director

Financial Statements

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Samaritans of Harrogate and District

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on the following pages.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My Independent Examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity, the Charity's Members as a body, and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my Independent Examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity Trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

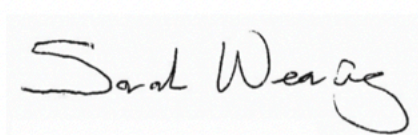
Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

HPH Chartered Accountants
Conyngham Hall Business Centre
Bond End
Knaresborough
HG5 9AY



Sarah Wearing FCA, DChA
Date: 9 October 2023

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2023

Notes	This year 2022/23			Previous year 2021/22	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 12 months	Total 12 months	
	£	£	£	£	
Receipts					
Donations	2	22,354	-	22,354	23,868
Legacies		-	-	-	1,000
Fundraising events		6,550	-	6,550	1,437
Grants	2	19,560	5,589	25,149	23,513
Covenants & Gift Aid		2,224	-	2,224	3,072
Tax refunds		2,695	-	2,695	989
Investment income		1,894	-	1,894	1,762
Interest received		282	-	282	44
		55,559	5,589	61,148	55,685
Payments					
Direct charitable expenses	3	30,996	9,236	40,232	53,451
Fundraising expenses	4	2,634	184	2,818	1,356
Management & admin costs	5	7,245	378	7,623	11,431
Governance costs	6	1,888	-	1,888	1,740
		42,763	9,798	52,561	67,978
Net receipts / (payments)					
		12,796	(4,209)	8,587	(12,293)
Investment sales		-		-	-
Investment purchases		-		-	-
Cash funds last year end		62,530	6,611	69,141	81,434
Cash funds this year end		75,326	2,402	77,728	69,141
Cash funds					
HSBC Current bank account			4,088	34,463	
Virgin Money savings account			32,000	32,000	
CAF Current bank account			838	2,568	
CAF Savings account			40,702	10	
Provisions float			100	100	
			77,728	69,141	

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

Cash funds	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
HSBC Current bank account		1,686	2,402
CAF Current bank account		838	-
Short term bank deposits		72,702	-
Provisions float		100	-
	Samaritans of Harrogate and District	<u>75,326</u>	<u>2,402</u>
Investment assets	8	Cost £	Current value £
Blackrock Charities UK Bond Fund		17,423	14,789
M & G Equities Investment Fund for charities (Charifund)		<u>11,850</u>	<u>22,985</u>
		<u>29,273</u>	<u>37,774</u>
Assets retained for the Charity's own use	9		Current value £
Premises at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate	10		<u>175,000</u>
			<u>175,000</u>
Liabilities		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Independent Examiner's fee 2023 – estimated		1,000	-
Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity	11	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>
– subject to agreement		<u>6,000</u>	<u>-</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 06 September 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Peter Wilson, Branch Treasurer

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2023

1 General Information and Accounting Policies

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charities Commission for England and Wales and is governed by the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The statement of accounts has been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011, the Statement of Recommended Practice and Accounting by Charities (SORP 2005) and the Charity's governing document.

Going concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. They continue to believe that the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the annual financial statements.

Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity. Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Receipts

Voluntary income, including donations, legacies and grants, that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised on receipt. Investment income is recognised on receipt.

Payments

Liabilities are stated as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on a payment basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of Trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to Trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Support costs

Support costs are those costs incurred in connection with the central and administration function of the Charity and are allocated to charitable functions on a proportionate basis to the direct costs.

Samaritans of Harrogate and District
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2023

		This year 2022/23			Previous year 2021/22
Notes		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £	Total £
2 Donations					
		12,499	-	12,499	15,408
		9,855	-	9,855	4,460
		-	-	-	4,000
		22,354	-	22,354	23,868
Grants					
		18,000	5,000	23,000	20,000
		1,560	589	2,149	3,513
		19,560	5,589	25,149	23,513
3 Direct charitable expenses					
		-	-	-	1,069
		241	-	241	517
		6,010	396	6,406	3,049
		710	-	710	6,638
		48	-	48	325
	7	23,987	8,840	32,827	41,853
		30,996	9,236	40,232	53,451
4 Fundraising expenses					
		2,134	-	2,134	484
	7	500	184	684	872
		2,634	184	2,818	1,356
5 Management and admin costs					
		2,683	139	2,822	1,111
	11	2,280	-	2,280	7,727
	-	1,782	55	1,837	1,721
	7	500	184	684	872
		7,245	378	7,623	11,431
6 Governance costs					
		960	-	960	900
		928	-	928	840
		-	-	-	-
		1,888	-	1,888	1,740

Samaritans of Harrogate and District

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2023

		This year 2022/23			Previous year 2021/22
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £	Total £
7 Premises overheads					
Water, light and heat		3,874	-	3,874	2,181
Repairs and renewals		3,443	9,208	12,651	27,999
Cleaning and housekeeping		3,026	-	3,026	2,179
Equipment purchases		9,390	-	9,390	7,288
Telephones		1,923	-	1,923	835
Insurance		1,548	-	1,548	1,343
Business rates		1,783	-	1,783	1,772
		24,987	9,208	34,195	43,597
Allocated to:	%				
Direct charitable expenditure	96	23,987	8,840	32,827	41,853
Fundraising & Publicity	2	500	184	684	872
Management & administration	2	500	184	684	872
		24,987	9,208	34,195	43,597

8 Investments

Quarterly valuations are received and as at 31 March 2023 there was an overall gain of £8,501. The historic cost of these investments was £29,273 and quarterly income is received.

9 Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment

The Charity has use of various sundry items of furniture and office equipment purchased over the years. The cost and market value of these sundry assets are negligible to the Charity.

10 Premises

The Charity's freehold premises at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate were last valued informally on an open market basis by Mr S. G. Archer, BSc, FRICS, of Verity Frearson Ltd on 12 October 2017.

11 Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity

The branch is required to make a contribution toward the cost of administrative expenses to Samaritans Central Charity. This contribution is based on 4% of income plus a percentage of reserves on a sliding scale. The contribution for the year to 31 March 2023 is estimated at £5,000, subject to agreement, and will be paid during the year to 31 March 2024.

12 Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

None of the Trustees were directly or indirectly remunerated during the year.

13 Staff Costs

The Charity does not have any paid staff.

A registered charity

SAMARITANS



Thank
you

We're here to listen

Call free day or night on

116 123

Email

jo@samaritans.org

Web

samaritans.org/harrogate

Visit us

5 Mount Parade

Harrogate

HG1 1BX

SAMARITANS

Samaritans of Harrogate and District is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales (1173716). Our registered office is located at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 1BX.

SAMARITANS OF HARROGATE AND DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1173716

Accounts

SAMARITANS

Harrogate & District

**Whatever
you're facing**
We're here to listen

Annual report 2021–22

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Director's Introduction

I have to begin my first report as your new Branch Director by thanking all our amazing volunteers, both listeners and supporters. You have given up your time and skills so freely to support our callers and the branch in general throughout another year.

I would like to also say a special thanks to Liz 901 for all she did during her three-year tenure. She led us through what was an unprecedented time in our world history, and she did it all with safety in mind, as well as enabling the branch to function efficiently and effectively.

I took over the branch in March and while we are getting back to some normality, we are still emerging from a trauma that will have long-lasting effects in addition to an increasingly difficult economic climate. The effects are being felt on the volunteering base within our society. However, I have been hearted by our recruitment and training teams who have worked tirelessly to keep volunteer numbers at an operation level that enables us to maintain our high standards of delivery.

A special mention to our small Mentor Team who guide our new recruits to gain their wings by utilising their empathetic and constructive support. I have to admit that keeping shifts open has been a struggle for the last four months. However, by gradually increasing our numbers we are beginning to improve and significantly fewer shifts are being closed. I hope that by the end of this year we will be back to

our pre-pandemic numbers and shift openings.

In taking over I wanted to try to embrace and acknowledge the fact that in this modern age all charities need to fulfil many more statutory functions than they might have done in the past. To that end, I have established the strapline for my tenure of *"More People Doing Less"*. This began with the appointment of two Vice Directors and a huge thank you to Jo 937 and Mandy 881 for stepping up and I have appreciated their support as I begin to navigate all that is involved in leading our branch. This was followed by a huge team of 11 volunteers who agreed to be Deputies. Each Deputy has been hard at work developing the branch through the establishment of new teams to help share the workload. I would like to thank them and their teams for all they have done.

Our Trustees ensure the branch fulfils all of its legal obligations. This small yet perfectly formed team has worked tirelessly to make sure we are all safe, that our finances are managed effectively and that our building evolves to remain fit for purpose and well maintained. Thanks again to this team.

Our number one priority is delivering listening on the phone, emails and online chat and we have done really well in delivering a high-quality service. I am always thankful to our dedicated team of leaders who support us after each shift with care and compassion. In addition to this, we train and support our extended team at Wealstun Prison and these guys who deliver the service day in and day out offer invaluable support to prisoners. Our amazing Prison Team have trained a bumper crop of listeners to support throughout the prison. I have had the honour of meeting some of these guys and I know how hard they work and how much they value the skills we have enabled them to develop. Something that will serve them well when they are released.

We are blessed with an amazing Fundraising Team and we have raised, as you will see later in this report, incredible amounts of money through talks, flag days, golf events and the continuous work of Carol 933 and the amazing number of successful bids she has managed to secure for us. All this money is professionally managed by Peter who works quietly behind the scenes.

We have also managed a number of Outreach sessions as we move back to normality. This has included sessions delivered to the North Yorkshire Police, several WI groups, church congregations and more recently the Education Team have started delivering sessions to young people again. Our members of the Rural Outreach Team have also delivered at a large number of events linked to the farming community and this culminated in Princess Anne visiting our stand at the Great Yorkshire Show. This is the icing on top of our Samaritan cake. I am glad that this form of outreach is gradually returning to normality and am truly grateful to all those volunteers involved.

I know there is much more I could celebrate and many more individuals I could thank but that would involve destroying a small rainforest to create the paper to allow me to do so. Suffice to say I appreciate every single hour our volunteers give to enable our branch to be successful. I look forward with confidence that our branch will continue to go from strength to strength as we support our callers who will undoubtedly need our skills to enable them to navigate the tricky issues that they will encounter in the coming year.

Best Wishes

Mark Edwards

Branch Director

Branch Leadership

Samaritans of Harrogate and District, an affiliated branch of the national Samaritans organisation, is an independent charity (Registration No. 1173716). The branch was established in 1976 and converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 October 2017. Its operation and conduct are governed by a Constitution dated 7 July 2017. The principle office is 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate, HG1 1BX.

Branch Leadership Team

Following consultation with branch members, our Director is appointed for a three-year term by the Trustee Board of the Samaritans Central Charity. The Director heads a Branch Leadership Team which, in addition to being responsible for the provision and quality of support for callers and volunteers, manages the branch and its premises.

This team comprises 2 Vice Directors, 5 Trustees and 11 Deputy Directors. Deputies are selected by the Director and, with effect from our 2018 Annual General Meeting, all Trustees other than the Director are elected annually.

The Trustees have legal responsibility for the operation of the branch and we currently have Deputies with the following operational responsibilities:

Caller Support
Education and Outreach
Fundraising
IT
Mentoring
Prison
Recruitment and Interviewing
Rural Initiative
Rota
Training
Volunteer Care

Our Trustees

Mark Edwards has been our Director since 10 March 2022. On the same date Jo Johnson and Mandy Fallon were appointed as Assistant Directors.

At the Annual General Meeting on 20 October 2021 the following Trustees were elected at that meeting:

Peter Wilson	Branch Treasurer
Carol Chapman	Branch Secretary
Alison Lumley	Branch Minutes Secretary
Neil McLaughlin	Trustee Without Portfolio
Mark Edwards	Branch Director Trustee (Co-opted March 2022)

What we do

Our aim is to improve the emotional health of people who contact us and our mission is that fewer people die by suicide. We provide emotional support round the clock to people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide. In planning all activities of the Branch, the Trustees are conscious of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Our Volunteers

Our listening volunteers support people in distress over the phone, by email, and face to face. On every shift at least four volunteers are required to support callers: two volunteers in the branch providing direct support, another volunteer, known as a Leader, available by phone for unexpected problems and for debriefs at the end of each shift; and one of our Deputy Directors on standby for real emergencies.

Sometimes people are referred to us for support by other organisations, such as mental health services and the police.

We give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others. We want to celebrate those moments of connection between people that can protect and even save lives.

Harrogate is a very caring Branch. Our volunteers are supported by the Volunteer Care team who look after the wellbeing of all our fellow Samaritans, both Listening and Support volunteers. The team responds to anyone with a concern, whether it's taking a disturbing call, or going through a difficult patch in their own life.

Outreach

Outreach continue to strengthen our relationship with the local community. They have an invaluable connection with the local railway stations and offer support to railway staff and the general public in the event of incidents on the railway.

They also talk to adult groups about the work we do and attend many local shows and events.

Alongside York Branch we also advised SCO on their latest Real People Real Stories Campaign which targeted rural communities.

Education

The team have been along to Harrogate College for a couple of mornings where they were able to have some really good conversations with young people aged 16-18. They shared the space with other Charities and contributed to an environment where young people were able to come and ask questions for an NCS project they were engaging in. This was the second year that the Education team have taken part in this initiative and hope to continue this partnership.

The Last Year

The year to 31 March 2022 was yet another busy and interesting time for our branch.

Caller contacts

In the year leading up to 31 March 2022 Harrogate Samaritans answered 19,244 calls, sent 961 emails, completed 617 web chats through the pilot, completed 2 face to face support meetings outside the branch and made 118 call backs to callers who needed additional help and support after their initial contact with us. In all the volunteers at Harrogate Samaritans made 20,942 separate contacts with callers who were in distress or despair in order to listen and provide a space to talk in confidence.

Volunteer Care

Mental Health especially in the terms of Suicide and those at risk of suicide has been much more focussed in the news this year especially in the younger population.

Our listening shifts and newer On-line Chat sessions in the branch continue to be busy and sometimes challenging for those listening.

Also, the fallout from COVID which is still a persistent threat in terms of uncertainty of health in both callers and listeners has certainly taken its toll on everyone. Our listeners remain constant, but we are more aware of the emotional pressure of life for all especially in still uncertain times.

We have had a varying number of listeners on Leave of absence, for weeks or months due to a variety of reasons, and we keep those records up to date on file store. The 3 listeners in the Volunteer Care Team continue to monitor our listeners and are forever watching out for those volunteers who need support or time out and hopefully being there for them.

Prison Support

The past year has, again, presented many challenges in the work that we do – supporting the Listener scheme at HM Wealstun Prison. The Prison Governor and her senior management team described our work and the efforts of the Listeners to be "business critical" i.e. essential to the effective operation of the prison.

The easing of Covid restrictions have meant more demand for Listener support and, at the same time, an acceleration in transfers of men from Wealstun to Open Prisons, and for release from prison; including those we've trained as Listeners.

For the first time that any of us can remember, it was necessary to run a third Summer course to train new Listeners to replace those moving on. Our work in the prison is only possible through the passion & dedication of our Prison Team, the

quality & commitment of the prisoners who volunteer, and the ongoing support of the existing Listeners – who play such a vital part in our training programmes.

The year ahead is still unknown, but we do know that we will be working closely with the prison to ensure that our Listeners can continue to provide essential emotional support to men in custody, and we (Samaritans) will continue to recruit, train and support Listeners to do this exceptional work and to save lives.

Recruitment

Recruitment has been up and running again to a consistent level after recovering from the pandemic fall out. The recruitment team have gained a clearer picture of the number of applications pending from possible volunteers who would like to become a Samaritan at The Harrogate Branch.

There was inevitably some fallout from the 70 or so applications that had been stored in The Branch Management Tool, but this left a healthy list of applicants. In May the team held three very successful interview evenings and were ably supported by a great team of experienced interviewers.

From these sessions they were able to recruit 10 volunteers who were available to

attend Mark's new style Summer training on Saturdays in June and July. This has been a great success. Soon they will have finished their initial training and will be working with their mentors.

From this recruitment round the team were also able to fill a number of places on the Autumn Training Course.

Further Interviews will be taking place on the evening of Wednesday 13th July in order to fill the remaining places for the Autumn course

Rural Initiative

Harrogate Branch volunteers play a key role in the region's Rural Initiative, which was established 3 years ago, with the objective of helping to reduce the suicide rate amongst those living in rural communities and working in farming in particular.

It has taken some time for activities to resume post-Covid however events in the past year have included our attendance at the Yorkshire Young Farmers Rally and Yorkshire Agricultural Machinery Show, and being the lead branch for the Great Yorkshire Show and Ripon Farm Services Machinery Sale.

Grants and donations

Fundraising is essential for the viability of our Branch and every donation, large or small, helps us to maintain our service and support people in emotional distress.

Donations

We would like to thank the following:

Volunteers, their families and former volunteers

Boroughbridge Ladies Luncheon Club
Charles & Elsie Sykes Trust
Co-op Local Community Fund
Follifoot WI
Harrogate Golf Club
Harrogate Round Table
Inner Wheel Club of Ripon
Liz & Terry Bramall Foundation
LNER
Rocoil Limited
Rotary Club of Harrogate
Suicide Prevention Fund
The Local Lotto
Two Ridings Community Foundation
Vocalis
Waitrose
Watsons of Harrogate

We are also most grateful to HSBC Bank for various fundraising activities in their branch.

Golf Day

We were fortunate to benefit from another Golf Day during the year despite the COVID-19 situation. We received over £2000 in donations and sponsorship for which we are most grateful and would wish to thank all those involved in this event.

Collections

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation we were limited on the extent of our traditional fundraising activities this year. We did, however, raise essential funds at Great Yorkshire Show, Harrogate Christmas Market and through the sale of Christmas Cards and various Raffles.

How to donate

Online donations can be made via samaritans.org/Harrogate or justgiving.com/Harrogate

Donations can be made via online shopping at easyfundraising.org.uk and smile.amazon.co.uk

Cheques can be sent to us at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate HG1 1BX

Standing Order forms are also available for regular donations.

Financial Review

Investment Policy

Various investments were acquired several years ago following the receipt of legacies to help cover future potential operating shortfalls and also to provide a reliable source of income. This investment income is included in the Statement of Receipts and Payments.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that, in the light of past history, up to 30 months running costs is an appropriate level of reserves, and the Trustees review our reserves policy annually.

As at 31 March 2022 our unrestricted reserves excluding fixed assets were £101,111 and this represents 24 months of operating costs, based on average expenditure over the last 3 accounting periods. Expenditure in 2021/22 was higher than normal due mainly to the branch refurbishment and the Trustees have taken this into account when considering the level of reserves cover.

Trustees' Reporting Responsibilities

The Trustees are required by the Branch Constitution and charity law to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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.

HPH Chartered Accountants were re-appointed as the Charity's independent examiners during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Trustees on 10 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Mark Edwards
Branch Director

Financial Statements

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Samaritans of Harrogate and District

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on the following pages.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My Independent Examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity, the Charity's Members as a body, and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my Independent Examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Charity Trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

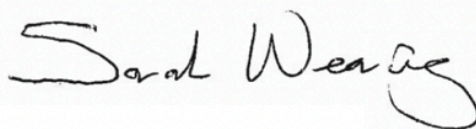
Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

HPH Chartered Accountants
Conyngham Hall Business Centre
Bond End
Knaresborough
HG5 9AY



Date: 09 September 2022

Samaritans of Harrogate and District

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	This year 2021/22			Previous year 2020/21
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 12 months £	Total 12 months £
Receipts					
Donations	2	23,868	-	23,868	15,518
Legacies		1,000	-	1,000	-
Fundraising events		1,437	-	1,437	4,216
Grants	2	17,422	6,091	23,513	29,204
Covenants & Gift Aid		3,072	-	3,072	3,021
Tax refunds		989	-	989	1,902
Investment income		1,762	-	1,762	1,987
Interest received		44	-	44	-
		49,594	6,091	55,685	55,848
Payments					
Direct charitable expenses	3	52,719	732	53,451	29,468
Fundraising expenses	4	1,356	-	1,356	662
Management & admin costs	5	11,262	169	11,431	6,575
Governance costs	6	1,740	-	1,740	924
		67,077	901	67,978	37,629
Net receipts / (payments)					
		(17,483)	5,190	(12,293)	18,219
Investment sales		-		-	18,986
Investment purchases		-		-	-
Cash funds last year end		80,013	1,421	81,434	44,229
Cash funds this year end		62,530	6,611	69,141	81,434
Cash funds					
HSBC Current bank account				34,463	49,334
Virgin Money savings account				32,000	32,000
CAF Current bank account				2,568	-
CAF Savings account				10	-
Provisions float				100	100
				69,141	81,434

Samaritans of Harrogate and District

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

Cash funds	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
HSBC Current bank account		27,852	6,611
CAF Current bank account		2,568	-
Short term bank deposits		32,010	-
Provisions float		100	-
		<u>62,530</u>	<u>6,611</u>
Investment assets	8	Cost £	Current value £
Blackrock Charities UK Bond Fund		17,423	17,300
M & G Equities Investment Fund for charities (Charifund)		11,850	24,481
		<u>29,273</u>	<u>41,781</u>
Assets retained for the Charity's own use	9		Current value £
Premises at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate	10		<u>175,000</u>
			<u>175,000</u>
Liabilities		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Independent Examiner's fee 2022 – estimated		990	-
Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity – subject to agreement	11	2,210	-
		<u>3,200</u>	<u>-</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 10 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Peter Wilson, Branch Treasurer

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2022

1 General Information and Accounting Policies

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charities Commission for England and Wales and is governed by the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The statement of accounts has been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011, the Statement of Recommended Practice and Accounting by Charities (SORP 2005) and the Charity's governing document.

Going concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. They continue to believe that the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the annual financial statements.

Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity. Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Receipts

Voluntary income, including donations, legacies and grants, that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised on receipt. Investment income is recognised on receipt.

Payments

Liabilities are stated as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on a payment basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of Trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to Trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Support costs

Support costs are those costs incurred in connection with the central and administration function of the Charity and are allocated to charitable functions on a proportionate basis to the direct costs.

Samaritans of Harrogate and District

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2022

Notes	This year 2021/22			Previous year 2020/21
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
2 Donations				
Organisation donations	15,408	-	15,408	9,239
Individual donations	4,460	-	4,460	3,279
Trust donations	4,000	-	4,000	3,000
	23,868	-	23,868	15,518
Grants				
Trust Grants	15,000	5,000	20,000	27,500
National Offender Management Service	2,422	1,091	3,513	1,704
	17,422	6,091	23,513	29,204
3 Direct charitable expenses				
Emergency telephone	1,035	34	1,069	981
Volunteer training and support costs	517	-	517	127
Volunteer travel expenses	2,351	698	3,049	3,540
Advertising and publicity	6,638	-	6,638	1,362
Directors' expenses	325	-	325	401
Share of premises overheads	41,853	-	41,853	23,057
	52,719	732	53,451	29,468
4 Fundraising expenses				
Fundraising expenses	484	-	484	400
Share of premises overheads	872	-	872	262
	1,356	-	1,356	662
5 Management and admin costs				
Postage, printing and stationery	1,026	85	1,111	903
Contribution to Samaritans Central Char	7,727	-	7,727	4,342
Sundry expenses	1,637	84	1,721	1,068
Share of premises overheads	872	-	872	262
	11,262	169	11,431	6,575
6 Governance costs				
Independent examiner's fee	900	-	900	864
AGM/Branch meeting costs	840	-	840	60
Legal fees	-	-	-	-
	1,740	-	1,740	924

Samaritans of Harrogate and District

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2022

This year 2021/22				Previous year 2020/21	
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
7 Premises overheads					
Water, light and heat		2,181	-	2,181	2,039
Repairs and renewals		27,999	-	27,999	8,510
Cleaning and housekeeping		2,179	-	2,179	2,239
Equipment purchases		7,288	-	7,288	6,151
Office telephone		835	-	835	592
Insurance		1,343	-	1,343	2,294
Business rates		1,772	-	1,772	1,756
		43,597	-	43,597	23,581
Allocated to:		%			
Direct charitable expenditure	96	41,853	-	41,853	23,057
Fundraising & Publicity	2	872	-	872	262
Management & administration	2	872	-	872	262
		43,597	-	43,597	23,581

8 Investments

Williams Investment Management informally valued the Charity's Investments on 31 March 2022 showing an overall gain of £12,508. The historic cost of these investments was £29,273.

9 Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment

The Charity has use of various sundry items of furniture and office equipment purchased over the years. The cost and market value of these sundry assets are negligible to the Charity.

10 Premises

The Charity's freehold premises at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate were last valued informally on an open market basis by Mr S. G. Archer, BSc, FRICS, of Verity Frearson Ltd on 12 October 2017.

11 Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity

The branch is required to make a contribution toward the cost of administrative expenses to Samaritans Central Charity. This contribution is based on 4% of income plus a percentage of reserves on a sliding scale. The contribution for the year to 31 March 2022 is £2,210, subject to agreement, and will be paid during the year to 31 March 2023.

12 Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

None of the Trustees were directly or indirectly remunerated during the year.

13 Staff Costs

The Charity does not have any paid staff.

We're here to listen

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Web

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**5 Mount Parade
Harrogate
HG1 1BX**

SAMARITANS

SAMARITANS OF HARROGATE AND DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1173716

Accounts

SAMARITANS

Harrogate & District

**Whatever
you're facing**
We're here to listen

Annual report 2020–21

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Director's Introduction

The last year has been unprecedented for everyone and has certainly been challenging for all the volunteers at Harrogate Samaritans. The constant changes and the need to keep everyone safe have been met with the usual support and dedication by everyone.

There have been many ways in which we have had to adapt our service. We have been unable to welcome callers who need our support into the branch and, at a time when phone calls increased, we were faced with a reduction in the number of volunteers who were able to sign up for listening shifts. At one point we dropped to forty-four volunteers actively able to listen. This is less than half our regular numbers and meant we had to look at rotas and capacity. Swift changes to our shift pattern, and a re-configuration of our rooms meant that two volunteers could be in the building together, socially distanced and able to be there for our callers. Shifts had a break between them to ensure no cross-over and as I write this we are still working in a very similar way.

So many of our volunteers were missing the support of colleagues and our fantastic Caller Support Team, almost immediately, set up a system where they were contacting, on a weekly basis, those volunteers who were shielding, working on the front line, unwell or looking after loved ones. Evidence, if it were needed, that Samaritans is one of the most supportive organisations to be a part of.

Many of our activities came to a stand-still. Outreach events were, and still are, on hold until we are advised that we can start up again. The team continue to work behind the scenes in preparation for that date, whenever it may be. In the meantime some of our volunteers have adapted and delivered talks via Zoom as well as becoming involved in a fantastic

new initiative working with North Yorkshire Police. Working together with the Outreach DDs from Northallerton, Scarborough and York our team have been able to create a training package to be delivered to newly appointed Police Mental Health Champions. This initiative also resulted in all NY Police vans having the Samaritans logo and contact number on the back of them. We hope that this partnership will continue long into the future.

One would expect fund-raising to be difficult during a pandemic but, as always, our volunteers excelled themselves. We have held branch events via Zoom, bid writing to local and national foundations all willing to offer extra support during Covid has continued, and we have even held an on-line raffle. Volunteers walked the 'Samarathon' in July and 'SAMS 50 miles' in October and one volunteer organised a 'golf day with a difference'. All these events have meant that our fund-raising has continued whilst everyone remained safe.

Recruitment and Training teams have adapted amazingly and have interviewed on-line, offered training on-line and with their continued hard work we have been able to welcome 30 fully trained and mentored volunteers into the branch. We have offered bespoke e-mail training to enable volunteers to become email champions and have started the journey to become one of the first branches to respond to on-line chat when it is launched.

Our Prison team have maintained contact with Wealstun Prison despite not being able to go in and support the prisoners and staff face to face. Again technology has played a part, not quite as successfully as we would have hoped, but the Governor has written to the team to express her gratitude for everything our volunteers have been able to do to help them.

Throughout all this we have not lost sight of the main objective of our Charity:

To enable persons in Harrogate and District and the surrounding area, as elsewhere, who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide, to receive

emotional support at any time of the day or night in order to improve their emotional health and to reduce the incidence of suicide.

We are confident that in the coming months we will be able to increase our listening sessions, make some much needed alterations to the branch to keep all our volunteers safe and protected, and continue to be adaptable.

On behalf of myself, the Trustees and the Deputy Directors – Thank you to all our volunteers for being amazing people.

Liz Wilson

Branch Leadership

Samaritans of Harrogate and District, an affiliated branch of the national Samaritans organisation, is an independent charity (Registration No. 1173716). The branch was established in 1976 and converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 October 2017. Its operation and conduct are governed by a Constitution dated 7 July 2017.

Branch Leadership Team

Following consultation with branch members, our Director is appointed for a three-year term by the Trustee Board of the Samaritans Central Charity. The Director heads a Branch Leadership Team which, in addition to being responsible for the provision and quality of support for callers and volunteers, manages the branch and its premises.

This team comprises a Vice Director, Trustees and Deputy Directors. Deputies are selected by the Director and, with effect from our 2018 Annual General Meeting, all Trustees other than the Director are elected annually.

The Vice Director is a Deputy without Portfolio and a Trustee. Other Deputies may also be Trustees and vice versa.

The Trustees have legal responsibility for the operation of the branch and we currently have Deputies with the following operational responsibilities:

- Caller Support
- Education and Outreach
- Recruitment and Interviewing
- Training
- Volunteer Support

Our Trustees

Elizabeth Anne Wilson has been our director since 9 March 2019. On the same date Neil McLaughlin was appointed as Vice Director.

At the Annual General Meeting on 23 October 2019 the following Trustees were elected at that meeting:

Peter Wilson	Branch Treasurer
Carol Chapman	Branch Secretary
Phil Tottie	Trustee Without Portfolio (Co-opted January 2020)
Alison Lumley	Branch Minutes Secretary (Co-opted November 2020)
Hilary Templar	Trustee Without Portfolio (Co-opted April 2021)

What we do

Our aim is to improve the emotional health of people who contact us and our mission is that fewer people die by suicide. We provide emotional support round the clock to people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those who may be at risk of suicide. In planning all activities of the Branch, the Trustees are conscious of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Our Volunteers

Our listening volunteers support people in distress over the phone, by email, and face to face. On every shift at least four volunteers are required to support callers: two volunteers in the branch providing direct support, another volunteer, known as a Leader, available by phone for unexpected problems and for debriefs at the end of each shift; and one of our Deputy Directors on standby for real emergencies.

Sometimes people are referred to us for support by other organisations, such as mental health services and the police.

We give people ways to cope and the skills to be there for others. We want to celebrate those moments of connection between people that can protect and even save lives.

Harrogate is a very caring Branch. Our volunteers are supported by the Volunteer Care team who look after the wellbeing of all our fellow Sams, both Listening and Support volunteers. The team responds to anyone with a concern, whether it's taking a disturbing call, or going through a difficult patch in their own life.

Communication is at the heart of the team's work; they provide reports to the Director and Trustees and a monthly update to all volunteers, and maintain contact with our other teams to stay aware of how we are all doing.

Outreach

Outreach continue to strengthen our relationship with the local community. They have an invaluable connection with the local railway stations and offer support to railway staff and the general public in the event of incidents on the railway.

They also talk to adult groups about the work we do and attend many local shows and events.

Prison support

There are dedicated Samaritans phones on every wing of HMP Wealstun which is a Category C training and resettlement prison, mainly preparing inmates for their eventual release. There are around 800 prisoners held at Wealstun.

Our Prison Team's main focus is usually on recruiting inmates and training them in core Samaritan skills so that they can provide essential 24/7 emotional support to other prisoners.

Listener training is based on standard Samaritans training, adapted for a prison environment, with particular focus on self-harm, supporting vulnerable prisoners and awareness of body language, facial expression etc.

The Last Year

The year to 31 March 2021 was yet another busy and interesting time for our branch.

Caller contacts

Our volunteers took 22018 calls and responded to 2390 emails. The newest service has already seen us reply and engage with 175 Online Chats. We have been so fortunate to have had so much quality training this year around emails and the new Online Chat Service. Mel 627 and Jan 929 ran a fantastic session back in March on how to deal with emails and provided a how to guide for all attended. David 963 also took the lead and did a fantastic job of leading the roll out of Online Chat for the branch and continued to train and accredit volunteers who wanted to take part in this new initiative. This has helped us to help more people who need us the most through mediums that suit them the most and made us more effective than ever.

Volunteer Care

It has been more important than ever during the last 12 months to ensure that as a branch and organisation we have been there for the needs of our volunteers and to support them in what has at times been the most uncertain of environments. The support they have given to leave of absence requests, handling resignations and welcoming back those volunteers after periods away where many changes have taken place has been exceptional. Information about those requests for leave or returns have always been kept up to date on our filestore throughout, meaning every volunteer is able to support that person whatever their circumstance may be.

Recruitment

Recruitment this year was impacted by the pandemic, but needed to continue to support the successful shift of training from face to face to on-line via Zoom. At the point that the pandemic started, our team had three people selected and waiting for training and during lockdown we started to receive an unprecedented number of applications. As the lockdown continued into May, they decided to implement an additional preliminary interview procedure by telephone or Zoom to meet prospective volunteers. The majority of applicants spoken to were excellent candidates. In July and early August, they took advantage of a relaxation in lockdown, to offer face to face interviews for the Autumn course to those who had been successful in preliminary interviews. Concerned that there were likely to be more lockdowns to come as Winter arrived, they decided to continue interviews for the Spring 21 course throughout August and September. This has been an extremely successful approach to maintaining consistent and effective approach to maintaining a legacy for new recruits.

Grants and donations

Fundraising is essential for the viability of our Branch and every donation, large or small, helps us to maintain our service and support people in emotional distress.

Donations

We would like to thank the following:

Volunteers, their families and former volunteers

Bilton Gala Committee

Liz & Terry Bramall Foundation

Co-op Local Community Fund

St James Chapter

Pears Fund

Charles & Elsie Sykes Trust

HSBC UK Bank

Foyle Foundation

Vocalis

National Lottery Covid-19 Response

Community Fund

Rotary Club of Ripon

Watsons of Harrogate

Harrogate Golf Club

Inner Wheel Club of Ripon

Local Connect Fund

We are grateful to HSBC Bank for various fundraising activities in their branch.

Sponsorship

Special thanks go to several volunteers who raised over £2,600 from the Samarathon event. Further thanks are due to Alison Lumley who undertook a sponsored walk raising £550.

Golf Day

Although we were unable to specifically hold our own Golf Day this year due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, an event was held at Harrogate Golf Club with Samaritans as the nominated beneficiary. Jerome Peel's invaluable input saw over £2,600 received and we thank him as well as the many sponsors and donors.

Collections

Due to the Covid-19 situation we were unable to raise much needed funds from our traditional fundraising events this year.

How to donate

Online donations can be made via samaritans.org/Harrogate or justgiving.com/Harrogate

Donations can be made via online shopping at easyfundraising.org.uk and smile.amazon.co.uk

Cheques can be sent to us at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate HG1 1BX

Standing Order forms are also available for regular donations.

Financial Review

Investment Policy

Various investments were acquired several years ago following the receipt of legacies to help cover future operating shortfalls and also to provide a reliable source of income. This investment income is included in the Statement of Receipts and Payments when received.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that, in the light of past history, up to 30 months running costs is an appropriate level of reserves, and the Trustees review our reserves policy annually.

At 31 March 2021 our unrestricted reserves excluding fixed assets were £110,731 and this represents 33.8 months of operating costs, based on average expenditure over the last 3 accounting periods.

Trustees' reporting responsibilities

The Trustees are required by the Branch Constitution and charity law to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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.

HPH Chartered Accountants were re-appointed as the Charity's independent examiners during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the Trustees on 1 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Elizabeth Anne Wilson, Branch Director

Financial Statements

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Samaritans of Harrogate and District

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on the following pages.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My Independent Examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity, the Charity's Members as a body, and the Charity's Trustees as a body for my Independent Examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity Trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

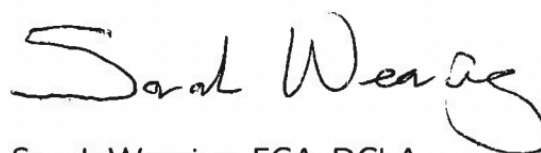
Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

HPH Chartered Accountants
Conyngham Hall Business Centre
Bond End
Knaresborough
HG5 9AY



Sarah Wearing, FCA, DChA
Date: 1 October 2021

SAMARITANS OF HARROGATE AND DISTRICT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE 12 MONTHS 1 APRIL 2020 – 31 MARCH 2021

		This year (20/21)			Last year total (full year) (19/20)	This year (20/21) budget
	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total	
Receipts						
Donations	2	15,518	-	15,518	7,900	10,000
Legacies		-	-	-	500	-
Fundraising events		4,216	-	4,216	10,605	8,000
Grants	2	19,314	9,890	29,204	23,013	2,000
Covenants & Gift Aid		3,021	-	3,021	3,165	3,000
Tax refunds		1,902	-	1,902	751	1,100
Investment income		1,987	-	1,987	2,391	2,400
Interest received		-	-	-	275	300
		45,958	9,890	55,848	48,600	26,800
Payments						
Direct charitable expenses	3	18,553	10,915	29,468	29,468	27,400
Fundraising expenses	4	662	-	662	4,002	3,700
Management & admin costs	5	6,419	156	6,575	10,696	10,500
Governance costs	6	924	-	924	1,691	1,800
		26,558	11,071	37,629	45,857	43,400
Net receipts / (payments)		19,400	(1,181)	18,219	2,743	(16,600)
Investment sales		18,986	-	18,986	-	
Investment purchases						
Cash funds last year end		41,627	2,602	44,229	41,486	
Cash funds this quarter end		80,013	1,421	81,434	44,229	
Cash funds						
Current bank account				49,334	12,129	
Short term bank deposits				32,000	32,000	
Provisions float				100	100	
				81,434	44,229	

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 MARCH 2021

Cash funds	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Current bank account		49,334	-
Short term bank deposits		30,579	1,421
Provisions float		100	-
		<u>80,013</u>	<u>1,421</u>
Investment assets	8	Cost £	Current value £
Blackrock Charities UK Bond Fund		17,423	18,800
M & G Equities Investment Fund for charities (Charifund)		11,850	22,818
		<u>29,273</u>	<u>41,618</u>
Assets retained for the Charity's own use	9		Current value £
Premises at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate	10		175,000
			<u>175,000</u>
Liabilities		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Independent Examiner's fee 2021 – estimated		900	-
Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity – subject to agreement	11	10,000	-
		<u>10,900</u>	<u>-</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 1 October 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Peter Wilson, Branch Treasurer

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2021

1. General information and accounting policies

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charities Commission for England and Wales and is governed by the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

The statement of accounts has been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011, the Statement of Recommended Practice and Accounting by Charities (SORP 2005) and the Charity's governing document.

Going concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. They continue to believe that the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in preparing the annual financial statements.

Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity. Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Receipts

Voluntary income, including donations, legacies and grants, that provide core funding or are of a general nature are recognised on receipt. Investment income is recognised on receipt.

Payments

Liabilities are stated as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on a payment basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of Trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to Trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Support costs

Support costs are those costs incurred in connection with the central and administration function of the Charity and are allocated to charitable functions on a proportionate basis to the direct costs.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS 1 APRIL 2020 – 31 MARCH 2021

	This year (20/21)			Last year total (full year) (19/20)	This year (20/21) budget	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total			
2 Donations	sum taken off for rounding up					
Organisation Donations	9,239	-	9,239	3,562	1,000	
Individual Donations	3,279	-	3,279	4,338	2,000	
Trust Donations	3,000	-	3,000	-	7,000	
	15,518	-	15,518	7,900	10,000	
Grants						
National Offender Management Scheme	1,314	390	1,704	2,513	2,000	
Trust Donations	18,000	9,500	27,500	20,500		
	19,314	9,890	29,204	23,013	2,000	
3 Direct Charitable Expenses						
Emergency Telephone	981	-	981	864	1,000	
Volunteer Training & Support Costs	127	-	127	312	1,000	
Volunteer Travel Expenses	3,305	235	3,540	4,513	5,000	
Advertising & Publicity	1,182	180	1,362	9,753	9,000	
Director's Expenses	401	-	401	247	400	
Premises Overheads	12,557	10,500	23,057	13,779	11,000	
	18,553	10,915	29,468	29,468	27,400	
4 Fundraising Expenses						
Fundraising Expenses	400	-	400	3,715	3,500	
Premises Overheads	262	-	262	287	200	
	662		662	4,002	3,700	
5 Management & Administration Costs						
Postage, printing and stationery	747	156	903	1,137	1,300	
Contribution to Samaritans Central Charity	4,342	-	4,342	6,498	6,500	
Sundry Expenses inc refreshments & subs	1,068	-	1,068	2,774	2,500	
Premises Overheads	262	-	262	287	200	
	6,419	156	6,575	10,696	10,500	
6 Governance Costs						
Independent Examiner's Fee	864	-	864	864	900	
AGM/Branch Meeting Costs	60	-	60	827	900	
	924		924	1,691	1,800	
7 Premises Overheads						
Water, light and heat	2,039	-	2,039	2,868	2,700	
Repairs & Renewals	1,510	7,000	8,510	4,878	2,500	
Cleaning & Housekeeping	2,239	-	2,239	2,198	1,700	
Equipment Purchases	2,651	3,500	6,151	2,220	1,300	
Office Telephone	592	-	592	486	400	
Insurance	2,294	-	2,294	-	1,100	
Rates	1,756	-	1,756	1,703	1,700	
	13,081	10,500	23,581	14,353	11,400	
Allocated to:	%			%		
Direct Charitable Expenditure	96	12,557	10,500	23,057	13,779	11,000
Fundraising & Publicity	2	262	-	262	287	200
Management & Administration	2	262	-	262	287	200
		13,081	10,500	23,581	14,353	11,400

8 Investments

Williams Investment Management informally valued the Charity's Investments on 31 March 2021 showing an overall gain of £12345.74. The historic cost of these investments was £29272.70. A Government Stock investment matured during the year and, on the advice of our advisers, this continues to be held in cash for the time being.

9 Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment

The Charity has use of various sundry items of furniture and office equipment purchased over the years. The cost and market value of these sundry assets are negligible to the Charity.

10 Premises

The Charity's freehold premises at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate were last valued informally on an open market basis by Mr S. G. Archer, BSc, FRICS, of Verity Frearson Ltd on 12 October 2017.

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The branch is required to make a contribution toward the cost of administrative expenses to Samaritans Central Charity. This contribution is based on 4% of income plus a percentage of reserves on a sliding scale. The contribution for the year to 31 March 2021 is estimated at £10,000 and will be paid during the year to 31 March 2022.

12 Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

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13 Staff Costs

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SAMARITANS

Samaritans of Harrogate and District is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales (1173716). Our registered office is located at 5 Mount Parade, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 1BX.