



## **Annual Report**

(1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025)

## Our Vision

Our Vision is to encourage girls to discover their strengths and know their true worth.

## Our Values

- R Respect
- U Understand
- B Believe
- I Inspire
- E Encourage
- S Stay Safe



## Our Aims

Our Aims are to support girls to:

- I. Increase Self-Esteem
- II. Build Resilience
- III. Stay Safe

## Our Board of Trustees

- Chair: Ruth Fox
- Trustee: Caroline Singleton (Treasurer)
- Trustee: Vanessa Kirby
- Trustee: Janet Tuner (Safeguarding Lead)
- Trustee: Tracey Brittain
- Trustee: Jade Wadrop

## Charity Details

- Registered Address: 14 Middlesbrough Road, South Bank Middlesbrough TS6 6NR
- Telephone: 07307 848057
- Email: [info@rubiescharity.org](mailto:info@rubiescharity.org)
- Website: [www.rubiescharity.org](http://www.rubiescharity.org)
- Social Media: @Rubies Charity

Registered Charity Number 1177332

## A Message from our Chair of Trustees

### Celebrating Another Year of Rubies!

**This year we celebrated seven years of Rubies – and what an incredible difference those years have made in the lives of girls and their families across our community.**

Rubies has been a source of support, guidance, a listening ear, and—most importantly—hope for girls facing a variety of challenges. Through engaging activities like GLOW Groups, they've enjoyed crafts, beauty sessions, cooking, sports, and unforgettable experiences such as attending football matches, exploring London, touring the Houses of Parliament, and even meeting celebrities.

Over time, our team has grown significantly. So much so that our current space no longer meets our needs, and we're actively searching for a new place to call "home." Volunteers have played a vital role along the way—bringing energy, fresh ideas, and valuable skills that continue to enrich our work.

We've partnered with a range of thematic groups to raise awareness around the needs of young girls, and we're proud to see their voices being heard more than ever. We firmly believe in listening to the girls themselves—it's about what they want and need, not what we assume they do.

It's been a true privilege to be part of Rubies for the past six years. The girls continue to inspire me every day, and I know the team is more committed than ever to deepening their impact and reaching even more girls in meaningful ways.

**Ruth Fox**

## Schools Work

During this year we worked with **276 girls** in **15 primary** and **9 secondary** schools across Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland.



### **166 year 6/7 girls took part in our Self Esteem courses**

- 100% of girls reported that working with Rubies had positive impact on their lives
- 89% of girls reported an increase in Self-Esteem
- 84% of girls reported an increase in Resilience
- 62% reported feeling Safer

We have continued to offer our **Empowerment Courses** in secondary schools. Based on a model called Philosophy for Children, these sessions are designed to support girls to develop their confidence and communication skills.

### **110 girls have taken part in Empowerment courses this year**

- 99% reported that working with Rubies had a positive impact on their lives
- 100% said they would like more Empowerment sessions



## GLOW Girls Groups

**55 girls have attended GLOW this year!**

In November 2024 our first Middlesbrough GLOW celebrated the group's second birthday! It's been brilliant to welcome a few new faces, but also to see so many of the original girls every week for the past 2 years. Awards were presented and of course there was cake. Thank you to our staff & volunteers for working so hard to make this a friendly and nurturing group.

We ended 2024 with a Christmas party for all 4 of our GLOW groups. Apparently we took more photos in the booth in 2 hours than most parties take in 4! Thank you to our amazing GLOW staff and volunteers for all their hard work in organising the event...and in clearing up afterwards!



During the summer our Easterside GLOW group enjoyed a fab forest skills workshop with Woods & Waves Forest and Beach School CIC. Thanks to their team for this opportunity to get outside and connect with nature!



Lisa from Kismet Yoga delivered a fantastic yoga session in June at our South Bank GLOW group.

The girls loved it...and they'd never been so quiet and chilled out!

## Staff Team

### Cat Barnett

In October 2024 we recruited Cat to the position of part time Administrator to Rubies. We were delighted to have been awarded funding from Children In Need which allowed us to strengthen our admin and office staff team.



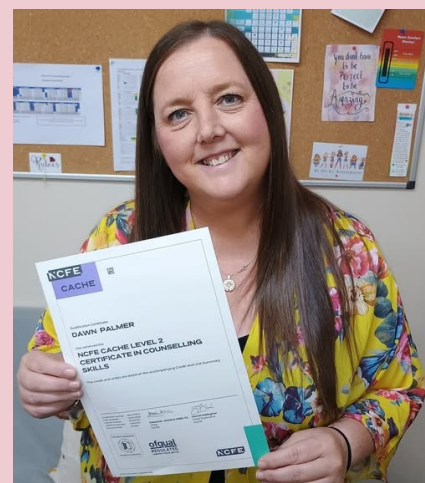
### Sarah Middleton

Our new Schools Coordinator Sarah joined the team in April and has made a fantastic contribution to the work we do in primary and secondary schools.



## Congratulations!

Our Senior Support Worker Dawn completed her Level 2 Counselling Skills Qualification in May 2025.





## Volunteers

17 wonderful women gave up their time to support Rubies in schools, GLOW girls groups and behind the scenes this year. This equates to more than 500 hours of support! We are really thankful for all our volunteers and for their dedication and commitment to our work supporting local girls.



**Teesside University Volunteering Awards** took place in May and Liz & Barbara were proud to represent Rubies as the student volunteers were recognised for their commitment and support for a range of charities and local organisations.

Congratulations to Helena who received a Gold Plus Award and Chayse for a Bronze Award. Special congratulations to Niamh who also received a Platinum Plus Award AND The Transforming Lives Award in recognition of her dedication & support for our schools work. Abbie also received an award for her amazing work with The Bungalow Project.

## Counselling Project

Rubies is committed to providing free counselling for girls, and for this to be available for as long as it is needed. During 2024/25 4 girls have attended long term counselling. 118 counselling sessions have taken place in schools and in our own space in a local community centre. We will be expanding the service in the coming year.



## Fundraising Spotlight

In October we received £1000 towards food for our South Bank GLOW groups thanks to Tesco customers at Eston and Coulby Newham Stores voting for Rubies with their blue tokens as part of the Stronger Starts campaign.

In Autumn one of our wonderful Trustees Jade and her partner Danny swam 22 miles over 10 weeks to raise money for Rubies.

They raised £600 which is a fantastic achievement!



## Thank you to the following funders for supporting our work this year

Awards for All - Badur Foundation - Ballinger Charitable Trust - BBC Children in Need  
Cheshire Community Foundation - Greggs Foundation - Middlesbrough Community Foundation  
Middlesbrough Council - North East Ladies Day - Point North - Tees Valley Community Foundation  
The Teesside Charity - Tesco - The National Lottery Community Fund - UK Youth - Warburtons  
Woodward Charitable Trust



## **Annual Accounts**

(1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025)



**Receipts and payments accounts**
**CC16a**

For the period  
from

01/09/2024

To

31/08/2025

**Section A Receipts and payments**

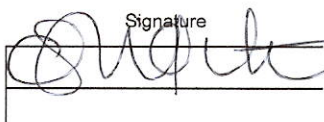
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
<i>Grants Restricted</i>				-	
Greggs Foundation	-	-	-	-	20,000
Tees Valley Community Foundation	-	-	-	-	2,500
Comic Relief Community Fund (England)		-	-	-	5,000
Woodsmith Foundation		-	-	-	1,500
Awards For All		-	-	-	20,000
BBC Children In Need		38,000	-	38,000	22,000
The Buchanan Programme		-		-	5,000
The Goshen Fund		-		-	2,500
Hays Travel Foundation		-		-	5,000
Tesco Stronger Starts		-		-	1,000
The Teesside Charity		-		-	1,000
The National Lottery Community Fund - Reaching Communities		34,203		34,203	
Point North		3,000		3,000	
Badur Foundation		10,000		10,000	
Cheshire Community Foundation		12,500		12,500	
Middlesbrough Council		1,000		1,000	
<i>Grants Unrestricted</i>				-	
UK Youth				-	27,500
Woodward Charitable Trust	1,300			1,300	
North East Ladies Day	2,000			2,000	
UK Youth Legacy Funding				-	11,000
Ballinger Charitable Trust	20,000			20,000	15,000
<i>Other income</i>				-	
Donations	7,893			7,893	14,359
Fundraising	125,047			125,047	65
Fab50 donations	2,235			2,235	2,055
Gift Aid	551			551	1,017
Just Giving	9,869			9,869	2,357
Middlesbrough Lotto	19			19	88
Regular Giving	1,320			1,320	1,020
Income from self esteem courses	9,828			9,828	14,324
Girls Group Income	-		-	-	13
Income from Empowerment Courses	5,820			5,820	
DWP	1,805		-	1,805	1,936
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>187,687</b>	<b>98,703</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>286,390</b>	<b>176,234</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>187,687</b>	<b>98,703</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>286,390</b>	<b>176,234</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Admin	2,495		-	2,495	5,650
Accounts & Payroll	360		-	360	470
Bank Charges	292			292	
Building and running costs	701		-	701	192
Counselling Service	911		-	911	1,203
Confidence Building	603			603	
Empowerment Courses	1,317	838		2,155	559
Gems course costs			-	-	1,258
Girls Group South Bank	1,326	2,397	-	3,723	3,332
Girls Group Easterside	547	2,692		3,239	1,778
Girls Groups food	2,455	1,000		3,455	2,956
Glow Gifts				-	214
Glow Trips	1,827			1,827	
Headstart HAF	55			55	
Insurance & Legal	2,275		-	2,275	1,725
Lease	2,525	7,375		9,900	8,275
Just Giving	216			216	216
Publicity & promotion	587			587	500
Staff costs	40,364	85,906		126,270	100,115
Staff training	7,300	480		7,780	1,759
External Supervision	700	550		1,250	
Trustee expenses			-	-	-
Volunteer expenses		1,608		1,608	1,883
Schools courses	1,694	3,028		4,722	10,283
Strategic Plan/Evaluation	455	1,390		1,845	
IT	1,359	2,627		3,986	1,881
Post Positive Project				-	9

Equipment	489			489	44
Social activities (non school)				-	484
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>70,853</b>	<b>109,891</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>180,744</b>	<b>144,786</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>70,853</b>	<b>109,891</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>180,744</b>	<b>144,786</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>116,834</b>	<b>- 11,188</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>105,646</b>	<b>31,448</b>
A5 Transfers between funds	10	- 10	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	60,563	68,188	-	128,751	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>177,407</b>	<b>56,990</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>234,397</b>	<b>31,448</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Petty Cash Bank <b>Total cash funds</b> (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	292 177,115 - <b>177,407</b>	 56,990 - <b>56,990</b>	    
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature  Print Name **CAROLINE SINGLETON** Date of approval **19/3/2026**





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Rubies

On accounts for the year  
ended

31/8/25

Charity no  
(if any)

1177332

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 08 / 2023.

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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

*Deborah Lawrie*

Date:

12-3-26

Name:

DEBORAH LAWRIE

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

AAT  
Diploma in Charity Accounting (The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales)

Address:

44 Nuneaton Drive

Hemlington

TS8 9PR

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



## Recommended Terms of Appointment for Independent Examiner

Name of Charity Rubies CIO ('the Charity', 'Us')

Name of Independent Examiner Debi Lowrie ('the Examiner', 'You', 'Your')

### 1. Engagement as Independent Examiner

The purpose of this agreement is to confirm the basis on which You as the Examiner will act as independent examiner to prepare a report in respect of the Charity's financial statements for the year ended 31/08/2025 in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

### 2. Responsibilities of the Charity

The Charity and its Charity Trustees are responsible for

- a) maintaining proper accounting records and preparing accounts which comply with the requirements of the Act and the Charities SORP;
- b) for determining whether, in respect of the year to be examined, the Charity meets the conditions for exemption from an audit of the accounts set out in Section 145(1) of the Act; and
- c) for providing You with information and explanations required for Your examination.

### 3. Responsibilities of the Examiner

3.1 As an independent examiner You have a statutory duty to:

- a) state in Your report whether any matter has come to Your attention in connection with the examination which gives You reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect accounting records have not been properly kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Act or do not accord with the accounting records or comply with the Regulations other than in respect of the requirement for a true and fair view;
- b) disclose in Your report matters coming to Your attention during the examination to which, in Your opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached;
- c) make any written report to the Charity Commission in compliance with Section 156 of the Act.

3.2 You will plan your work on the basis that an independent examiner's report on the accounts is required for that year, unless we inform you in writing to the contrary.

### 4. Scope of the Examiner's work

4.1 Your work as an independent examiner will be carried out in accordance with general directions of the Charity Commission. Your examination will be a less onerous form of scrutiny than an audit of the accounts in accordance with Auditing Standards and will include:

- a) a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records;
- b) a review of the accounts and consideration of any unusual item(s) or disclosure(s) identified. In such cases where You identify an unusual item, You will seek an explanation from us and may carry out verification and vouching procedures where You require further clarification.

4.2 Your work cannot be relied upon to identify the occasional omission or insignificant error, nor to disclose breaches of trust or statute, neglect or fraud which have taken place and which the Charity has a responsibility to guard against. Should You become aware, for any reasons, that the accounts may be misleading and we cannot agree appropriate amendments, and You conclude that the matter cannot be adequately dealt with in Your report, You will not issue any report, will withdraw from the engagement and notify Us in writing of the reasons.

4.3 Should You conclude that the Charity is not entitled to exemption from an audit of the accounts or should You be unable to reach a conclusion on this matter then You will notify Us in writing of the reasons. If appropriate, you will discuss with us the need to appoint an auditor.

4.4 As part of your normal procedures, You may request us to provide written confirmation of any information or explanations given by Us orally during the course of your work.



**5. Fees**

Payment of the invoice for fees will be made within 30 days of receipt.

**6. Confirmation**

This agreement will remain effective until it is replaced or until You cease to hold the position of independent examiner. You will confirm Your acceptance of the terms of this agreement by arranging for the signature and return of the attached copy to Us.

Signed on behalf of the Charity



Date

12/3/26

Signed by or on behalf of the Examiner



Date

12/3/26



# CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

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ended

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Signed:

*Deborah Lawrie*

Date:

12.3.26

Name:

DEBORAH LAWRIE

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

AAT

Diploma in Charity Accounting (The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales)

Address:

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Hemlington

TS8 9PR

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Signed on behalf of the Charity



Date 12/31/26

Signed by or on behalf of the Examiner



Date 12/31/26