

MILLY'S SMILES

England & Wales · Charity number 1198503

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2022-04-04

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

Contact

Address 12 Edgeside
Great Harwood
Blackburn
BB6 7JS

Phone 07555541987

Email hello@millyssmiles.org

Website www.millyssmiles.org

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM AN ONCOLOGY RELATED ILLNESS, BY PROVIDING OR ASSISTING WITH THE PROVISION OF A MILLY BAG AND OTHER SUCH ITEMS AS THE TRUSTEES, FROM TIME TO TIME SEE FIT. TO RELIEVE THE DISTRESS OF FAMILIES IN THE UK WHO HAVE SUFFERED THE BEREAVEMENT OF A CHILD BY THE PROVISION OF CHARITABLE MEANS THAT THE TRUSTEES THINK FIT INCLUDING BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY PROVIDING MONTHLY SUPPORT GROUPS INVOLVING CREATIVE AND HOLISTIC THERAPIES

Activities: We provide a Milly Bag to all new families whose child has been diagnosed with cancer and admitted onto Ward 84 at Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, Ward 3B at Alder Hey Children's Hospital and Ward L31 at Leeds Children's Hospital. The Milly Bag contains essential items that will help and support families during the first few weeks on the ward and beyond.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£207,177	£146,950	-	-
2024-03-31	£106,981	£85,456	-	-
2023-03-31	£162,393	£62,865	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
GEMMA MARY DYSON	Chair	2023-03-09
Carrie Ann Wright		2024-08-31
David Sears		2022-02-08
John Sturgess		2023-02-06
KATHRYN THOMAS		2022-02-08

MILLY'S SMILES

England & Wales - Charity number 1198503

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT

1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

Milly's Smiles

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees: Gemma Dyson (Chair)
David Sears (Treasurer)
Kathryn Thomas (Secretary)
Helen Wall (resigned 22.5.24)
John Sturgess
Carrie Wright (appointed 23.7.24)

Charity Number: 1198503

Registered Address: 45 Lynwood Avenue
Clayton-le-Moors
Accrington
Lancashire
BB5 5RR

Independent Examiner: Kerys Holt FCCA
DPM Accounting Services
Suite 10b
The Beehive
Lions Drive
Shadsworth Business Park
Blackburn
BB1 2QS

Bankers: National Westminster Bank plc
5 St James Street
Accrington
Lancashire
BB5 1LY

Milly's Smiles

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Milly's Smiles

Trustee's Report For the year ended March 2025

The Trustee's present their Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charity for the period ended 31st March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charity's Governing Document, The Charities Act 2011 and Account and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity has previously operated as a charitable trust – registration number 116399. The change to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation was for administration purposes and our aims and objectives remain unchanged. Registration for the new CIO was 4 April 2022.

The trustees administer the charity and regularly meet throughout the year.

The trustees who served during the year were:

Gemma Dyson (Chair)
David Sears
Kathryn Thomas
Helen Wall (resigned 22.5.25)
John Sturgess
Carrie Wright (appointed 23.7.24)

The chair is responsible for the induction of new trustees. The induction provides new trustees with an awareness of their responsibilities, the governing document and the history and philosophical approach of the charity.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. The risk register is reviewed regularly at Trustee meetings.

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. There were no connections or conflicts of interest disclosed in the year.

Milly's Smiles

Trustee's Report (continued) For the year end March 2025

Objectives and activities

The purpose of Milly's Smiles is:

The advancement of health or the saving of lives via the provision of comforts and items to children aged 0-18 years, who have been newly diagnosed with an oncology related illness.

To relieve the distress of families in the UK who have suffered the bereavement of a child by the provision of charitable means that the trustees think fit including but not exclusively by providing monthly support groups involving creative and holistic therapies.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees are satisfied that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Benefit

Milly's Smiles is committed to supporting families at one of the most distressing and life-altering moments they may ever face, the point at which their child is diagnosed with a cancer-related illness and admitted to hospital for treatment.

The initial admission to a children's oncology ward is often sudden and unplanned. In many cases, families are transferred urgently from a local hospital following an emergency consultation.

They arrive at specialist treatment centres with little warning, no time to prepare, and often without any essential items.

For families, this marks the beginning of an extremely challenging journey, filled with fear, uncertainty, and overwhelming emotional and practical pressures.

Milly's Smiles was founded to provide immediate, practical support to these families through the provision of our Milly Bags, holdalls filled with both comfort and essential items to help parents and children navigate their unplanned hospital stay with greater ease.

These bags are designed not only to offer practical relief, but also to send a clear and compassionate message that parents are not alone.

In addition to this core service, Milly's Smiles is proud to continue funding a family room at Ronald McDonald House Manchester, located adjacent to the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital.

This room, known as Milly's Castle, provides families who live far from the hospital with a nearby, supportive place to stay, enabling them to remain close to their child during inpatient treatment.

Our sponsorship of this room is renewed on a three-year cycle, with the most recent renewal completed in March 2023.

Milly's Smiles has continued its dedicated bereavement support for parents, grandparents, and siblings under the name SOULS (Support, Optimism, Understanding, Love).

This service remains in place in response to a clear and growing need for emotional and peer support among families who have experienced the devastating loss of a child.

The SOULS programme offers tailored support to parents, grandparents, and siblings following the death of a child, grandchild, or sibling. While many bereaved families wish to honour and remember their loved one, the emotional impact of such a loss can make verbal communication extremely difficult. Traditional support mechanisms do not always meet the nuanced and deeply personal needs of these families.

Within our local area, there is a significant gap in accessible, non-clinical bereavement support. Milly's Smiles has continued to provide monthly peer support groups, offering a safe, understanding, and compassionate space for those affected.

Unlike conventional discussion-based support groups, SOULS integrates creative activities into its sessions. This approach is grounded in psychological research, which shows that engaging in creative expression can reduce anxiety, build trust, and offer alternative pathways for processing grief, particularly when verbal expression is too painful.

These sessions allow families to connect with others who share the lived experience of child loss, creating an empathetic and supportive environment. Attendees are welcome to talk, listen, reflect, or simply be present without pressure or expectation.

The peer-to-peer connection that develops within the group provides a unique and powerful form of support, built on mutual understanding, shared grief, and a profound, unspoken bond.

Through SOULS, Milly's Smiles aims to ensure that no bereaved family feels isolated, and that they have access to support that is both gentle and meaningful.

Milly's Smiles



Through these initiatives, Milly's Smiles remains steadfast in its mission to make an immediate, meaningful difference at a time when families feel that their entire world has collapsed.

Beneficiaries

Milly's Smiles provides immediate, practical support to families whose child has been newly diagnosed with cancer and admitted to a specialist children's oncology ward. Each eligible admission receives a Milly Bag, a thoughtfully curated holdall designed to offer comfort and essential items during what is often an unplanned and deeply distressing hospital stay.

Each Milly Bag contains:

- A soft fleece blanket
- Neck pillow and heat pack
- Towel and waterproof bag
- Reusable juice bottle and thermal cup
- Notepad, pen and document wallet
- Thermal cup with a lid and a water bottle
- A soft Beanie hat
- Full set of toiletries
- Vegan-friendly sweets
- A hand-knitted elephant, crafted by our volunteers



Milly's Smiles



These items are selected to provide both practical help and emotional reassurance at a critical moment, helping families feel supported, seen, and cared for.

Milly's Smiles currently supports the following hospitals:

- Royal Manchester Children's Hospital (Ward 86)
- Alder Hey Children's Hospital (Ward 3B)
- Leeds Children's Hospital (Wards L31, L32, L33)
- Nottingham Children's Hospital (Ward E39)
- The Great North Children's Hospital (Ward 4)
- Oxford Children's Hospital (Kamran's Ward)

In 2024, we expanded our reach by taking on two additional oncology wards. We are also proud to collaborate with Team Luke Foundation, a children's cancer charity, in our support for Ward 4 at The Great North Children's Hospital. This partnership has been instrumental in facilitating our work in the region, with Team Luke generously funding an initial supply of 100 Milly Bags.

Milly's Smiles remains committed to expanding our services sustainably while ensuring every family continues to receive the same high standard of care, compassion, and support.

Achievements and performance

This year has seen both growth and consolidation of our core services and our work has reached more families than ever before. We are proud to have maintained high-quality, compassionate support through every stage of a family's journey.

We distributed a total of 420 Milly Bags this year to children newly diagnosed with cancer across six major treatment centres in the UK:

- Royal Manchester Children's Hospital – 100 bags
- Alder Hey Children's Hospital – 80 bags
- Leeds Children's Hospital – 60 bags
- Nottingham Children's Hospital – 45 bags
- The Great North Children's Hospital (Newcastle) – 80 bags
- Oxford Children's Hospital – 55 bags

Our SOULS bereavement support group has continued to grow and now supports over 25 families, including bereaved parents, grandparents, siblings and for the first time, several fathers and brothers, who have found comfort in the safe space we offer.

We have continued with our one-to-one counselling with a qualified bereavement counsellor, for those families who require extra specialist input. These sessions take place in our dedicated counselling room within the Milly's Smiles unit.

Milly's Smiles remains deeply rooted in the local community, and we are continually humbled by the support we receive. Many of our fundraisers have a personal connection to our work, having received a Milly Bag themselves. This year's community support included:

- Ongoing fundraising through local schools, fire services, Tesco's book swap service, and ASDA
- Annual Golf Day organised by Sabden Cricket Club
- Charity Golf Day organised by a company with a connection to Ward 3B at Alder Hey Children's Hospital.
- A Charity Football Match day organised by a community group after Milly's Smiles supported one of their families when they were on Ward 86.
- Our first Spring Fair, which was a great success and is set to become an annual event
- Our Grease-themed Ball in November, held in honour of what would have been Milly's 21st birthday
- Our 10th Annual Birthday Walk for Milly, which continues to draw loyal support each year

Financial review

Milly's Smiles has continued to sustain strong financial stability throughout the reporting year, enabling us to continue and expand our vital services to families facing childhood cancer and bereavement.

We were fortunate to receive support from a number of organisations who selected us as their chosen charity or supported us through a range of fundraising activities.

These included:

- JaRo HR
- HVDP Media
- Avidly Marketing
- Harrison Drury Solicitors
- North Lancashire Training Group

In addition to corporate partnerships, we have had generous donations from local companies as well as outstanding support from individuals in our community, many of whom have undertaken personal fundraising challenges on our behalf.

This includes a number of families who have previously received a Milly Bag and now actively support our cause through fundraising and awareness-raising efforts.

Our charity has also benefited from the continued support of local schools and community groups, who have held events to raise funds on our behalf, which is support that we never take for granted.

Furthermore, we are thankful for those who contribute through monthly regular giving, helping to provide a consistent and reliable income stream.

Finally, we remain deeply appreciative of the unwavering support from Milly's family and friends. Their commitment, generosity, and passion continue to honour Milly's legacy and inspire the work we do every day.

Reserves Policy

The purpose of the reserves is to secure the future of our work and to maintain our commitment to supporting newly diagnosed families in the hospitals where we have already made a commitment to provide Milly Bags. The reserves will provide protection against unexpected events and fluctuations in income.

The trustees have considered the risks and needs of the charity, identifying the following areas:

- UK or worldwide events which will impact on the charity's fundraising capability such as terrorism, natural disaster or pandemic
- Funds to allow for an increased number of children being newly diagnosed with cancer and requiring a Milly Bag.
- Cost increases in bag contents.

- Sufficient to protect the charity from the risk of insolvency or serious disruption to its work.
- Reputational risk – this is managed through careful recruitment of trustees and volunteers, and by carefully managing any perceived or actual conflicts of interest.

The trustees consider that reserves should be maintained at a level equivalent to twelve-month's expenditure. This will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained through the year.

Risk management

As the charity continues to establish itself the trustees will conduct a review of the major risks to which the charity may be exposed and systems will be established to mitigate exposure to those risks.

Plans for future periods

The trustees are proud of what has been achieved so far, but are determined to continue to build upon the work undertaken to date in order to help as many newly diagnosed families as possible.

The trustee's report has been approved by the Board of Trustees.



Gemma Dyson
Chairperson.
Dated: 23/6/25



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name Milly's Smiles

On accounts for the year ended

31 March 2025 Charity no (if any) 1198503

Set out on pages

15 to 17 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 03 / 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Signed: K Holt

Date: 25/07/2025

Name: Kerys Holt FCCA

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

ACCA

Address:

Suite 10B The Beehive, Lions Drive

Shadsworth Business Park, Blackburn

BB1 2QS

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

Millys Smiles

Charity No : 1198503

**Income & Expenditure Account
Year Ended 31 March 2025****2025****2025**

£

£

Income

Grants	2,100
Donations	41,062
Fundraising	154,788
Interest received	9,227
	<u> </u>

207,177

Less Expenditure and Overheads**Direct Expenses**

Cost of direct charitable activity	78,257
Staff Wages	43,878
Nest Pension	2,099
SJP Pension	1,969
	<u> </u>

126,203

Administration Expenses

Accountancy Fees	804
Bank Charges	217
Depreciation	790
Insurance	164
Professional Fees	0
Rent	6,508
Repairs	5,373
Sundry Expenses	611
Telephone	120
Travel	3,495
Utilities	2,663
	<u> </u>

20,747

Total Expenses146,950**Surplus (Deficit) Generated from Operations**

60,227

Profits (Losses) transferred to Revenue Reserves60,227

Milly's Smiles

Charity No : 1198503

Balance Sheet

Year Ended 31 March 2025

	2025	2025
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Motor Vehicles	6,809	
Less: Depreciation	<u>4,559</u>	
		2,250
Fixtures and Fittings	371	
Less: Depreciation	<u>143</u>	
		228
Current Assets		
Cash at bank	344,663	
Petty Cash in Hand	<u>201</u>	
		344,864
Current Liabilities		
Accrued Charges	960	
Deferred Grant Income	0	
PAYE & NI	<u>3,134</u>	
		4,094
Net Current Assets		<u>340,769</u>
		343,247
Less : Restricted Funding & Grants		0
		<u>343,247</u>
Represented by :		
Revenue Reserves brought forward		283,020
Capital Introduced		0
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		60,227
		<u><u>343,247</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Depreciation

Depreciation has been calculated to write off the net book values of fixed assets over their expected economic lives at the following annual rates.

Motor Vehicles	25% on reducing balance
Fixtures and Fittings	15% on reducing balance

2. INCOME

Turnover for the year was £207,177 (2024 £106,981) and represents the £2,100 restricted and £205,077 unrestricted funding grants and donations received from various sources and during the year.

3. CORPORATION TAX

Corporation tax is charged in the accounts in the period to which it relates.

The amount of corporate tax due on non-mutual trading activities for the year was £ nil.

4. CONTINUING OPERATIONS

None of the charity's activities were acquired or discontinued during the year.

5. TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the financial period detailed herewith.

MILLY'S SMILES

England & Wales - Charity number 1198503

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT

1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024

Milly's Smiles

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees: Gemma Dyson (Chair)
David Sears (Treasurer)
Kathryn Thomas (Secretary)
Helen Wall
John Sturgess (appointed 9 February 2023)

Charity Number: 1198503

Registered Address: 45 Lynwood Avenue
Clayton-le-Moors
Accrington
Lancashire
BB5 5RR

Independent Examiner: David Marriott FCA
DPM Accounting Services Ltd
Suite 10b
The Beehive
Lions Drive
Shadsworth Business Park
Blackburn
BB1 2QS

Bankers: National Westminster Bank plc
5 St James Street
Accrington
Lancashire
BB5 1LY

Milly's Smiles

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Milly's Smiles

Trustee's Report For the year ended March 2024

The Trustee's present their Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charity for the period ended 31st March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charity's Governing Document, The Charities Act 2011 and Account and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity has previously operated as a charitable trust – registration number 116399. The change to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation was for administration purposes and our aims and objectives remain unchanged. Registration for the new CIO was 4 April 2022.

The trustees administer the charity and regularly meet throughout the year.

The trustees who served during the year were:

Gemma Dyson (Chair)
David Sears
Kathryn Thomas
Helen Wall
John Sturgess

The chair is responsible for the induction of new trustees. The induction provides new trustees with an awareness of their responsibilities, the governing document and the history and philosophical approach of the charity.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. There were no connections disclosed in the year.

Milly's Smiles

Trustee's Report (continued) For the year end March 2024

Objectives and activities

The purpose of Milly's Smiles is:

The advancement of health or the saving of lives via the provision of comforts and items to children aged 0-18 years, who have been newly diagnosed with an oncology related illness.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees are satisfied that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Benefit

Milly's Smiles strive to make the journey of parents and children who are newly diagnosed with an oncology related illness, and admitted into hospital, that little bit easier.

When you look into the faces of parents who have just received the devastating news that their child has cancer, it is impossible to know their pain. There is the worry and uncertainty of their child's cancer, how well it will respond to treatment or, indeed if it will respond at all.

The majority of admissions onto children's oncology wards tend to be unexpected and unplanned. Often, families are blue-lighted to the hospital following a local medical appointment. Arriving on the ward can be a very frightening and upsetting experience for parents. There is a lot to take in, within a very unfamiliar environment.

Milly's Smiles was established to provide practical support to families at the point of admission onto the ward.

Milly's Smiles continue to fund a room at Ronald McDonald House at Manchester which allows families who live a long way from the hospital to have a place to stay close to their child. This room is funded on a three-year basis and our sponsorship of the room was renewed in March 2023.

Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of Milly's Smiles are parents and children on the wards who have been admitted with a new diagnosis of cancer. We provide each admission with a Milly Bag, containing a blanket, neck pillow, heat pack, towel, waterproof bag, juice bottle, thermal cup, notepad, pen and wallet, toiletries, vegan friendly sweets and a small hand knitted elephant.

Milly's Smiles have continued to support The Royal Manchester Children's Hospital Ward 86, Alder Hey Children's Hospital Ward 3B and Leeds Children's Hospital Wards L31, L32, L33.

Achievements and performance

Following on from our Trustee Away Day last year we employed our first member of staff.

The potential employment of a CEO of the charity has long been discussed at Milly's Smiles. It is a relatively common situation for the Founder of a charity to start as Chair of the Board and grow the organisation through its early, difficult years as a dedicated volunteer. As the charity grows gaining the ability to hire staff, the Founder is often the first to be employed – something that is quite natural when they are already carrying the majority of the workload. This is exactly the case for Lorraine Hargreaves, Milly's Mum and the charity founder.

The trustees formed an Employment Sub-Committee to ensure that a thorough process was followed and that appropriate due diligence (including salary benchmarking) was undertaken, to inform our decisions around employment of a CEO for Milly's Smiles.

Lorraine Hargreaves, Milly's mum and the founder of our charity was employed as our Chief Executive Officer from 1st May 2024 and has quickly made a significant difference to both the operational performance of the charity, as well as income generation and fundraising.

The charity sustained ongoing financial success this year.

We were fortunate enough to work with some excellent organisations who supported us throughout the course of this year with various fundraising activities, including:

- Tesco Superstore, Great Harwood
- Sabden Cricket Club
- JaRo HR
- The Mayor of Hyndburn
- Beacon Hill Caravan Park

We received a donation of £5,000 from Blackburn Chemicals to support our ongoing work.

Milly's Smiles

The Eric Wright Charitable Trust supported us for the second year with a £10,000 grant to allow us to continue with our Milly Bag provision, and for expansion of our services.

A successful bid was made to the National Lottery for £20,000 to support our work with bereaved parents and to provide one-to-one counselling with individuals who needed professional input.

We held our own fundraising activities over the course of the year which included:

- A quiz night in September;
- Milly's Walk held in November; this is an annual event that is held to celebrate Milly's birthday. People make donations on the day and/or obtain sponsorship for the walk.

We feel very lucky that we have had continued support from individuals who have set themselves challenges in order to raise money. Local schools and community groups have hosted events and activities to also raise funds for us, which is always very much appreciated.

Support continues from families and their friends who have received a Milly Bag, who are very proactive in terms of fundraising and raising awareness of our work.

There are also a number of people who pay a monthly donation to the charity.

We remain grateful for continual support from family and friends of Milly, who is the inspiration for our charity.

During this financial year Milly Bags were donated as detailed below:

- Ward 84/86 (Royal Manchester Children's Hospital) received 80 bags, taking their total to 860 Milly Bags.
- Ward 3B (Alder Hey) received 60 bags, taking their total to 385 Milly Bags.
- Ward L31 (Leeds) received 60 bags and taking their total to 310 Milly Bags.

On 19th June we proudly took on our fourth hospital, The Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham. We are supporting their paediatric oncology unit Ward E38, and have delivered a total of 20 Milly Bags during this financial year.

Bereavement support is something that we are very passionate about as a charity, and from personal experience we have found that within our local area there is very little support for families who have lost a child.

In May we held our first monthly support group for parents, siblings and grandparents. The groups incorporate creative therapies into the sessions to help open up conversation between parents and create a more relaxed environment without any pressure. Over the year the group has grown through word of mouth, recommendation and social media and we are now supporting up to 20 families.

Specialist bereavement counselling is also available for those parents who are in need of extra more specialised support. We are proud to have a counsellor from the local hospice work alongside us to offer this to families. Currently we provide up to 8 weeks one to one support as needed. This takes place on site, in our specially adapted Quiet Room within our unit.

Financial review

The purpose of the reserves is to secure the future of our work and to maintain our commitment to supporting newly diagnosed families. The reserves will provide protection against unexpected events and fluctuations in income.

The trustees have considered the risks and needs of the charity, identifying the following areas:

- UK or worldwide events which will impact on the charity's fundraising capability such as terrorism, natural disaster or pandemic
- Funds to allow for an increased number of children being newly diagnosed with cancer and requiring a Milly Bag.
- Sufficient to protect the charity from the risk of insolvency or serious disruption to its work.

The trustees consider that reserves should be maintained at a level equivalent to between six- and twelve-month's expenditure. This will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained through the year.

Risk management

As the charity continues to establish itself the trustees will conduct a review of the major risks to which the charity may be exposed and systems will be established to mitigate exposure to those risks.

Plans for future periods

The trustees are proud of what has been achieved so far, but are determined to continue to build upon the work undertaken to date in order to help as many newly diagnosed families as possible.

Discussions are currently ongoing with The Team Luke Foundation and The Great North Children's Hospital with view to a collaboration with Milly's Smiles and Team Luke to support newly diagnosed children admitted onto Ward 4 at The Great North Children's Hospital.

The trustee's report has been approved by the Board of Trustees.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gemma Dyson". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized, with the 'G' and 'D' being particularly prominent.

Gemma Dyson
Chairperson.
Dated: 14/08/24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
Milly's Smiles

On accounts for the year
ended

31 August 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1198503

Set out on pages

11 to 13

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 03 / 2024**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Signed:

David Marriott

Date:

23/08/2024

Name:

David Marriott FCA

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

ICAEW

Address:	Suite 10B The Beehive, Lions Drive
	Shadsworth Business Park, Blackburn
	BB1 2QS

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

Income & Expenditure Account
Year Ended 31 March 2024

	£	£	£
Income			
Grants	20,000		
Donations	44,495		
Fundraising	<u>42,486</u>		
			106,981
Less Expenditure and Overheads			
Direct Expenses			
Cost of direct charitable activity		34,227	
Staff Wages		33,330	
Staff Pension		<u>1,306</u>	
			68,864
Administration Expenses			
Accountancy Fees		804	
Bank Charges		222	
Depreciation		1,047	
Insurance		96	
Professional Fees		1,520	
Rent		7,651	
Repairs		1,348	
Sundry Expenses		354	
Telephone		110	
Travel		2,089	
Utilities		<u>1,351</u>	
			16,592
Total Expenses			<u>85,456</u>
Surplus (Deficit) Generated from Operations			21,525
Profits (Losses) transferred to Revenue Reserves			<u><u>21,525</u></u>

Milly's Smiles

Charity No : 1198503

**Balance Sheet
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Motor Vehicles	6,809	
Less: Depreciation	<u>3,809</u>	3,000
Fixtures and Fittings	371	
Less: Depreciation	<u>103</u>	268
Current Assets		
Cash at bank	282,552	
Petty Cash in Hand	<u>259</u>	282,811
Current Liabilities		
Accrued Charges	960	
Deferred Grant Income		
PAYE & NI	<u>2,099</u>	3,059
Net Current Assets		<u>279,753</u> 283,020
Less : Restricted Funding & Grants		0
		<u>283,020</u>
Reprerented by :		
Revenue Reserves brought forward		261,495
Capital Introduced		0
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		21,525
		<u>283,020</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Depreciation

Depreciation has been calculated to write off the net book values of fixed assets over their expected economic lives at the following annual rates.

Motor Vehicles 25% on reducing balance

Fixtures and Fittings 15% on reducing balance

2. INCOME

Turnover for the year was £106,981 (2023 £162,393) and represents the £20,000 restricted and £86,981 unrestricted funding grants and donations received from various sources and during the year.

3. CORPORATION TAX

Corporation tax is charged in the accounts in the period to which it relates.

The amount of corporate tax due on non-mutual trading activities for the year was £ nil.

4. CONTINUING OPERATIONS

None of the charity's activities were acquired or discontinued during the year.

5. TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the financial period detailed herewith.

MILLY'S SMILES

England & Wales - Charity number 1198503

Accounts



ANNUAL REPORT

1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

Milly's Smiles

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees: Gemma Dyson (Secretary)
John Grundy (resigned 19 July)
Lorraine Hargreaves (Chair)
David Sears (Treasurer)
Kathryn Thomas
Helen Wall

Charity Number: 1198503

Registered Address: 45 Lynwood Avenue
Clayton-le-Moors
Accrington
Lancashire
BB5 5RR

Independent Examiner: David Marriott FCA
DPM Accounting Services
Suite 10b
The Beehive
Lions Drive
Shadsworth Business Park
Blackburn
BB1 2QS

Bankers: National Westminster Bank plc
5 St James Street
Accrington
Lancashire
BB5 1LY

Milly's Smiles
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For the period ended 31 March 2023

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Milly's Smiles
Report of the Trustees
For the period ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees present their first Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charity for the period ended 31st March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charity's Governing Document, The Charities Act 2011 and Account and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity has previously been operating as a charitable trust – registration number 116399. The change to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation was for administration purposes and our aims and objectives remain unchanged. Registration was 4 April 2022.

The trustees administer the charity and regularly meet throughout the year.

The trustees who served during the year were:

L Hargreaves (Chair)
G Dyson
D Sears
K Thomas
H Wall
J Grundy – resigned 19 July 2022

The chair is responsible for the induction of new trustees. The induction provides new trustees with an awareness of their responsibilities, the governing document and the history and philosophical approach of the charity.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee with any service providers must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party.

Objectives and activities

The purposes of Milly's Smiles are:

The advancement of health or the saving of lives via the provision of comforts and items to children aged 0-18 years, who have been newly diagnosed with an oncology related illness.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees are satisfied that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Benefit

Milly's Smiles strive to make the journey of parents and children who are newly diagnosed with an oncology related illness, and admitted into hospital, that little bit easier.

When you look into the faces of parents who have just received the devastating news that their child has cancer, it is impossible to know their pain. There is the worry and uncertainty of their child's cancer, how well it will respond to treatment or, indeed if it will respond at all.

The majority of admissions onto a children's oncology wards tend to be unexpected and unplanned. Often, families are blue-lighted to the hospital following a local medical appointment. Arriving on the ward can be a very frightening and upsetting experience for parents. There is a lot to take in, within a very unfamiliar environment.

Milly's Smiles was established to provide practical support to families at the point of admission onto the ward.

Milly's Smiles also fund a room at Ronald McDonald House at Manchester which allows families who live a long way from the hospital to have a place to stay close to their child. This room is funded on a three-year basis and our sponsorship of the room was renewed in March 2023.

Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries are parents and children on the wards who have been admitted with a new diagnosis of cancer. We provide each admission with a Milly Bag, containing a blanket, neck pillow, heat pack, towel, waterproof bag, juice bottle, thermal cup, notepad, pen and wallet, toiletries, vegan friendly sweets and a small hand knitted elephant.

Milly's Smiles has continued to support The Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, Ward 86, Alder Hey Children's Hospital Ward 3B and Leeds Children's Hospital Wards L31, L32, L33.

Achievements and performance

The charity sustained ongoing financial success this year.

We were fortunate enough to work with some excellent organisations who supported us throughout the course of this year with various fundraising activities.

Burnley Pension Centre
Fielding & Porter Solicitors
JaRo HR Consultancy
Briggs & Forrester
Country Foods
Blackburn Golf Club
Tesco Superstore
Sabden Cricket Club
Whalley Lions

We received a donation of £10,000 from Blackburn Chemicals to support our ongoing work.

The Eric Wright Charitable Trust supported us with a £10,000 grant to allow us to continue with our Milly Bag provision, whilst also making essential improvements at our unit.

A large donation was received in memory of a young girl whose family had been fundraising to pay for her treatment abroad. Accepting this donation was very emotional and humbling for Milly's Smiles.

We have held our own fundraising activities; a Summer Fair was held and is something we plan to do every other year. Milly's Walk was held in November, and is an annual event that is held to celebrate Milly's birthday. People make donations on the day and/or obtain sponsorship for the walk. We were lucky to have the event sponsored by one of our charity partners Fielding & Porter Solicitors.

We feel very lucky that we have continued to be supported by individuals who have set themselves incredible challenges in order to raise money. Some of these include; Marathon Des Sables, the London Marathon, Born Survivor, organising a Christmas lights viewing and an Ultra Marathon challenge.

Support continues from families and their friends who have received a Milly Bag, who are very proactive in terms of fundraising and raising awareness of our work.

There are a number of people who pay a monthly donation to the charity.

We remain grateful for continual support from family and friends of Milly, who is the inspiration for our charity.

During this financial year Milly Bags were donated as detailed;

Ward 84/86 received 80 bags, taking their total to 780 Milly Bags.

Ward 3B received 60 bags, taking their total to 325 Milly Bags.

Ward L31 received 80 bags and taking their total to 250 Milly Bags.

Financial review

The purpose of the reserves is to secure the future of our work and to maintain our commitment to supporting newly diagnosed families. The reserves will provide protection against unexpected events and fluctuations in income.

The trustees have considered the risks and needs of the charity, identifying
The following areas:

UK or worldwide events which will impact on the charity's fundraising capability such as terrorism, natural disaster or pandemic

Funds to allow for an increased number of children being newly diagnosed with cancer and requiring a Milly Bag.

Sufficient to protect the charity from the risk of insolvency or serious disruption to its work.

The trustees consider that reserves should be maintained at a level equivalent to between six- and twelve-month's expenditure. This will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained through the year.

Risk management

As the charity continues to establish itself the trustees will conduct a review of the major risks to which the charity may be exposed and systems will be established to mitigate exposure to those risks.

Plans for future periods

The trustees are proud of what has been achieved so far, but are determined to continue to build upon the work undertaken to date in order to help as many newly diagnosed families as possible.

The trustees held an away day/team building day hosted by The Connectives. The day was facilitated by Liz Cross who is known for bringing real break-through thinking and fresh energy in her strategic work with organisations across a wide range of sectors. We were inspired to continue our work to grow the charity and move from start up to scale up. We plan to look at employing a full-time member of staff to steer the charity forward and increase our support further across the country.

We have started discussions with Ward E3 at Nottingham University Hospital with a view to supporting their newly diagnosed families.

We also intend to look at offering support to bereaved families via facilitating creative therapy sessions on a monthly basis. This is something that we are looking to implement during the next financial year, having piloted several such groups over the last two years.

The trustee's report has been approved by the Board of Trustees.



L. Hargreaves
Chairperson.

Dated:

9.10.2023

Milly's Smiles
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees
For the period ended 31 March 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the period ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The charity Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

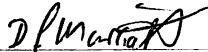
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiners statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.



David Marriott FCA

DPM Accounting Services Ltd

25 September 2023

Milly's Smiles
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the period ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £
Income and endowments from:		
Donations and legacies	2	10,000
Charitable activities	3	149,352
Other income	4	3,041
Total		162,393
Expenditure on:		
Charitable activities	5/6	(62,865)
Total		(62,865)
Net income		99,528
Reconciliation of funds		
Total funds brought forward		161,967
Total funds carried forward		261,495

Milly's Smiles
Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023
		£
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	10	4,315
		4,315
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		258,140
		258,140
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(960)
Net current assets		257,180
Total assets less current liabilities		261,495
Net assets		261,495
The funds of the charity		
Unrestricted income funds	12	261,495
Total funds		261,495

For the period ended 31 March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

.....
L Hargreaves
Chairperson
25 September 2023

Milly's Smiles
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

Milly's Smiles meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

2. Income from donations and legacies

	2023
	£
Unrestricted funds	
Grants received	10,000
	10,000

3. Income from charitable activities

	2023
	£
Unrestricted funds	
<i>Donations</i>	
Donations	74,680
<i>Fundraising</i>	
Fundraising	74,672
	149,352

4. Other income

	2023
	£
Unrestricted funds	
Gains on disposal of tangible fixed asset for charity's own use	1,691
Rental income	1,350
	3,041

Milly's Smiles
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the period ended 31 March 2023

5. Costs of charitable activities by fund type

	2023
	£
Unrestricted funds	
Donations	52,971
Support costs	9,894
	62,865

6. Costs of charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	2023
	£	£	£
Support costs			
Donations	52,971	9,894	62,865

7. Analysis of support costs

	2023
	£
Donations	
Management	2,173
Merchant fees	173
Governance costs	7,548
	9,894

8. Net income/(expenditure) for the period

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023
	£
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	56
Accountancy fees	960
(Gain)/Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(1,691)

Milly's Smiles
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the period ended 31 March 2023

9. Staff costs and emoluments

Total staff costs for the period ended 31 March 2023 were:

	2023
	£
Salaries and wages	2,117
	2,117

	2023
	£
Founder	0
	0

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures and Fittings	Total
Cost or valuation	£	£	£
Additions	6,809	371	7,180
Revaluations	-	(56)	(56)
Disposals	(2,809)	-	(2,809)
At 31 March 2023	4,000	315	4,315
Net book values			
At 31 March 2023	4,000	315	4,315

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023
	£
Accruals and deferred income	960
	960

Milly's Smiles
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the period ended 31 March 2023

12. Movement in funds

Unrestricted Funds

	Balance at 04/04/2022	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Balance at 31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£
<i>General</i>				
General	161,967	162,393	(62,865)	261,495
	161,967	162,393	(62,865)	261,495

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible fixed assets	Net current assets / (liabilities)	Net Assets
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
<i>General</i>			
General	4,315	257,180	261,495
	4,315	257,180	261,495

Milly's Smiles
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For the period ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENT	
Donations and legacies	
Grants receivable	10,000
	10,000
Charitable activities	
Donations (Donations)	74,680
Fundraising (Fundraising)	74,672
	149,352
Other income	
Gains on disposal of tangible fixed asset for charity's own use	1,691
Rental income	1,350
	3,041
Total incoming resources	162,393
EXPENDITURE	
Charitable activities	
Cost of direct charitable activity (Donations)	(52,971)
	(52,971)
SUPPORT COSTS	
Management	
Management (Donations)	(2,173)
	(2,173)
Merchant fees	
Merchant fees (Donations)	(173)
	(173)
Governance costs	
Governance costs (Donations)	(7,548)
	(7,548)
Total resources expended	(62,865)
Net Income	99,528