

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY

England & Wales · Charity number 285099

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1982-07-28

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

Contact

Address Langhorne Creche
Langhorne House
Springfield Grove
Charlton
London
SE7 7TL

Phone 07701220373

Email info@charltontoylibrary.org.uk

Website www.charltontoylibrary.org.uk

Activities

Objects: FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, THE RELIEF AND EDUCATION OF ALL LOCAL CHILDREN BY THE PROVISION OF THERAPEUTIC, EDUCATIONAL, AND STIMULATING TOYS AND EQUIPMENT.

Activities: CTL offers: a low-cost quality toy, book & child safety equipment loan scheme to families with children aged under five; a mobile service to isolated community groups; stay & play sessions for members; advice & support to members & other organisations on a wide range of parenting and child-related issues; music & storytelling sessions; information days; volunteering opportunities

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Greenwich

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£31,762	£42,837	-	-
2024-03-31	£51,923	£50,549	-	-
2023-03-31	£44,236	£48,420	-	-
2022-03-31	£38,286	£39,172	-	-
2021-03-31	£62,706	£38,699	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Bren Albiston		2025-07-14
Emily Wallace		2024-09-09
Janine Khoshnevisan		1993-03-12
John Stephens		2021-10-24
Norman Mellor		2025-08-04
Poppy Wood		2025-11-10
Simona Elena Gheorghiu		2026-01-08
Suzie Mackenzie		2025-05-14
dr Katharine Rhodes Hall		2023-10-02

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY

England & Wales - Charity number 285099

Accounts

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

AIMS:

To promote the principle that play does matter for the developing child.

OBJECTIVES:

- To make play available and lend appropriate toys to extend the opportunity for shared play into the home.
- To provide play areas where children and adults can use a wide range of toys and creative activities.
- To offer an opportunity to socialise and exchange experiences.
- To offer a befriending and supportive service to parents and carers.

We aim to improve the current quality of life and future life chances of local children by providing a much-needed child-centred support service to families in our main premises at Langhorne House and through our outreach service HomeStart and other child-centred groups as well as other hard-to-reach families referred by Health Visitors and other health professionals. We also offer a low-cost toy/book/games and child safety equipment loan scheme.

Many of the children we support through our Outreach Service live in families experiencing poverty and disadvantage, some have suffered domestic violence and many feel isolated. This has a huge negative impact on the children's well-being and development. Our intervention at an early formative stage in their development aims to break the cycle of deprivation by improving their literacy, numeracy, creative & social skills, thus improving their school careers and their future life chances and contributing to stronger, more cohesive communities.

WHO WE ARE

Charlton Toy Library is a registered charity offering an inter-linked support service for the under 5s community in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. We operate a toy, book and safety equipment loan scheme and a stay and play service in our main base along with a much-needed Outreach service to support disadvantaged families and children in desperate need.

Charlton Toy Library is a registered charity, governed by a constitution adopted 10th February 1982. It is run by members of a voluntary Management Committee (who are also the charity trustees), staff (a Toy Library Co-ordinator and an Outreach Worker) and volunteers, all helping to run play & borrowing sessions and giving help, support and advice to families.

All the money received from membership, loan fees and fundraising events is spent on toys and Toy Library running costs. We have an Equal Opportunities policy and aim to provide a good selection of multi-cultural and non-sexist toys and books along with impartial advice and support.

“CTL is a fantastic facility, congratulations on running such a great resource for children and parents.”

“I love this place SO much! Coming now with my third child, so it feels like a second home. A favourite place for all my girls. Thank you so much for everything. I was so pleased once you opened again after lockdown. Also, LOVE the singing sessions. Thank you!”

CTL is such a great place for our babies to play, for us parents to make new friends, a fantastic way to get toys and baby equipment without spending a lot of money and, at the same time, help the environment by reusing them. Thank you for the amazing work you do!

CHAIR'S REPORT BY JOHN STEPHENS

I am now coming to the end of my fourth year as Chair of Trustees. It's fair to say that the twelve months to 31st March 2025 have certainly been the most eventful so far!

This was the year that Charlton Toy Library, after 42 years in Charlton House, found itself potentially without a home. By early 2024 Greenwich Heritage Trust, which manages Charlton House, faced an unsustainable funding gap for essential repairs and refurbishment. As a result, the Trust decided it needed a tenant able to pay commercial rent, and we received notice to leave in July 2024.

It's safe to say the period from September 2024 to our reopening at Langhorne House in January 2026 was challenging for everyone involved. I would like to pay particular tribute to our two team members, Vicky Thomas and Sharon Jay, for their hard work and resilience. Without their willingness to go the extra mile to overcome a host of practical challenges and difficulties we would not now be successfully operating at Langhorne House and could not have created such an inviting new space for young children and their families.

We are also grateful to Janet Denne and the Charlton House team, as well as the trustees at Greenwich Heritage Trust, for their support in helping to make the move viable. Charlton House kindly provided £2,000 to help cover additional costs associated with the relocation, for which we're very thankful.

My thanks also goes to Victoria Sandell, Events & Culture Manager at The Royal Borough of Greenwich, for her help during the negotiations, and to Cllr. Lakshan Saldin and Cllr. Jo Van Den Broek for their help liaising with the Royal Borough of Greenwich and Charlton Triangle Homes (now Peabody), enabling us to make the move to Langhorne House.

Moving has brought some unexpected positives, too. Through the efforts of Vicky and Sharon, we reduced our toy stock – built up over many years - to a well-curated, more manageable collection with a full inventory. At the same time, and thanks to our treasurer and finance officer Janine Khoshnevisan, we upgraded our IT hardware and are in the process of moving more securely to cloud-based storage.

With respect to the charity's finances, our running costs have reduced during 2024-25, largely due to no longer paying rent and utilities at our new premises. However, like many small charities, our financial position remains precarious. The move to Langhorne House placed significant operational pressure on our small team of trustees, who had to prioritise the complex and time-sensitive demands of relocating the charity over other important activities, including fundraising.

We are enormously grateful that BBC Children in Need has backed our Outreach programme for an incredible 13 years and has confirmed support of around £18,000 a year until 31 October 2026. Children in Need is now limiting grants to nine-year periods for all charities, so this funding will end at that point.

As a result of these aspects, securing replacement funding and building new income streams for 2025-26 is our top priority.

Reach and impact

Overall, in 2024-25 we were proud to support 245 children in 180 families. Almost a quarter (24%) of these families accessed our services completely free of charge and a further 19% paid a concessionary rate, while 12% were lone-parent households. In the current cost-of-living crisis, support for less-well-off families remains a key priority for the charity. Around 25% of the families we serve are from the global majority, and we will keep working to ensure our membership truly reflects the rich ethnic and cultural diversity of Greenwich.

The Outreach service is there for families who are experiencing disadvantage and face barriers to visiting the Toy Library in person. During the last year, 69 children in 43 families received direct support through home visits or telephone calls. Outreach offers far more than toys, sensory equipment, books, safety equipment, clothes, shoes, cots, beds, prams and buggies. Just as important, it provides a friendly face and listening ear from our Outreach worker, Sharon Jay. Sharon's compassion and determination often see her going well beyond the call of duty to make sure vulnerable families' basic needs are met. On behalf of those families, and all the trustees, I would like to say a huge thank you to Sharon for everything she does.

Since reopening at Langhorne House, we have resumed our core face-to-face offer, including toy and equipment loans plus lively, interactive Stay & Play sessions for members every Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, with an extra Saturday session once a month. Vicky and Sharon have transformed the new space into a warm, engaging environment for our members. Although we understandably saw a reduction in attendance at face-to-face sessions since the move, we are already welcoming new faces and look forward to seeing our numbers grow further from September.

CHAIR'S REPORT BY JOHN STEPHENS

Thank you

This brings me to the vital role played by our volunteers - without whom our weekday sessions, Saturday mornings, and community events simply could not happen. On behalf of all trustees, I'd like to offer heartfelt thanks to our dedicated and generous volunteers for everything you do. Our current volunteer team includes:

June Shand, Jen Stanley, Julie Pepperrell, Julie Cullen, Sophie Durcan, Susan Weinwright, Nikeisha Nilmaraj, Emma Foord-Divers, Simina Ghent, Wendy Wen.

The day-to-day running of our Toy Library – whether that's toy loans, Stay & Play sessions, community events, or the many administration tasks that keep us going – is brilliantly led by our indefatigable Co-ordinator, Vicky Thomas. Vicky's passion, creativity and calm determination underpin so much of what we do. On behalf of the trustee board, a huge thank you to Vicky for all her tireless work and for always going above and beyond.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to our trustee group, who have worked hard to help us steer the Toy Library through an incredibly challenging year. We have operated with a smaller group than ideal, comprising myself, Cat Farnsworth, Emily Wallace, Janine Khoshnevisan, Kate Hall and Jo Rollings. It's only because of the commitment and hard work of this group that we are where we are today. Jo stepped down from her role at Easter, and I'd like to thank her for her contribution and dedication during her time as a trustee.

We have been actively recruiting and are delighted to welcome Suzie Mackenzie and Bren Albiston to the trustee group. We expect to be joined by at least two more trustees later this year, strengthening our team as we look ahead.

Finally, on behalf of all the trustees, staff, and volunteers, I wish all our members a safe, enjoyable, and relaxing summer. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in Charlton Toy Library – we truly couldn't do it without you. We look forward to welcoming you back in September.

John Stephens
Chair of Trustees
1st July 2025

Membership Statistics 1st April 2024 - 31st March 2025

Families using our main services & outreach service combined: 180 families
Total number of children helped: 245 children and 203 adults

Outreach families supported (free of charge): 43 families
Outreach children helped: 69 children

Families supported free of charge: 43 families (24%)
Families paying concessionary rate: 42 families (19%)

Families from global majority backgrounds: 45 families (25%)

New families: 122 families

Lone parent families: 22 families

Grandparent members: 19

Childminders: 2

Families in the SE7 area: 69 families

Families in the SE18 area: 42 families



Our Outreach service is in its 12th year of funding from BBC Children in Need and we have successfully secured a grant to keep this much-needed support for struggling local families going until September 2026. In 2024-25 I worked with 43 families and their 69 children. This accounts for 24% of our entire membership.

Referral for our services continue to come from many local organisations such as Home Start, Family Engagement Support Workers from Children's Centres, Health Visitors, Social Workers, The Pre-birth Assessment Team, Best Beginnings Midwives Team, Early Years Quaggy Development Trust, and others too. Some families hear about our services and refer themselves directly to us.

I continued to support families in their home. The children supported had many and varied struggles to deal with, such as families with low incomes, disabilities, families experiencing domestic abuse and families with no recourse to public funds of any kind. Our aim was to give these children some sense of a "normal" childhood... to just be kids... playing and having fun.

On my first visit to homes, I assessed what help was needed. I began by helping to improve the physical wellbeing of children by providing, completely free of charge, essential clothing, beds, prams, baby equipment, child home safety equipment and much more.

Once the safety and physical comfort of the children had improved, I then supplied the toys, books and games that families could not afford. These items kept the children constructively occupied. They learnt to play happily within the home, with their parents and with their siblings, improving behaviour and family dynamics. The books and play equipment stimulated their curiosity and improved their learning & development.

I worked with parents and carers, helping them to understand the importance of play in their children's development. These measures together helped children develop and learn, making them better ready for school when the time comes.

In January 2024, we started a new collaboration with The Bridge and MumsAid, supporting families with children with complex medical conditions or disabilities. I supported these families within the home and CTL stay and play sessions. We have a wide range of Sensory toys and equipment to help children within their play.

OUTREACH PROJECT REPORT by Sharon Jay

So that you can appreciate all the work carried out please consider the following achievements. The figures are slightly lower than usual, due to being closed for two months for our relocation.

- 80 visits to families in their own homes.
- 128 support phone calls to families between visits providing much needed help and advice.
- 69 children were supported between 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025
- 153 toys/books and a wide range of child safety equipment were delivered to families.
- 34 large bags of clothing for children and nappies were given out to Outreach families.
- 33 Christmas presents were given to children, and 30 families received a £50 supermarket voucher each to buy food over the festive season.

We also helped families with whatever was needed to relieve some of the struggles and disadvantage in their lives such as housing problems and emotional and practical support.

When needed we linked with other organisations to extend the range of help. There has been an increase in the number of outreach families that have visited our stay-and-play sessions and enjoyed the singing and sensory activities. They have socialised with other families and reduced their sense of isolation. I hope to see more and more coming into our stay and play sessions in the near future.

I would like to take the opportunity to say a big thank you to Vicky for being there to support and help whenever it has been needed, it means so much to have such an amazing friend and work colleague.

Thank you to all the volunteers who take the time to make outreach happen, their dedication in helping in every possible way, you are all truly amazing.

Sharon Jay
Outreach worker

TOY LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT by Vicky Thomas

I have had the honour to be the CTL Coordinador for almost 7 years now. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with our lovely members, our wonderful team of dedicated volunteers, our Trustees and our amazing Outreach Worker Sharon.

From 1st April 2024 until 31st March 2025, we organised several successful events:

- In April we took part at the Charlton House **Easter Event** in Charlton Park, offering children's crafts and nearly new toys for sale.
- In October we participated in the **Hornfair festival** at Charlton House.
- In November we held a big sale in Charlton House to raise funds for our charity.
- In December we organised two **Christmas parties** for our members. Father Christmas visited the children, the families had photos taken with him and were each given a free book as a Christmas present.
- We celebrated the **Chinese New Year** at the beginning of February, with Chinese food, stories and crafts, sponsored by Peabody in Charlton.
- In November and December we closed our doors, in order to relocate to our new premises in Langhorne House in Charlton. We had to donate a big part of our stock to members of the community and other charities, as the new space has reduced storage space. It was a very busy and difficult time, but our wonderful volunteers worked tirelessly and helped immensely with the move. At the end of December, just before the Christmas holidays, we were very happy to open our doors to the public again. Our new home is bright and colourful and we have settled in very well.
- Throughout the year I continued to support our Outreach service by procuring toys, clothes and safety equipment for our vulnerable families via advertising in local groups. I helped our Outreach worker Sharon organise the Christmas Toy and Food voucher appeal and I am always truly humbled by the generosity of our community. I have helped cataloguing all the Outreach purchases and donations and got involved in the Might Acorns Project, a new collaboration with MumsAid and The Bridge.
- I have continued to help with fundraising, both by organising fundraising events and second-hand sales and by finding suitable grants that CTL can apply for.
- I updated our website and posted regularly on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts.
- I managed the membership accounts and toy database and produced annual reports.

I would like to say a massive thank you to our wonderful volunteers Sophie, Julie P, Julie C, June, Jen, Susan, Emma, Wendy, Simina and her daughter Angelina, Jack and Garry, as well as our Trustees who always offer their help and support. I am really looking forward to welcoming our members in the next few months!

Vicky Thomas, CTL Coordinator

TREASURER'S REPORT BY Janine Khoshnevisan

We finished the financial year 2024-2025 with a deficit of £11,075, represented by -£11,094 in restricted funding and £19 in unrestricted funds. This deficit is due to the funding granted in 2023-24 but carried over and spent in 2024-25: £10,000 from Awards For All and £1,430 from The Leathersellers.

As the Toy Library had to close for two months to relocate to new premises, internally raised income was lower in 2024-25, but this was minimised to just £1,000 lower. The relocation was a huge task and took up much trustee time and energy that ideally should have been spent on making funding applications. This has left us in with a funding shortfall for 2025-26. This is a pressing focus. Now that we are settled in our new home the management committee is concentrating on diversifying income and finding new funding sources to secure the long-term future of the Toy Library.

Due to our very low membership and toy loan fees, and to the fact that our Outreach Service is always provided completely free-of-charge, the Toy Library needs outside funding to provide our much-needed services. We are very thankful to be in our 12th year of funding from BBC Children in Need, who cover much of the costs of our Outreach Service. We received a grant from the Mighty Acorns project to work with children with complex medical needs, and we were very pleased to receive a grant from the Barratt Foundation. Thank you to all these organisations without whose help we could not offer the range of services that we do.

A huge “thank you” goes to Charlton Triangle Homes who kindly gave us our first new home in 42 years. The immense support that they have given us is invaluable in helping us to support disadvantaged families in our community. We would also like to thank the Atlas Business Group who continue to provide our internet services for free and even switched these services to our new premises without charge.

The funds that we raise are never enough to run the entire Toy Library and for this reason we would also like to thank all those who help keep us going. Thank you to all our volunteers who help at sessions and events. Thank you to the local community for your continued support with both physical and financial donations. And thank you to all those organisations who help us too. Added together, your support and time helps to improve the lives of so many children and families across the borough. We could not do it without you.

TREASURER'S REPORT BY JANINE KHOSHNEVISAN

These accounts have been successfully examined and accepted by our Independent Examiner, Caroline Sharp (FCA, DChA).

Janine Khoshnevisan
CTL Treasurer and Trustee



CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY INCOME RESERVES POLICY

Unrestricted funds are needed:

- 1) to provide funds which can be designated to specific projects to enable these projects to be undertaken at short notice and
- 2) to cover administration, fund-raising and support costs without which the charity could not function.

The trustees consider it prudent that unrestricted reserves should be sufficient:

- a) to avoid the necessity of releasing fixed assets held for the charity's use;
- b) to cover 6 month's administration, fund-raising and support costs (currently approximately £20,000)
- c) to provide a pool equal to 10% of the average charitable expenditure over the preceding 2 years from which funds can be designated to specific projects (currently approximately £9,400).

INCOME-EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2024-2025

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY Income & Expenditure Account 2024-2025

				Previous year
INCOME	Restricted	Unrestricted		
BBC Children in Need	16,810.20		BBC Children in Need	9,573.00
Mighty Acorns Project	4,335.00		Nat Lett Omn Fund	20,666.00
The Barrat Foundation		1,500	Awards For All	10,000.00
Royal Greenwich Heritage Foundation		2,000	Leatherseller's	2,500.00
			Magic Little Grants	500.00
			Greenwich Supports	570.00
Fundraising		1,577		1,292.00
Membership fees		1,462		2,329.00
Toy loan fees		966		1,208.00
Safety equipment loan fees		88		98.00
Session sales		340		1,096.00
Donations		1,808		1649.00
Music Group		91		
Bank interest		283		293
Gift Aid		503		148
TOTAL	21,145.20	10,617	31762.41	51,922.00

EXPENDITURE	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Previous year
Advertising/promotional	158	0	158	927
Child Safety Equipment	652	0	652	1195
Equipment	555	325	880	302
Fundraising expenses	0	295	295	52
General running costs	3,731	3,058	6,789	14412
Insurance	1,571	0	1,571	1561
Management costs		35	35	35
Staffing costs	25,304	6,115	31,419	28434
Outreach welfare	0	710	710	975
Toys books videos etc	79	0	79	2242
Training				0
Travel	189	60	249	289
Volunteer expenses				125
Workshops, music group & crafts				0
TOTAL	32,239	10,598	42,837	50549

Net receipts for the year	-11,094	19	-11,075	
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INCOME-EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2024-2025

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

CURRENT ASSETS	Restricted	Unrestricted	Totals
Current Account	507	5,458	5,965
Business Reserve		20,366	20,366
Cash in hand		100	100
4 unrepresented items	-116	-368	-484
	391	25,556	25,947

REPRESENTED BY:

Balance b/fwd. 2023-2024	11,485	25,537	37,022
Net receipts for 2024-2025	-11,094	19	-11,075
	391	25,556	25,947

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

CURRENT ASSETS	Restricted	Unrestricted	Totals
Current Account	13,542	5,596	19,138
Business Reserve		20,083	20,083
Cash in hand		100	100
4 unrepresented items	-2,057	-242	-2,299
	11,485	25,537	37,022

REPRESENTED BY:

Balance b/fwd. 2022-2023	9,237	26,411	35,648
Net receipts for 2023-2024	2,248	-874	1,374
	11,485	25,537	37,022



We have:

- Obtained funding to continue offering our wide range of services: stay-and-play sessions, toy loaning, Outreach service
- Supported 69 children through our Outreach Service, working across the Royal Borough of Greenwich
- Provided 35 children with Christmas presents and 30 families with Christmas food vouchers through our Outreach Programme
- Provided 57 bags of essential clothing for children
- Continued our Child Safety Equipment Loan Scheme by lending families stairgates, cots, baby baths, highchairs, sterilizers, prams, baby bouncers and many more for 6-12 months at a time.
- Established and/or maintained strong links with organisations across the borough including HomeStart, the Midwife Team, Social workers, Family Engagement Support workers, Greenwich Children's Disability Team, Health Visitors, Best Beginnings, Quaggy Development Trust, Mama2Mama, and many more.
- Collaborated with MumsAid and the Bridge. The project was called Mighty Acorns Plus and our Outreach worker supported families with children (0-2 yrs old) with medical and other special needs.

ACHIEVEMENTS (continued) 2024-2025

- We relocated the Toy Library!!!!
- Updated our computers and printers
- Had the Reception and Play areas decorated at Charlton House
- Promoted awareness and membership of our service among target groups, including black and minority ethnic and low-income families, asylum seekers and families suffering domestic abuse.
- Held regular management committee meetings via Teams.
- Publicised the Toy Library to local groups and around the borough. Maintained our website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts.
- Worked with and supported 12 volunteers throughout the year.
- Maintained the singing session on Tuesday & Friday mornings and the sensory session on Thursday mornings.
- Developed and ran a survey to evaluate our services.
- We received a number of grants:
 - £18,000 per year for 3 years from BBC Children in Need for our Outreach programme
 - £4,335 from Mighty Acorns
 - £1,500 from the Barratt Foundation





Our plans for 2025-2026 are:

- Widen the support we offer to our Outreach families
- Reach more families in the Borough that would benefit from our Outreach services
- Maintain and improve links with relevant organisations across the borough
- Continue to increase awareness and use of our services particularly amongst black and minority ethnic and disadvantaged families
- Continue to maintain our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages and our presence on relevant apps and website listings
- Increase the number of trustees on our Management Committee
- Hold regular committee meetings and AGM (online and/or in person)
- Continue to encourage good management committee representation
- Review regularly all Toy Library policies and procedures
- Secure more outside grants and funding to secure the long-term security of our services

The Management Committee

John Stephens, Chair

Janine Khoshnevisan, Treasurer

Jo Rollings, Committee Member (until Easter 2025)

Kate Hall, Committee Member

Patricia Santome, Committee Member (until July 2024)

Cat Farnsworth, Committee Member

Trustees and Officers are elected and appointed at the AGM by nomination method or co-opted by the Management Committee at a monthly meeting.

Staff

Sharon Jay, Outreach Worker

Vicky Thomas, Toy Library Co-ordinator

Volunteers & Fundraisers

Sophie Durcan, Susan Wainwright, Julie Pepperrell, Julie Cullen, June Shand, Jen Stanley, Wendy Wen, Simi and Angelina Ghent, Emma Foord-Divers, Garry Jay, Jack Wheeler and all our Trustees

And to everyone else who has helped on a more informal basis... thank you!

As always there are a huge number of people and organisations to thank for their support.

Thank you to all our funders and supporters:

Peabody Housing Association
Triangle Homes Charlton
BBC Children in Need
Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust
Charlton House
The Royal Borough of Greenwich
Awards For All
The Barrat Foundation
The Leathersellers
Fire Action Ltd
HeadStart IT
Atlas Business Group
Woolwich and Plumstead Relief in Sickness Fund
Mama2Mama
Greenwich Midwifery Team
Greenwich Social Workers
Greenwich Supports Team
Home-Start Greenwich
London Property Licensing

Thanks also to our Independent Examiner, Ms Caroline Sharp (FCA, DChA)

Finally, our thanks (and apologies!) to anyone else who has helped us this year and who we may have momentarily forgotten to mention!



Signature

I declare, in my capacity as Chair of the Management Committee, that:

- the Management Committee has approved the report above; and
- have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signature

Full name

Position

Date

Charlton Toy Library

Receipts and payments

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £
Receipts						
<i>From donations</i>						
Donations	1,808	-	1,808	1,649	-	1,649
Gift Aid	503	-	503	148	-	148
Fundraising	1,576	-	1,576	1,292	-	1,292
Bank interest	283	-	283	293	-	293
<i>From charitable activities</i>						
BBC Children in Need	-	16,810	16,810	-	9,573	9,573
National Lottery CCLF	-	-	-	5,468	15,199	20,667
Awards for All	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Mighty Acorns Project	-	4,335	4,335	-	-	-
Leathersellers	-	-	-	-	2,500	2,500
Royal Greenwich Heritage Foundation	2,000	-	2,000	-	-	-
The Barrat Foundation	1,500	-	1,500	-	-	-
Greenwich Supports	-	-	-	-	570	570
Magic Little Grants	-	-	-	-	500	500
Membership fees	1,462	-	1,462	2,329	-	2,329
Music Group	91	-	91	-	-	-
Toy loan fees	966	-	966	1,208	-	1,208
Safety equipment loans	88	-	88	98	-	98
Session sales	340	-	340	1,096	-	1,096
Total receipts	10,617	21,145	31,762	13,581	38,342	51,923
Payments						
Advertising/promotional	-	158	158	380	547	927
Child safety equipment	-	652	652	-	1,195	1,195
Equipment	325	555	880	-	302	302
Fundraising costs	295	-	295	52	-	52
General running costs	3,058	3,847	6,905	3,244	11,168	14,412
Insurance	-	1,571	1,571	1,561	-	1,561
Management costs	35	-	35	35	-	35
Staffing costs	6,115	25,188	31,303	8,137	20,297	28,434
Outreach welfare	710	-	710	954	21	975
Volunteer expenses	-	-	-	92	33	125
Toys, books, videos etc	-	79	79	-	2,242	2,242
Travel	60	189	249	-	289	289
Total expenditure	10,598	32,239	42,837	14,455	36,094	50,549
Net receipts for the year	19	(11,094)	(11,075)	(874)	2,248	1,374
Reconciliation of funds						
Cash funds brought forward	25,537	11,485	37,022	26,411	9,237	35,648
Cash funds carried forward	25,556	391	25,947	25,537	11,485	37,022

Charlton Toy Library

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 March 2025

	2025 Unrestricted £	2025 Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £
Cash funds						
Current account	5,090	391	5,481	5,354	11,485	16,839
Business reserve	20,366	-	20,366	20,083	-	20,083
Cash in hand	<u>100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100</u>
Total cash funds	<u>25,556</u>	<u>391</u>	<u>25,947</u>	<u>25,537</u>	<u>11,485</u>	<u>37,022</u>

Funds

Restricted funds						
Awards for All			-			10,000
BBC Children in Need			391			968
Leathersellers			-			1,431
Mighty Acorns			-			(914)
Unrestricted funds						
General funds			<u>25,556</u>			<u>26,411</u>
Total charity funds			<u>25,947</u>			<u>37,896</u>

Approved by the trustees and signed on

August 2025 on their behalf by

Mrs Janine Khoshnevisan (Treasurer)

-

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of

Charlton Toy Library

Charity number: 285099

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Charlton Toy Library (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025 as set out on pages 1 and 2.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of Charlton Toy Library 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 charity'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 that give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 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.

Caroline Sharp
FCA, DChA

Date: **28 August 2025**

LONDON SE7 8PF

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY

England & Wales - Charity number 285099

Accounts

Charlton Toy Library

AGM report

1st April 2023
to 31st March 2024



Registered Charity Number: 285099
Langhorne Creche, Langhorne House, Springfield Grove, Charlton SE7 7TL
Telephone: 020 8319 0055 • Website: www.charltontoylibrary.co.uk
Email: info@charltontoylibrary.org.uk

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

AIMS:

To promote the principle that play does matter for the developing child.

OBJECTIVES:

- To make play available and lend appropriate toys to extend the opportunity for shared play into the home.
- To provide play areas where children and adults can use a wide range of toys and creative activities.
- To offer an opportunity to socialise and exchange experiences.
- To offer a befriending and supportive service to parents and carers.

We aim to improve the current quality of life and future life chances of local children by providing a much-needed child-centred support service to families in our main premises at Charlton House and through our outreach service HomeStart and other child-centred groups as well as other hard-to-reach families referred by Health Visitors and other health professionals. We also offer a low-cost toy/book/games and child safety equipment loan scheme.

Many of the children we support through our Outreach Service live in families experiencing poverty and disadvantage, some have suffered domestic violence and many feel isolated. This has a huge negative impact on the children's well-being and development. Our intervention at an early formative stage in their development aims to break the cycle of deprivation by improving their literacy, numeracy, creative & social skills, thus improving their school careers and their future life chances and contributing to stronger, more cohesive communities.

WHO WE ARE

Charlton Toy Library is a registered charity offering an inter-linked support service for the under 5s community in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. We operate a toy, book and safety equipment loan scheme and a stay and play service in our main base along with a much-needed Outreach service to support disadvantaged families and children in desperate need.

Charlton Toy Library is a registered charity, governed by a constitution adopted 10th February 1982. It is run by members of a voluntary Management Committee (who are also the charity trustees), staff (a Toy Library Co-ordinator and an Outreach Worker) and volunteers, all helping to run play & borrowing sessions and giving help, support and advice to families.

All the money received from membership, loan fees and fundraising events is spent on toys and Toy Library running costs. We have an Equal Opportunities policy and aim to provide a good selection of multi-cultural and non-sexist toys and books along with impartial advice and support.

“CTL is a fantastic facility, congratulations on running such a great resource for children and parents.”

“I love this place SO much! Coming now with my third child, so it feels like a second home. A favourite place for all my girls. Thank you so much for everything. I was so pleased once you opened again after lockdown. Also, LOVE the singing sessions. Thank you!”

“I can’t thank the Toy Library for everything you have given my daughter, she has everything she needs! I pray for all of you daily.”

“The Toy Library has become part of our weekly routine and I hope it stays that way. We are grateful for all the help we receive and love all the amazing toys!”

CHAIR'S REPORT BY JOHN STEPHENS

Our running costs continued to rise during 2023-4. However, during this period trustees were successful in drawing in a number of new and repeat funding streams. These included £500 from Magic Little Grants, £2,500 from the Leathersellers, £10,000 from Awards for All and £20,000 from National Lottery Cost of Living fund. We are delighted also that BBC Children in Need have renewed the funding agreement for our Outreach programme (see below), which will bring in around £18,000 per year until 2026. We are also delighted to be part of a new partnership with other local charities MumsAid and The Bridge, on the Mighty Acorns Project (see below for more information) which will bring in £17,340 by December 2025. Despite all this fundraising success, securing funding to remain viable throughout 2024-25 still remains an absolute priority.

We were very pleased to be able earlier this year to utilise some of the above funds to redecorate the stay-and-play area at Charlton House, and to replace our ageing computers with new equipment, which is part of our ongoing plan to modernise our IT operation to become cloud-based.

Overall, in 2023-24 we supported 354 children within 240 families. Of these 26% of families accessed our services at no charge and around 16% paid a concessionary rate, 18% are lone parent families. Support for less-well-off families is particularly important given the current cost-of-living crisis and we will continue to prioritise this demographic. Around 28% of families are from the global majority. Another ongoing priority is to ensure that our membership is genuinely inclusive of the local community, and fully represents the rich ethnic and cultural diversity present in the Borough of Greenwich.

The Outreach service supports families who are experiencing disadvantage and who face barriers to attending CTL in person. During the last year, 124 children within 62 families received direct support via home visits. This support includes not just loan of toys, sensory equipment, books, safety equipment, clothes, shoes, cots, beds prams and buggies, but also a friendly and supportive visit from our Outreach worker Sharon Jay.

CHAIR’S REPORT BY JOHN STEPHENS (cont.)

The new Mighty Acorns Project (MAP) enable us to extend outreach to a group of families in Greenwich Borough whose infant children have significant medical challenges, sometimes including profound disability and in a very few cases, life limiting conditions. Since January 2024 we have been supporting around 10 families on this project. This work is very challenging, and I would like again to express sincere thanks on behalf of all trustees and members to our Outreach worker Sharon Jay for all her hard work and resilience delivering the outreach and MAP projects, especially in the light of the tragic bereavement her family experienced in 2022.

During 2023-24 our face-to-face offer at Charlton House has continued to be highly popular. This offer comprises toy and equipment loans, and interactive stay-and-play sessions for CTL members taking place on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and once-a-month Saturday sessions. The Friday music sessions continue to be very popular, as do our Thursday sensory play sessions introduced last autumn.

This brings me to the vital role played by our volunteers, without whom our play activities simply could not take place. I would like to express sincere thanks on behalf of all CTL trustees to our volunteers for all you do. Our current group of volunteers include:

June Shand	Tuesdays (singing session & stay-and-play)
Julie Pepperrell	Thursdays (sensory session & stay-and-play)
Julie Cullen	Thursdays (sensory session & stay-and-play)
Susan Wainwright	Fridays (singing session)
Sophie Durcan	Fridays (stay-and-play) & Events
Emma Foord-Divers	Saturdays & Events

John Stephens
CTL Chair of Trustees

CHAIR'S REPORT BY JOHN STEPHENS (cont.)

As well as the regular weekly offer CTL has organised or participated in a range of community events across the year (details of which can be found elsewhere in this report). These events are important for many reasons. They provide a way of promoting CTL activity to the wider community, they allow us to interact with similar local organisations and potential partners, and probably most important they are a way of raising much needed funds. We are always grateful when CTL members come and support us at local events.

All of the activity at Charlton House, all of the community events, and much of the administration related to running a charity is organised, managed and supervised by our indefatigable CTL Co-ordinator Vicky Thomas. On behalf of all the trustees I would like to say a massive thank you to Vicky for all her incredible work and for always being prepared to go the extra mile!!

Finally, I would like to thank the trustee group for all their hard work during a year which has again presented some difficult and unforeseen challenges. Sadly we are saying goodbye to Patricia Santone, who is leaving the trustee group after 10 years. Thank you so much for all your work and support Patricia, we are most grateful, and wish you the very best! We are also saying goodbye to Bridget Gourlay. Bridget recently travelled with her family to her home country New Zealand to give birth to her second child, and following a change in family circumstances there has decided to stay permanently. We wish her the very best and thank her for her work for CTL over the last year and a half.

Since March, we have recruited two new trustees, Sheetal Zundel and Emily Wallace. Both Sheetal and Emily have financial and communications sector backgrounds respectively, and I know they are going to be tremendous assets to the group!

Expanding the trustee group remains a priority, please get in touch with Vicky if you are interested!

Finally, on behalf of trustees, staff, and volunteers at CTL we wish all members a safe, enjoyable and relaxing summer and look forward to seeing you again in September!

John Stephens
Chair of Trustees
1st July 2024

Membership Statistics 1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024

Families using our main services & outreach service combined: 240 families
Total number of children helped: 354 children and 270 adults

Outreach families supported (free of charge): 62 families
Outreach children helped: 124 children

Families supported free of charge: 62 families (26%)
Families paying concessionary rate: 38 families (16%)

Families from global majority backgrounds: 67 families (28%)

New families: 149 families

Lone parent families: 44 families

Grandparent members: 20

Childminders: 2

Families in the SE7 area: 95 families

Families in the SE18 area: 50 families



POST-AGM UPDATE

Two weeks after this report was presented at our AGM we were informed by Royal Greenwich Heritage Fund that, due to financial difficulties of their own, our premises were required for other purposes that would generate much-needed income for them. We therefore had to find a new location. Charlton Triangle Homes very kindly offered us a new home which we moved to in the autumn.

Our Outreach service is in its 11th year of funding from BBC Children in Need and we have successfully secured a grant to keep this much-needed support for struggling local families going until September 2026. In 2023-24 I worked with 62 families and their 124 children. This accounts for 26% of our entire membership.

Referral for our services continue to come from many local organisations such as HomeStart, Family Engagement Support Workers from Children's Centres, Health Visitors, Social Workers, The Pre-birth Assessment Team, Best Beginnings Midwives Team, MumsAid, Early Years Quaggy Development Trust, and others too. Some families hear about our services and refer themselves directly to us.

I continued to support families in their home. The children supported had many and varied struggles to deal with, such as family with low income, disabilities, families experiencing domestic abuse and families with no recourse to public funds of any kind. Our aim was to give these children some sense of a "normal" childhood... to just be kids... playing and having fun.

On my first visit to homes, I assessed what help was needed. I began by helping to improve the physical wellbeing of children by providing, completely free of charge, essential clothing, beds, prams, baby equipment, child home safety equipment and much more.

Once the safety and physical comfort of the children had improved, I then supplied the toys, books and games that families could not afford. These items kept the children constructively occupied. They learnt to play happily within the home, with their parents and with their siblings, improving behaviour and family dynamics. The books and play equipment stimulated their curiosity and improved their learning & development.

I worked with parents and carers, helping them to understand the importance of play in their children's development. These measures together helped children develop and learn, making them better ready for school when the time comes.

OUTREACH PROJECT REPORT by Sharon Jay

In January 2024, we started a new collaboration with The Bridge and MumsAid, supporting families with children with complex medical conditions or disabilities. The Might Acorns Plus Project has weekly group sessions at The Bridge and I provided the families with new sensory toys, baby safety equipment and any other support they needed either during the sessions or with home visits.

So that you can appreciate all the work carried out please consider the following achievements. The figures are slightly lower than usual, as I was off work on a short period of sick leave:

- 160 visits to families in their own homes.
- 95 support phone calls to families between visits providing much needed help and advice.
- 124 children were supported between 1st April 2023 and 31st March 2024.
- 352 toys/books and 161 items of child safety equipment were delivered to families.
- 62 large bags of clothing for children and nappies were given out to Outreach families.
- 35 Christmas presents were given to children and 20 families received a £50 supermarket voucher each to buy food over the festive season. 14 families received extra food vouchers during the year.
- We also helped families with whatever was needed to relieve some of the struggles and disadvantage in their lives such as housing problems and emotional and practical support.
- When needed we linked with other organisations to extend the range of help.

I am very pleased to see that some outreach families have visited our stay-and-play sessions and enjoyed the singing and sensory activities. They have socialised with others families and reduced their sense of isolation. I hope to see more and more coming in to play in the near future.

Sharon Jay
Outreach worker

TOY LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT by Vicky Thomas

This has been a very busy and successful year again. I have enjoyed working with our lovely members, our wonderful team of dedicated volunteers, our Trustees and our amazing Outreach Worker Sharon.

From 1st April 2023 until 31st March 2024, we organised several successful events:

- In April we took part at the Charlton House **Easter Event** in Charlton Park, offering children's crafts and nearly new toys for sale.
- In May we took part in a **Community Day**, organised by CABAHS in Charlton park and organised crafts and activities for the children.
- In June we had a stall in the community tent at the **TOGETHER 23** festival in Charlton park.
- In July we organised a very successful **fundraising concert** with the local children's group C7 at the Pelton Arms pub in Greenwich.
- In October we had a stall at the **Hornfair festival** at Charlton House.
- In December we organised two **Christmas parties** for our members. Father Christmas visited the children, the families had photos taken with him and were each given a free book as a Christmas present.

Other work I have been focusing on this year:

- I continued to support our Outreach service by procuring toys, clothes and safety equipment for our vulnerable families via advertising in local groups. I helped our Outreach worker Sharon organise the Christmas Toy and Food voucher appeal and I am always truly humbled by the generosity of our community. I have helped cataloguing all the Outreach purchases and donations and got involved in the Might Acorns Project, our new collaboration with MumsAid and The Bridge.
- I have continued to help with fundraising, both by organising fundraising events and second-hand sales and by finding suitable grants that CTL can apply for.
- I updated our website and posted regularly on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts.
- I managed the membership accounts and toy database and produced annual reports.

I would like to say a massive thank you to our wonderful volunteers Susan, Sophie, Julie P, Julie C, June and Emma, as well as our Trustees who always offer their help and support. I am really looking forward to welcoming our members in the next few months!

Vicky Thomas
CTL Coordinator

We finished the financial year 2023-2024 with a net income for the year of £1,374, represented by £2,249 in restricted funding and -£874 in unrestricted funds.

Together with the cash funds brought forward our unrestricted cash reserves as at 31st March 2024 were just over £25,000 which is in line with our cash reserves policy. In view of the current cost of living crisis, we have kept our very-low membership and toy loan fees unchanged for the 6th year running. In light of future financial challenges these will be reviewed in 2024-2025. Our Outreach Service continues to be provided completely free of charge for disadvantaged local families experiencing a wide range of struggles.

The Toy Library is therefore reliant on outside funding and this year we were very grateful for the support we received. We are in our 11th year of funding from BBC Children in Need towards our Outreach Project. We also received a large grant from the National Lottery Community Fund Cost of Living Crisis Fund which allowed us to renew all our computer equipment, redecorate our play areas and purchase £2,113 worth of sensory toys for children experiencing complex medical needs on the Mighty Acorns Project. We also received a generous grant from Awards For All and other grants from the Leatherseller's Foundation and Magic Little Grants. A huge thank you to all these grant making organisations without whose help we could not offer the range of services that we do. They enable us to support so many local families across our community.

Our continued thanks go to Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust for their help-in-kind through the peppercorn rent of our premises and to the Atlas Business Group who continue to provide our internet services for free during the year, as do Fire Action Ltd.

We have a good management committee who are working hard on building up our finances and on securing the long-term prospects of our services. We need more trustees though so please consider joining us.

The funds that we raise are never enough to run the entire Toy Library and for this reason we would also like to thank all those who help keep us going. Thank you to all our volunteers who help at sessions and events. Thank you to the local community for your continued support with both physical and financial donations. And thank you to all those organisations who help us too. Added together, your support and time helps to improve the lives of so many children and families across the borough. We could not do it without you.

These accounts have been successfully examined and accepted by our Independent Examiner, Caroline Sharp (FCA, DChA).

Janine Khoshnevisan
CTL Treasurer and Trustee



CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY INCOME RESERVES POLICY

Unrestricted funds are needed:

- 1) to provide funds which can be designated to specific projects to enable these projects to be undertaken at short notice and
- 2) to cover administration, fund-raising and support costs without which the charity could not function.

The trustees consider it prudent that unrestricted reserves should be sufficient:

- a) to avoid the necessity of releasing fixed assets held for the charity's use;
- b) to cover 6 month's administration, fund-raising and support costs (currently approximately £20,000)
- c) to provide a pool equal to 10% of the average charitable expenditure over the preceding 2 years from which funds can be designated to specific projects (currently approximately £9,400).

INCOME-EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2023-2024

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY Income & Expenditure Account 2023-2024

INCOME	Restricted	Unrestricted		Previous year
BBC Children in Need	9,573.30		BBC Children in Need	25,643.00
Nat Lottery Community Organisations Cost	15,198.28		Greenwich supports	5,130.00
Nat Lottery COCLF retrospective funding		5468.44	Woodward Ch Trust	1,014.00
Awards for All	10,000.00			
Leatherseller's	2,500.00			
Magic Little Grants	500.00			
Greenwich Supports	570.00			
Fundraising		1,292.10		1,677.33
Membership fees		2,328.65		2,567.24
Toy loan fees		1,207.75		1,161.00
Safety equipment loan fees		98.36		124.25
Session sales		1095.93		1,788.05
Special events/parties				183.25
Donations		1,648.78		4564.16
Bank interest		292.57		112.21
Gift Aid		148.19		271.58
TOTAL	38,341.58	13,580.77	51,922.35	44,236.07

EXPENDITURE	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Previous year
Advertising/promotional	547.00	380.00	927.00	497.50
Child Safety Equipment	1,195.00	0.00	1,195.00	702.28
Equipment	302.00		302.00	0.00
Fundraising expenses		52.00	52.00	418.85
General running costs	11,168.00	3,244.00	14,412.00	4779.87
Insurance		1,561.00	1,561.00	1594.92
Management costs		35.00	35.00	30.78
Staffing costs	20,297.00	8,137.00	28,434.00	32228.43
Outreach welfare	21.00	954.00	975.00	7,590.05
Toys books videos etc	2,242.00		2,242.00	0.00
Training				389.96
Travel	289.00		289.00	78.55
Volunteer expenses	33.00	92.00	125.00	75.11
Workshops & crafts				34.05
TOTAL	36,094.00	14,455.00	50,549.00	48420.35

Net receipts for the year	2,248.00	-874.00	1,374.00
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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

CURRENT ASSETS	Restricted	Unrestricted	Totals
Current Account	13,542.52	5,595.50	19,138.02
Business Reserve		20,083.30	20,083.30
Cash in hand		100.00	100.00
4 unrepresented items	-2,057.22	-241.92	-2,299.14
	11,485.30	25,536.88	37,022.18

REPRESENTED BY:

Balance b/fwd 2022-2023	9,236.84	26,411.10	35,647.94
Profit/loss for 2023-2024	2,248.00	-874.00	1374.00
	11,484.84	25,537.10	37,021.94



We have:

- Obtained funding to continue offering our wide range of services: stay-and-play sessions, toy loaning, Outreach service
- Supported 124 children through our Outreach Service, working across the Royal Borough of Greenwich
- Provided 35 children with Christmas presents and 18 families with Christmas food vouchers through our Outreach Programme
- Provided 81 bags of essential clothing for children and nappies
- Continued our Child Safety Equipment Loan Scheme by lending families stairgates, cots, baby baths, highchairs, sterilizers, prams, baby bouncers and many more for 6-12 months at a time.
- Established and/or maintained strong links with organisations across the borough including HomeStart, the Midwife Team, Social workers, Family Engagement Support workers, Greenwich Children's Disability Team, Health Visitors, Best Beginnings, Quaggy Development Trust, Mama2Mama and many more.
- Began a collaboration with MumsAid and the Bridge. The new project is called Mighty Acorns Plus and our Outreach worker supports families with children (0-2 yrs old) with medical and other special needs.

ACHIEVEMENTS (continued) 2023-2024

- We updated our stock with a over £2,000 worth of sensory toys
- Updated our computers and printers
- Had the Reception and Play areas decorated
- Promoted awareness and membership of our service among target groups, including black and minority ethnic and low-income families, asylum seekers and families suffering domestic abuse.
- Held regular management committee meetings via Zoom.
- Publicised the Toy Library to local groups and around the borough. Maintained our website, Facebook and Twitter accounts and created a CTL account on Instagram to reach more families.
- Worked with and supported 6 volunteers throughout the year.
- Introduced a singing session on Tuesday mornings and a sensory session on Thursday mornings.
- Developed and ran a survey to evaluate our services.
- We applied and successfully received a number of grants:
 - £500 from Magic Little Grants
 - £2,500 from the Leathersellers
 - £10,000 from Awards for All
 - £20,666 from National Lottery Cost of Living fund
 - £18,000 per year for 3 years from BBC Children in Need for our Outreach programme





Our plans for 2024-2025 are:

- Widen the support we offer to our Outreach families
- Reach more families in the Borough that would benefit from our Outreach services
- Re-establish support for women and children in Women's Refuges
- Maintain and improve links with relevant organisations across the borough
- Continue to increase awareness and use of our services particularly amongst black and minority ethnic and disadvantaged families
- Continue to maintain our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages and our presence on relevant apps and website listings
- Increase the number of trustees on our Management Committee
- Hold regular committee meetings and AGM (online and/or in person)
- Continue to encourage good management committee representation
- Review regularly all Toy Library policies and procedures
- Secure more outside grants and funding to secure the long-term security of our services

The Management Committee

John Stephens, Chair

Janine Khoshnevisan, Treasurer

Jo Rollings, Committee Member

Kate Hall, Committee Member

Bridget Gourlay, Committee Member

Patricia Santome, Committee Member

Daniela Kaltenbach, Committee Member (until June 2023)

Nahid Kausar, Committee Member (until August 2023)

Trustees and Officers are elected and appointed at the AGM by nomination method or co-opted by the Management Committee at a monthly meeting.

Staff

Sharon Jay, Outreach Worker

Vicky Thomas, Toy Library Co-ordinator

Volunteers & Fundraisers

Susan Wainwright, Jack Wheeler, Sophie Durcan, Julie Pepperrell, Julie Cullen, June Shand, Emma Foord-Divers, John Stephens, Janine Khoshnevisan, Patricia Santome-Courtney, Nahid Kausar, Jo Rollings, Kate Hall, Bridge Gourlay.

And to everyone else who has helped on a more informal basis... thank you!

FUNDRAISERS & SUPPORTERS 2023-2024

As always there are a huge number of people and organisations to thank for their support.

Thank you to all our funders and supporters:

BBC Children in Need
National Lottery Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund
Awards For All
The Leatherseller's
Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust
Charlton House
The Royal Borough of Greenwich
Greenwich Supports Team
Home-Start Greenwich
The Co-operative
The Woodward Charitable Trust
Fire Action Ltd
Headstart IT
Atlas Business Group
Greenwich Midwifery Team
Greenwich Social Workers
Mama2Mama
Waitrose in Sidcup
Tacagni Consultancy
Four Keen Inns Greenwich
Colin Foord-Divers and the C7 group

Thanks also to our Independent Examiner, Ms Caroline Sharp (FCA, DChA)

Finally, our thanks (and apologies!) to anyone else who has helped us this year and who we may have momentarily forgotten to mention!



Signature

I declare, in my capacity as Chair of the Management Committee, that:

- the Management Committee has approved the report above; and
- have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signature

Full name	John Stephens
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Position	Chair
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Date	12 th July 2024
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Charlton Toy Library

Receipts and payments

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
<i>From donations</i>						
Donations	1,649	-	1,649	4,564	-	4,564
Gift Aid	148	-	148	272	-	272
Fundraising	1,292	-	1,292	1,678	-	1,678
Special events/parties	-	-	-	183	-	183
Bank interest	293	-	293	112	-	112
<i>From charitable activities</i>						
National Lottery CCLF	5,468	15,199	20,667	-	-	-
Awards for All	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
BBC Children in Need	-	9,573	9,573	-	25,643	25,643
Leathersellers	-	2,500	2,500	-	-	-
Greenwich Supports	-	570	570	-	5,130	5,130
Woodward Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	1,014	1,014
Magic Little Grants	-	500	500	-	-	-
Membership fees	2,329	-	2,329	2,567	-	2,567
Toy loan fees	1,208	-	1,208	1,161	-	1,161
Safety equipment loans	98	-	98	124	-	124
Session sales	1,096	-	1,096	1,788	-	1,788
Total receipts	13,581	38,342	51,923	12,449	31,787	44,236
Payments						
Advertising/promotional	380	547	927	497	-	497
Child safety equipment	-	1,195	1,195	9	693	702
Equipment	-	302	302	-	-	-
Fundraising costs	52	-	52	419	-	419
General running costs	3,244	11,168	14,412	3,292	1,489	4,781
Insurance	1,561	-	1,561	1,595	-	1,595
Management costs	35	-	35	31	-	31
Staffing costs	8,137	20,297	28,434	16,977	15,251	32,228
Outreach welfare	954	21	975	1,962	5,628	7,590
Training	-	-	-	390	-	390
Volunteer expenses	92	33	125	75	-	75
Toys, books, videos etc	-	2,242	2,242	-	-	-
Travel	-	289	289	1	77	78
Workshops and crafts	-	-	-	34	-	34
Total expenditure	14,455	36,094	50,549	25,282	23,138	48,420
Net receipts for the year	(874)	2,248	1,374	(12,833)	8,649	(4,184)
Reconciliation of funds						
Cash funds brought forward	26,411	9,237	35,648	39,244	588	39,832
Cash funds carried forward	25,537	11,485	37,022	26,411	9,237	35,648

Charlton Toy Library

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 March 2024

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £
Cash funds						
Current account	5,354	11,485	16,839	1,520	9,237	10,757
Business reserve	20,083	-	20,083	24,791	-	24,791
Cash in hand	100	-	100	100	-	100
Total cash funds	25,537	11,485	37,022	26,411	9,237	35,648

Funds

Restricted funds						
Awards for All			10,000			-
BBC Children in Need			968			8,694
Leathersellers			1,431			-
Mighty Acorns			(914)			-
Greenwich Supports			-			(471)
Woodward Charitable Trust			-			1,014
Unrestricted funds						
General funds			25,537			26,411
Total charity funds			37,022			35,648

Approved by the trustees and signed on 17 January 2025 on their behalf by

Mrs Janine Khoshnevisan (Treasurer)

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of

Charlton Toy Library

Charity number: 285099

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Charlton Toy Library (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024 as set out on pages 1 and 2 .

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of Charlton Toy Library 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 charity'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 that give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 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.

Caroline Sharp
FCA, DChA

Date: **17 January 2025**

LONDON SE7 8PF

Charlton Toy Library

Receipts and payments

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024		2023	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<i>From donations</i>				
Donations	1,649	-	4,564	-
Gift Aid	148	-	272	-
Fundraising	1,292	-	1,678	-
Special events/parties	-	-	183	-
Bank interest	293	-	112	-
<i>From charitable activities</i>				
National Lottery CCLF	5,468	15,199	-	-
Awards for All	-	10,000	-	-
BBC Children in Need	-	9,573	-	25,643
Leathersellers	-	2,500	-	-
Greenwich Supports	-	570	-	5,130
Woodward Charitable Trust	-	-	-	1,014
Magic Little Grants	-	500	-	-
Membership fees	2,329	-	2,567	-
Toy loan fees	1,208	-	1,161	-
Safety equipment loans	98	-	124	-
Session sales	1,096	-	1,788	-
Total receipts	13,581	38,342	12,449	31,787
Payments				
Advertising/promotional	380	547	497	-
Child safety equipment	-	1,195	9	693
Equipment	-	302	-	-
Fundraising costs	52	-	419	-
General running costs	3,244	11,168	3,292	1,489
Insurance	1,561	-	1,595	-
Management costs	35	-	31	-
Staffing costs	8,137	20,297	16,977	15,251
Outreach welfare	954	21	1,962	5,628
Training	-	-	390	-
Volunteer expenses	92	33	75	-
Toys, books, videos etc	-	2,242	-	-
Travel	-	289	1	77
Workshops and crafts	-	-	34	-
Total expenditure	14,455	36,094	25,282	23,138
Net receipts for the year	(874)	2,248	(12,833)	8,649
Reconciliation of funds				
Cash funds brought forward	26,411	9,237	39,244	588
Cash funds carried forward	25,537	11,485	26,411	9,237

Charlton Toy Library

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 March 2024

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £
Cash funds						
Current account	5,354	11,485	16,839	1,520	9,237	10,757
Business reserve	20,083	-	20,083	24,791	-	24,791
Cash in hand	100	-	100	100	-	100
Total cash funds	<u>25,537</u>	<u>11,485</u>	<u>37,022</u>	<u>26,411</u>	<u>9,237</u>	<u>35,648</u>

Funds

Restricted funds						
Awards for All			10,000			-
BBC Children in Need			968			8,694
Leathersellers			1,431			-
Mighty Acorns			(914)			-
Greenwich Supports			-			(471)
Woodward Charitable Trust			-			1,014
Unrestricted funds						
General funds			<u>25,537</u>			<u>26,411</u>
Total charity funds			<u>37,022</u>			<u>35,648</u>

Approved by the trustees and signed on 17 January 2025 on their behalf by

Mrs Janine Khoshnevisan (Treasurer)

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of

Charlton Toy Library

Charity number: 285099

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Charlton Toy Library (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024 as set out on pages 1 and 2 .

Responsibilities and basis of the report

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I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 that give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 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.

Caroline Sharp
FCA, DChA

Date: **17 January 2025**

LONDON SE7 8PF

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY

England & Wales - Charity number 285099

Accounts

Charlton Toy Library

AGM report

1st April 2022
to 31st March 2023



Registered Charity Number: 285099
Charlton House, Horn Fair Road, Charlton SE7 8RE
Telephone: 020 8319 0055 • Website: www.charltontoylibrary.co.uk
Email: info@charltontoylibrary.org.uk

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

AIMS:

To promote the principle that play does matter for the developing child.

OBJECTIVES:

- To make play available and lend appropriate toys to extend the opportunity for shared play into the home.
- To provide play areas where children and adults can use a wide range of toys and creative activities.
- To offer an opportunity to socialise and exchange experiences.
- To offer a befriending and supportive service to parents and carers.

We aim to improve the current quality of life and future life chances of local children by providing a much-needed child-centred support service to families in our main premises at Charlton House and through our outreach service HomeStart and other child-centred groups as well as other hard-to-reach families referred by Health Visitors and other health professionals. We also offer a low-cost toy/book/games and child safety equipment loan scheme.

Many of the children we support through our Outreach Service live in families experiencing poverty and disadvantage, some have suffered domestic violence and many feel isolated. This has a huge negative impact on the children's well-being and development. Our intervention at an early formative stage in their development aims to break the cycle of deprivation by improving their literacy, numeracy, creative & social skills, thus improving their school careers and their future life chances and contributing to stronger, more cohesive communities.

WHO WE ARE

Charlton Toy Library is a registered charity offering an inter-linked support service for the under 5s community in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. We operate a toy, book and safety equipment loan scheme and a stay and play service in our main base along with a much-needed Outreach service to support disadvantaged families and children in desperate need.

Charlton Toy Library is a registered charity, governed by a constitution adopted 10th February 1982. It is run by members of a voluntary Management Committee (who are also the charity trustees), staff (a Toy Library Co-ordinator and an Outreach Worker) and volunteers, all helping to run play & borrowing sessions and giving help, support and advice to families.

All the money received from membership, loan fees and fundraising events is spent on toys and Toy Library running costs. We have an Equal Opportunities policy and aim to provide a good selection of multi-cultural and non-sexist toys and books along with impartial advice and support.

“CTL is a fantastic facility, congratulations on running such a great resource for children and parents.”

“I love this place SO much! Coming now with my third child, so it feels like a second home. A favourite place for all my girls. Thank you so much for everything. I was so pleased once you opened again after lockdown. Also, LOVE the singing sessions. Thank you!”

“I can’t thank the Toy Library for everything you have given my daughter, she has everything she needs! I pray for all of you daily.”

“The Toy Library has become part of our weekly routine and I hope it stays that way. We are grateful for all the help we receive and love all the amazing toys!”

CHAIR'S REPORT BY JOHN STEPHENS

This is my second year as Chair of Trustees of Charlton Toy Library (CTL) and it has been a year of both challenges and successes.

The financial position of our charity, like most similar organisations, remains precarious. We rely on a range of funding sources, including local fundraising activity, philanthropic organisations, and local authority and national funding streams. The current financial crisis has meant we have significantly increased running costs. Added to this, competition for funding within the charity sector has become more competitive as there is less money to go round. We are finding that securing funding, particularly for our core running costs, is difficult, and our trustee group is making applying for funding our top priority.

Overall in 2022-23 we supported 394 children within 248 families. Of these 33% of families accessed our services at no charge and around 11% paid a concessionary rate, 24% are lone parent families. Support for less-well-off families is particularly important given the current cost-of-living crisis and we will continue to prioritise this demographic. Around 35% of families are from the global majority. Another ongoing priority is to ensure that our membership is genuinely inclusive of the local community, and fully represents the rich ethnic and cultural diversity present in the Borough of Greenwich.

The Outreach service supports families who face barriers to attending CTL in person. During the last year, 189 children within 83 families received direct support via home visits. This support includes not just loan of toys, sensory equipment, books, safety equipment, clothes, shoes, cots, beds prams and buggies, but also a friendly and supportive visit from our Outreach worker Sharon Jay. We also succeeded in securing at short notice £5,700 of funding from London Borough of Greenwich to help address the cost-of-living crisis. Through a terrific effort Sharon was able to distribute these funds in the form of supermarket food vouchers to Outreach families during March and April 2023.

Our Outreach worker Sharon Jay very tragically lost her 17 year old son Ben to cancer early in 2022. Sharon is a loyal and long-standing member of staff and we continue to do our utmost to support her and cope with the impact of her bereavement. I would like to express sincere thanks on behalf of all trustees to Sharon for all her hard work and resilience in the face of such adversity.

During 2022-23 the continued appeal of our face-to-face offer post-pandemic at Charlton House has been apparent. This offer comprises toy and equipment loans and interactive stay-and-play sessions for CTL members on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and once-a-month Saturday sessions. Music sessions run by volunteer Susan Wainwright have been particularly popular and are often oversubscribed.

CHAIR'S REPORT BY JOHN STEPHENS (cont.)

As well as the regular weekly offer CTL has organised or participated in a range of community events across the year (details of which can be found elsewhere in this report). These events are important for a number of reasons. They provide a way of promoting CTL activity to the wider community, they allow us to interact with similar local organisations and potential partners, and probably most important they are a way of raising much needed funds. We are always grateful when CTL members come and support us at local events.

All of the activity at Charlton House, all of the community events, and much of the administration related to running a charity is organised, managed and supervised by our indefatigable CTL Co-ordinator Vicky Thomas. On behalf of all the trustees I would like to say a massive thank you to Vicky for all her incredible work and for always being prepared to go the extra mile!

I would also like to thank our group of volunteers who perform a vital role and without whom we would find it impossible to operate.

Finally, I would like to thank the trustee group for all their hard work during a year which has again presented some difficult and unforeseen challenges. Sadly we have said goodbye to Dani Kaltenbach, who is leaving the trustee group after 5 years. Thank you so much for all your work and support Dani, we are most grateful, and wish you the very best! Since March, we have recruited two new trustees, Bridget Gourlay and Jo Rollings. Both Bridget and Jo have professional charity sector backgrounds and I know they are going to be tremendous assets to the group!



Membership Statistics 1st April 2022 - 31st March 2023

Families using our main services & outreach service combined: 248 families
Total number of children helped: 394 children and 271 adults

Outreach families supported (free of charge): 83 families
Outreach children helped: 180 children

Families supported free of charge: 83 families (33%)
Families paying concessionary rate: 26 families

Families from global majority backgrounds: 87 families (35%)

New families: 169 families

Lone parent families: 59 families

Grandparent members: 9

Childminders: 4

Families in the SE7 area: 93 families

Families in the SE18 area: 63 families



Our multi-faceted outreach project was in its 10th year of funding from BBC Children in Need and we have successfully secured another three-year grant to keep this much-needed support for struggling local families going. In total our very skilled and experienced outreach worker, Sharon, worked with 83 families and their 180 children. This accounts for 33% of our entire membership.

Referral for our services continue to come from many local organisations such as HomeStart, Family Engagement Support Workers from Children's Centers, Health Visitors, Social Workers, The Pre-birth Assessment Team, Best Beginnings Midwives Team, and others too. Some families hear about our services from friends already using our services and refer themselves.

This year we continued to work less with groups as many had still not re-opened after COVID, so Sharon visited most of these families in their own homes. The children supported had many and varied struggles to deal with: many experiencing the effects of low income, 18 had a disability, 23 children were in families experiencing domestic abuse, 33 children lived in situations where the family had no recourse to public funds of any kind. Our aim was to give these children some sense of a "normal" childhood... to just be kids... playing and having fun.

On her first visit to homes Sharon assessed what help was needed. She began by helping to improve the physical wellbeing of children by providing, completely free of charge, essential clothing, beds, prams, baby equipment, child home safety equipment and much more.

Once the safety and physical comfort of the children had improved Sharon then supplied the toys, books and games that families could not afford. These items kept the children constructively occupied. They learnt to play happily within the home, with their parents and with their siblings, improving behaviour and family dynamics. The books and play equipment stimulated their curiosity and improved their learning & development.

Sharon worked with parents and carers, helping them to understand the importance of play in their children's development. These measures together helped children develop and learn, making them better ready for school when the time comes.

OUTREACH PROJECT REPORT written by trustees

So that you can appreciate all the work carried out please consider the following achievements...

- Sharon made 132 visits to families in their own homes.
- She also made almost 250 support phone calls to families between visits providing much needed help and advice.
- She helped 180 children between 1st April 2022 and March 2023.
- She delivered 358 toys/books and 195 items of child safety equipment.
- She delivered 73 large bags of clothing for children in 32 different families.
- She gave out Christmas presents to 59 children and 26 families received a £50 supermarket voucher each to buy food over the festive season.
- And, amazingly, in the spring, Sharon delivered £5,600 worth of supermarket vouchers to struggling families.
- Sharon helped families with whatever was needed to relieve some of the struggles and disadvantage in their lives such as housing problems and emotional and practical support.
- When needed we linked with other organisations to extend the range of help.

Before Covid quite a few families were coming in to use our main services at Charlton House. We are pleased to see that some outreach families are starting to venture back in to our main services again, where they can socialise with others and reduce their sense of isolation. We hope to see more and more coming in to play in the near future.

The new three-year BBC Children in Need grant will ensure the continuation of these much-needed services throughout the borough. We are truly honoured that the BBC continue to support our outreach service. Last year we celebrated our 40th birthday. We can now work on the next 40 years... so happy in the knowledge that this outreach part of our service is already secure for the next three years.

TOY LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT by Vicky Thomas

It has been a very busy and successful year again! I have enormously enjoyed working with our lovely members, our wonderful team of dedicated volunteers and our Trustees and our amazing Outreach Worker Sharon.

From 1st April 2022 until 31st March 2023, we organised several successful events:

- In April we organised an Easter Egg Hunt in Charlton Park, combined with a nearly-new sale at the Toy Library, which attracted a lot of local families.
- In May we took part in a Community Day, organised by CABAHS in the park and offered flower related crafts to children.
- In June we had a stall in the community tent at the TOGETHER 22 festival, which coincided with the late Queen Elizabeth's II Platinum Jubilee celebrations.
- In July we celebrated our 40th Anniversary with a big party at the Charlton Assembly Rooms. Delicious food and drinks were kindly donated by Daryl from the Swan Pub in West Malling and our 40th Birthday cake was cut by Chris Mason, CTL Member and BBC News Political Editor.
- At the beginning of September, a team of volunteers from Santander Bank visited the Toy Library and did a stock take of all our toys, books and safety equipment.
- In September we organised a successful nearly-new sale at the Toy Library.
- In October we had a stall at the Hornfair festival at Charlton House.
- In December we organised a Christmas treasure hunt in Charlton Park and the children met Father Christmas and received a small toy. Inside the Toy Library we organised a nearly-new sale. It was a great day!
- In January we had a visit from the School Crossing Patrol department and the children enjoyed learning how to be safe when crossing roads and loved dressing up and playing with the zebra crossing.
- In February we ran another successful nearly-new sale at the Toy Library.

TOY LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT by Vicky Thomas (cont.)

- In March we welcomed local mum and children's books author Cara Matheson and her therapy dog Scout. Cara read extracts from her new book and the children enjoyed playing with the props and feeding treats to little Scout.

Other work I have been focusing on this year:

- I continued to support our Outreach service by procuring toys, clothes and safety equipment for our vulnerable families via advertising in local groups. I helped our Outreach worker Sharon organise the Christmas Toy and Food voucher appeal and I am always truly humbled by the generosity of our community.
- This year I became involved in fundraising, both by organising fundraising events and second-hand sales and by finding suitable grants that CTL can apply for.
- I updated our website and posted regularly on our Facebook and Twitter accounts.
- I developed and ran a survey to evaluate our services.

I would like to say a massive thank you to our wonderful volunteers Susan, Jack, Sophie, Julie and Ann as well as our Trustees who always offer their help and support. I am really looking forward to welcoming our members in the next few months!

Thank you,
Vicky



TREASURER'S REPORT BY JANINE KHOSHNEVISAN

We finished the financial year 2022-2023 with a loss of £4,184, using up some funds brought forward from 2020-2021 to employ a third member of staff to support the work of our longer-term employees.

We were very grateful to receive several outside grants this year. We would like to mention BBC Children in Need for the 10th year of funding towards our much-needed outreach service. We also received grants from the Co-op towards outreach membership, the Woodward Charitable Trust for some play session costs (for the next financial year) and Greenwich Supports who granted us £5,700 funding to support 20 families with supermarket vouchers for food (£5,130 in this financial year with the remaining £570 in 2023-24).

We were also very grateful to receive numerous donations too... from Waitrose in Sidcup and from many people across our community who supported our Christmas campaign to ensure food for 40 families over the festive season, along with Christmas presents for their children.

Fundraising events have been very successful too in terms of both the enjoyment had by all and of the funds raised to keep the toy library going. We held an Easter event, a children's second-hand clothes, toys & equipment sales, an amazing Christmas event, and we attended many local festivals and events too. Thank you to everyone who helped out at these events, to those who donated items for sale and to those who came along.

Self-generated income has improved now that we are well past Covid. Fundraising has increased by 33%, membership fee income by 79%, toys loans have doubled and sales at toy library sessions have more than quadrupled. This is all a sign that the toy library is busy again and thriving. Expenditure increased due to the extra temporary employee. We also spent more on advertising our services, insurance, utilities and training. However, through careful budgeting we managed to reduce running costs.

As we move further away from Covid, the local community has continued to support us. We are incredibly honoured and grateful. We are especially pleased to welcome several new trustees on to the management committee, bringing new skills and working hard on building up our finances and on securing the long-term prospects of our services.

Our continued thanks go to Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust for their continued help-in-kind through the peppercorn rent of our premises and to the Atlas Business Group who continue to provide our internet services for free, as do Fire Action Ltd.

The funds that we raise are never enough to run the toy library and for this reason we would like to thank all those who help keep us going. Thank you to all our volunteers who help at sessions and events. Thank you to the local community for your continued support with both physical and financial donations. And thank you to all those organisations who help us too. Added together, your support and time helps to improve the lives of so many children and families across the borough. We could not do it without you.

These accounts have been successfully examined and accepted by our Independent Examiner, Caroline Sharp (ACA, DChA).

Janine



CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY INCOME RESERVES POLICY

Unrestricted funds are needed:

- 1) to provide funds which can be designated to specific projects to enable these projects to be undertaken at short notice and
- 2) to cover administration, fund-raising and support costs without which the charity could not function.

The trustees consider it prudent that unrestricted reserves should be sufficient:

- a) to avoid the necessity of releasing fixed assets held for the charity's use;
- b) to cover 6 month's administration, fund-raising and support costs (currently approximately £20,000)
- c) to provide a pool equal to 10% of the average charitable expenditure over the preceding 2 years from which funds can be designated to specific projects (currently approximately £8,000).

INCOME-EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2022-2023

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY Income & Expenditure Account 2022-2023

INCOME	Restricted	Unrestricted		Previous year
BBC Children in Need	25,643.00		BBC Children in Need	16,597.00
Greenwich Supports	5,130.00			
Woodward Charitable Trust	1,014.00			
Fundraising		1,677.33		1,257.48
Membership fees		2,567.24		1,436.78
Toy loan fees		1,161.00		525.16
Safety equipment loan fees		124.25		9.83
Session sales		1,788.05		334.36
Special events/parties		183.25		0.00
Donations		4,564.16		7158.92
Bank interest		112.21		3.47
Gift Aid		271.58		295.5
TOTAL	31,787.00	12,449.07	44,236.07	27,618.50

EXPENDITURE	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Previous year
Advertising/promotional	0.00	497.50	497.50	34.27
Child Safety Equipment	693.33	8.95	702.28	834.22
Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	54.99
Fundraising expenses	0.00	418.85	418.85	120.00
General running costs	1,489.36	3,290.51	4,779.87	5653.26
Insurance	0.00	1,594.92	1,594.92	1299.57
Management costs	0.00	30.78	30.78	61.74
Staffing costs	15,251.42	16,977.01	32,228.43	28653.20
Outreach welfare	5,627.55	1,962.50	7,590.05	2,333
Toys books videos etc	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.54
Training	0.00	389.96	389.96	0.00
Travel	76.55	2.00	78.55	103.10
Volunteer expenses	0.00	75.11	75.11	0.00
Workshops & crafts	0.00	34.05	34.05	
TOTAL	23,138.21	25,282.14	48,420.35	39,171.69

PROFIT/LOSS	8,648.79	-12,833.07	-4,184.28	
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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

CURRENT ASSETS	Restricted	Unrestricted	Totals
Current Account	9,386.95	1,793.86	11,180.81
Business Reserve		24,790.73	24,790.73
Cash in hand		100.00	100.00
6 unrepresented items	-150.11	-273.49	-423.60
	9,236.84	26,411.10	35,647.94

REPRESENTED BY:

Balance b/fwd 2021-2022	588.05	39,244.17	39,832.22
Profit/loss for 2022-2023	8,648.79	-12,833.07	-4184.28
	9,236.84	26,411.10	35,647.94



We have:

- Re-opened our full range of services and found funding to continue operating during the most difficult period in the 40-year history of the toy library
- Introduced an online booking system for the Friday singing sessions to manage visitor numbers and keep everyone safe
- Organised an outdoor treasure hunt event in Charlton Park before Christmas
- Held two successful Nearly New Sales raising funds for our charity
- Supported 180 children through our Outreach Service, working across Charlton, Thamesmead, Woolwich, Eltham, Plumstead and Abbey Wood
- Provided 59 children with Christmas presents and 26 families (reaching 59 children) with Christmas food vouchers through our Outreach Programme
- Provided 122 food and essentials vouchers to 20 Outreach families to a value of over £5,600
- Provided 73 bags of essential clothing for 74 children

- Continued our Child Safety Equipment Loan Scheme.
- Established and/or maintained strong links with organisations across the borough including Home Start, the Midwife Team, Social workers, Family Engagement Support workers, Greenwich Children's Disability Team, Health Visitors, Best Beginnings, Quaggy Development Trust, Mama2Mama and many more.
- Promoted awareness and membership of our service among target groups, including black and minority ethnic and low-income families, asylum seekers and families suffering domestic abuse.
- Held regular management committee meetings via Zoom.
- Publicised the Toy Library to local groups and around the borough. Maintained our Facebook and Twitter accounts and developed a new website.
- Worked with and supported 6 volunteers throughout the year.
- Developed and ran a survey to evaluate our services.





Our plans for 2023-2024 are:

- Widen the support we offer to our Outreach families
- Reach more families in the Borough that would benefit from our Outreach services
- Re-establish support for women and children in Women's Refuges
- Maintain and improve links with relevant organisations across the borough
- Continue to increase awareness and use of our services particularly amongst black and minority ethnic and disadvantaged families
- Continue to maintain our Facebook and Twitter pages and our presence on relevant apps and website listings
- Increase the number of trustees on our Management Committee
- Hold regular committee meetings and AGM (online and/or in person)
- Continue to encourage good management committee representation
- Introduce Sensory Play sessions on a weekly basis
- Review regularly all Toy Library policies and procedures
- Secure more outside grants and funding to secure the long-term security of our services

The Management Committee

John Stephens, Chair

Janine Khoshnevisan, Treasurer

Patricia Santome, Committee Member

Daniela Kaltenbach, Committee Member

Nahid Kausar, Committee Member

Liz Grace, Committee Member (March – Sept 2022)

Trustees and Officers are elected and appointed at the AGM by nomination method or co-opted by the Management Committee at a monthly meeting.

Staff

Sharon Jay, Outreach Worker

Vicky Thomas, Toy Library Co-ordinator

Vanessa Covington, CTL & Outreach Assistant (until December 2022)

Volunteers & Fundraisers

Susan Wainwright, Jack Wheeler, Sophie Durcan, Julie Pepperrell, Tess Wainwright, Ann Barlow, Jarmila Kubinova, Janine Khoshnevisan, Patricia Santome-Courtney, Daniela Kaltenbach, Nahid Kausar, John Stephens, Bhupinder Kaler.

And to everyone else who has helped on a more informal basis... thank you!

As always there are a huge number of people and organisations to thank for their support.

Thank you to all our funders and supporters:

BBC Children in Need
Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust
Charlton House
The Royal Borough of Greenwich
Greenwich Supports Team
Home-Start Greenwich
The Co-operative
The Woodward Charitable Trust
Fire Action Ltd
Headstart IT
Atlas Business Group
Greenwich Midwifery Team
Greenwich Social Workers
Mama2Mama
The Swan Pub, West Malling
Waitrose in Sidcup
Chris Mason, Political Editor BBC News

Thanks also to our Independent Examiner, Ms Caroline Sharp (FCA, DChA)

Finally, our thanks (and apologies!) to anyone else who has helped us this year and who we may have momentarily forgotten to mention!



Signature

I declare, in my capacity as Chair of the Management Committee, that:

- the Management Committee has approved the report above; and
- have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signature

Full name

Position

Date

Charlton Toy Library

Receipts and payments

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £
Receipts						
<i>From donations</i>						
Government Covid Support grants	-	-	-	10,667	-	10,667
Donations	4,564	-	4,564	7,159	-	7,159
Gift Aid	272	-	272	296	-	296
Fundraising	1,678	-	1,678	1,257	-	1,257
Special events/parties	183	-	183	-	-	-
Bank interest	112	-	112	4	-	4
<i>From charitable activities</i>						
BBC Children in Need	-	25,643	25,643	-	16,597	16,597
Greenwich Supports	-	5,130	5,130	-	-	-
Woodward Charitable Trust	-	1,014	1,014	-	-	-
Membership fees	2,567	-	2,567	1,437	-	1,437
Toy Loan Fees	1,161	-	1,161	525	-	525
Safety Equipment Loans	124	-	124	10	-	10
Session sales	1,788	-	1,788	334	-	334
Total receipts	12,449	31,787	44,236	21,689	16,597	38,286
Payments						
Advertising/promotional	497	-	497	29	5	34
Child safety equipment	9	693	702	-	834	834
Equipment	-	-	-	55	-	55
Fundraising costs	419	-	419	120	-	120
General running costs	3,292	1,489	4,781	4,389	1,265	5,654
Insurance	1,595	-	1,595	1,300	-	1,300
Management costs	31	-	31	61	-	61
Staffing costs	16,977	15,251	32,228	13,187	15,466	28,653
Outreach welfare	1,962	5,628	7,590	1,728	605	2,333
Training	390	-	390	-	-	-
Volunteer expenses	75	-	75	-	-	-
Toys, books, videos etc	-	-	-	-	25	25
Travel	1	77	78	-	103	103
Workshops and crafts	34	-	34	-	-	-
Total expenditure	25,282	23,138	48,420	20,869	18,303	39,172
Net receipts for the year	(12,833)	8,649	(4,184)	820	(1,706)	(886)
Reconciliation of funds						
Cash funds brought forward	39,244	588	39,832	38,424	2,294	40,718
Cash funds carried forward	26,411	9,237	35,648	39,244	588	39,832

Charlton Toy Library

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 March 2023

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £
Cash funds						
Current account	1,520	9,237	10,757	9,466	588	10,054
Business reserve	24,791	-	24,791	29,678	-	29,678
Cash in hand	100	-	100	100	-	100
Total cash funds	<u>26,411</u>	<u>9,237</u>	<u>35,648</u>	<u>39,244</u>	<u>588</u>	<u>39,832</u>

Funds

Restricted funds						
BBC Children in Need			8,694			588
Greenwich Supports			(471)			-
Woodward Charitable Trust			1,014			-
Unrestricted funds						
General funds			26,411			39,244
Total charity funds			<u>35,648</u>			<u>39,832</u>

Approved by the trustees and signed on 1 December 2023 on their behalf by

Mrs Janine Khoshnevisan (Treasurer)

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of

Charlton Toy Library

Charity number: 285099

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Charlton Toy Library (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023 as set out on pages 1 and 2.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of Charlton Toy Library 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 charity'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 that give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 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.

Caroline Sharp
FCA, DChA

Date: **1 December 2023**

LONDON SE7 8PF

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY

England & Wales - Charity number 285099

Accounts

WHO WE ARE

Charlton Toy Library is a registered charity offering an inter-linked support service for the under-fives community in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. We operate a toy, book and safety equipment loan scheme and a stay and play service in our main base along with a much-needed Outreach service to support disadvantaged families and children in desperate need.

Charlton Toy Library is a registered charity, governed by a constitution adopted 10th February 1982. It is run by members of a voluntary Management Committee (who are also the charity trustees), staff (a Toy Library Co-ordinator, an Outreach Worker and an Outreach and Toy Library Assistant) and volunteers, all helping to run play & borrowing sessions and giving help, support and advice to families.

All the money received from membership, loan fees and fundraising events is spent on toys and Toy Library running costs. We have an Equal Opportunities policy and aim to provide a good selection of multi-cultural and non-sexist toys and books along with impartial advice and support.

“Thank you for being here when I needed you. My daughter is now 18 years old and off to university!”

“I love this place SO much! Coming now with my third child, so it feels like a second home. A favourite place for all my girls. Thank you so much for everything. I was so pleased once you opened again after lockdown. Also, LOVE the singing sessions. Thank you!”

“I can’t thank the Toy Library for everything you have given my daughter, she has everything she needs! I pray for all of you daily.”

“The Toy Library has become part of our weekly routine and I hope it stays that way. We are grateful for all the help we receive and love all the amazing toys!”

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

AIMS:

To promote the principle that play does matter for the developing child.

OBJECTIVES:

- To make play available and lend appropriate toys to extend the opportunity for shared play into the home.
- To provide play areas where children and adults can use a wide range of toys and creative activities.
- To offer an opportunity to socialise and exchange experiences.
- To offer a befriending and supportive service to parents and carers.

We aim to improve the current quality of life and future life chances of local children by providing a much-needed child-centred support service to families in our main premises at Charlton House and through our outreach service HomeStart and other child-centred groups as well as other hard-to-reach families referred by Health Visitors and other health professionals. We also offer a low-cost toy/book/games and child safety equipment loan scheme.

Many of the children we support through our Outreach Service live in families experiencing poverty and disadvantage, some have suffered domestic violence and many feel isolated. This has a huge negative impact on the children's well-being and development. Our intervention at an early formative stage in their development aims to break the cycle of deprivation by improving their literacy, numeracy, creative & social skills, thus improving their school careers and their future life chances and contributing to stronger, more cohesive communities.

CHAIR'S REPORT BY JOHN STEPHENS

I joined the Toy Library in October 2021 as Chair of Trustees. At that time face-to-face activities were just about getting going again after the COVID restrictions of the previous two years. It was very encouraging at that time to see stay-and-play sessions starting up and to know that the vulnerable families we support through our outreach service were again able to benefit from in-person visits at their homes.

The Toy Library community suffered a great loss earlier this year with the passing of Ben Jay from cancer at the age of seventeen. Ben is the son of Sharon Jay, who runs our outreach programme, and is a former Toy Library volunteer. The thoughts of everyone at Charlton Toy Library are with Sharon and Garry and their family, and with Ben's many friends. We will soon be dedicating a bench in The Peace Garden at Charlton House in the memory of Ben.

Like most small charities we operate with very little financial headroom and the past year has presented many challenges to our budget. We are pleased that BBC Children in Need have continued to support us over the last year, and will continue to do so for the time being. We trustees have identified the development of new sources of funding as our key activity over the coming months. However, one piece of financial news really cheered us earlier this year. As well as being the new political editor at the BBC, Chris Mason is a local resident and Toy Library supporter. Chris took part in BBC Celebrity Mastermind in February and chose us for his nominated charity to receive his £3000 prize! Thank you Chris!!!

As always we are very grateful to our staff team over the last year. Sharon, Vanessa and Vicky have had to deal with different and difficult challenges over the last 12 months and they have all gone the extra mile to ensure that we remain a sustainable organisation and that Toy Library beneficiaries get maximum impact. I would like to thank Sharon, Vanessa and Vicky on behalf of the trustees for all their hard work and resilience over the last twelve months.

I would also like to thank our group of volunteers who perform a vital role and without whom we would find it very difficult to operate. Jack Wheeler gives us two whole days a week of his time across a range of tasks, Susan Wainwright runs our ever-popular Friday music sessions, Tess Wainwright helps in many ways not least running storytelling sessions. Other volunteers include Ann Barlow, Bhubinder Kaler and not least Vicky's husband David Hall - our regular Father Christmas! We are most grateful to all of you for the contribution you make.

As we come to the end of our year we look forward to celebrating the Charlton Toy Library's Fortieth Birthday with a party on Sunday July 17th, 10.30-1.00pm at Charlton Assembly Rooms. Please come and help us celebrate this milestone and enjoy a morning of fun, food and more!

Finally I would like to thank the trustee group for all their hard during a year which has presented some difficult and unforeseen challenges. As well as myself, both Nahid Kausar and Liz Grace have also joined the group during the last 12 months. We welcome them and the specialist expertise they bring. I feel confident and optimistic that they and our longer serving trustees Dani Kaltenbach, Janine Khoshnevisan, and Patricia Santome form an able and committed trustee group that can build a bright future for Charlton Toy Library!

Membership Statistics 1st April 2021 - 31st March 2022

Families using our main services & outreach service combined: 220 families
Total number of children helped: 368 children and 238 adults

Outreach families supported (free of charge): 101 families
Outreach children helped: 203 children

Families supported free of charge: 148 families (55%)
Families paying concessionary rate: 13 families

Families from BAME backgrounds: 93 families (35%)
New families: 111 families (41%)
Lone parents families: 58 families
Grandparent members: 9
Childminders: 5

Families in the SE7 area: 64 families
Families in the SE18 area: 66 families



When Sharon was initially off, Vicky and I were able to provide a number of baby bundles to expectant mums during the summer. We provided equipment such as Moses baskets, sterilisers, bottles and buggies, as well as clothes bundles and nappies.

Those Home Start volunteers already supporting families continued to come to us for toy loans for their families and we had wonderful feedback about the positive impact this was having for one family in particular, where the child's development had really come along since this input started. The volunteer reported that this had also helped the parents understand their child's disability in a new way, which was also supporting his development.

During the past year we were able to find sufficient funds to help 23 families (with 56 children) with supermarket food vouchers.

In October 2021 I started to cover Sharon's families, reaching out to update them. Some engaged immediately but others took a little longer. My work has mainly been practical support, while building relationships with the families that Sharon had been supporting on an ongoing basis.

We had a referral through Mums Aid, a new link made this year. I have tried to update as many professionals who worked closely with Sharon as I can. I have not yet been able to re-establish attending the groups in children's centres, but have made links to two new organisations. One of these is St John's Church which is the location for one of Greenwich's foodbanks and they are signposting families to us now. We have also made a link to Grace, a fantastic resource for those fleeing Domestic Abuse and for refugee families. Those referred are able to shop within the charity shop for free, choosing what they need for their families. One of their volunteers is local to the Toy Library and has offered to help take donations when we have too many.

We have provided beds for two families, reaching out to the community for one of these for an older child. Another family requested a toddler size table and chair which the community also supported us with. We are very grateful for the donations that we have been given.

OUTREACH PROJECT REPORT written by Vanessa Covington (cont.)

Here are a few more examples of the outreach work that we do:

We have given out 67 bundles of clothes, 9 baby bags of toys for newborns, 30 packs of nappies and wipes, toiletries for babies and Mums that had been donated to us by MamaKind. A total of 34 toys were given to families to keep as well as 67 items of safety equipment.

We have provided two double buggies, enabling two single mums to get out and about with their two small children under the age of three, thus reducing their isolation.

Some families are borrowing toys on a very regular basis, and others are borrowing every few months. From October to March a total of 30 families have borrowed 103 toys, 20 books, and 33 items of safety equipment. We have one family that is regularly borrowing lots of books as the children adore stories, often requesting mum read them over and over.

We were able to provide practical support and advice to a family while they were isolating, including a food voucher for online shopping and toys for the children.

We had a slight increase in the number of children that we supported this Christmas, providing toys for 74 children from 31 families. Each family also received a £50 food voucher, a book and a toy.

We received a request from a family who could not afford a Christmas tree. After putting a request on Facebook, we were contacted by half a dozen people offering trees. We were able to get the family a tree and have an extra one in storage should another family need one next year.

I have provided numerous telephone support calls to a number of families who have needed emotional support between visits. Some families have been in crisis due to loss or isolation. Three families have finally received permanent accommodation after a long wait and numerous moves. One of these families was directly supported in this by Sharon and this child now has her own room for the first time in her life. This is having an immense impact on her development and emotional well-being, giving her the space to play and grow. We were gifted a beautiful dolls house which we were able to give to another of our families.

Thank you,
Vanessa

TOY LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT by Vicky Thomas

In April 2021 the country was still under the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. In order to support the community, we offered free membership to 47 families until the end of the summer, where families could borrow up to 5 toys at a time free of charge. We wanted to continue offering our very popular singing session every Friday morning (during term time), so we decided to hold it outdoors on the front lawn in Charlton park, which proved extremely successful with more than 20 families attending each time. Due to distance restrictions we were not able to open our stay-and-play sessions until September 2021, so we rearranged the play area and displayed our borrowing toys, allowing one family at a time to come in and choose 5 toys for 2 weeks.

In September 2021 we were thrilled to opened our stay-and-play sessions again on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and the first Saturday of each month. Due to the small space, and in order to keep everyone safe, we introduced one-hour slots (booked online in advance on Eventbrite), for up to 8 children and their accompanying adult. The singing session every Friday morning was moved indoors when the weather got colder and wet and we introduced a second session on the same day, in order to allow more families to join in. In February 2022 the number of children allowed indoors was increased to 10 at each session and in March 2022, when all Covid restrictions were lifted, our members didn't have to pre-book in order to attend our sessions.

In 2021 we organised 2 very successful Nearly New Sale events at the Toy Library (25th September and 20th November), and we continued to sell items during our sessions and via Facebook. All of the many donations of good quality toys, books and children's equipment and clothes we receive are invaluable for restocking and helping us raise vital funds.

At the end of May 2021, we took part in a community event organised by CABAHS in Charlton Park and we offered free crafts for children. We also took part in the Together22 in Charlton Park this year. It was a great community event and we met lots of new people.

Our very popular Christmas Treasure Hunt took place on 18th December 2021. Over 100 children took part in the hunt and met Father Christmas, who gave them a little present. A big thank you to Daryl from the Swan Pub in West Malling for providing delicious cakes!

TOY LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT by Vicky Thomas (cont.)

During that period, I supported our Outreach workers Sharon and Vanessa by procuring toys, clothes and safety equipment for our vulnerable families via advertising in local groups and I am truly humbled by the generosity of our community. I also helped delivering toys and safety equipment to our Outreach families within the Royal Borough of Greenwich whilst Sharon was away.

I would like to say a massive thank you to our wonderful volunteers Susan, Jack, Tess, Bhupinder and Ann, as well as our Trustees who always offer their help and support. I am really looking forward to welcoming our members in the next few months!

Thank you,
Vicky



TREASURER'S REPORT BY JANINE KHOSHNEVISAN

We finished the financial year 2021-2022 with a very slight loss of £886. This is simply because we had left over restricted funding from the previous year that had to be spent in this financial year. BBC Children in Need continued to fund most of the costs of our outreach service and we would like to thank them again. We were also eligible to apply for Business Support Grants from the Government and this helped us survive lockdowns and also get the full range of our services operational again in September. We are pleased to report that the toy library is full of children and is thriving again.

We were very grateful to receive several donations this year: Chris Mason (BBC Political Editor - nominated us for his appearance fee from Celebrity Mastermind), The British Legion Jesmond Branch Male Voice Choir, Deansfield Primary School, Thorntree Primary School and the Emmanuel Church, to name a few. We would also like to thank all those who gave funds to our campaign to give disadvantaged families food and presents over the Christmas period. And we are now able to plan fundraising events again. Our outdoor treasure hunts and our “pre-loved” sales have been very successful.

Expenditure has seen increases in two areas this year. Staffing costs have increased due to taking on a new part-time employee, Vanessa, to support both Vicky and Sharon with their expanding workloads. Vanessa has also been key in the continuation of the outreach service while Sharon was taking care of her son, Ben. We now have an incredible team of three part-time employees. The other spending increase was due to several computer problems during the year which pushed up running costs.

Going forward we must secure further outside funding. Currently we are applying for funding so that we can make more general family memberships free, not just for outreach families as is currently the case. We also need to secure more outside funding for salaries and core costs. The management committee is working hard on this.

Our thanks go to Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust for their continued help-in-kind through the peppercorn rent of our premises and to the Atlas Business Group who continue to provide our internet services for free, as do Fire Action Ltd.

A huge thank you also goes to the local community and organisations for their donations of books and play equipment, without which we would struggle to keep up our stocks. Another huge 'thank you' goes to ALL our helpers and volunteers whose contributions have helped to improve the lives of so many children and their families across the borough. CTL would not be able to achieve as much as it does without them!

These accounts have been successfully examined and accepted by our Independent Examiner, Caroline Sharp (ACA, DChA)

Janine



CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY INCOME RESERVES POLICY

Unrestricted funds are needed:

- 1) to provide funds which can be designated to specific projects to enable these projects to be undertaken at short notice and
- 2) to cover administration, fund-raising and support costs without which the charity could not function.

The trustees consider it prudent that unrestricted reserves should be sufficient:

- a) to avoid the necessity of releasing fixed assets held for the charity's use;
- b) to cover 6 month's administration, fund-raising and support costs (currently approximately £20,000)
- c) to provide a pool equal to 10% of the average charitable expenditure over the preceding 2 years from which funds can be designated to specific projects (currently approximately £3,400).

INCOME-EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2021-2022

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY Income & Expenditure Account 2021-2022				
				Previous year
INCOME	Restricted	Unrestricted		
BBC Children in Need	16,597.00		BBC Children in Need	15,464.15
			Masonic Charitable Tr	2,200.00
			City Bridge Trust	7,392.00
			Greenwich Ch Trust	7,952.00
Government Covid support grants		10667.00		19,431.00
Fundraising		1,257.48		337.81
Membership fees		1,436.78		158.07
Toy loan fees		525.16		52.23
Safety equipment loan fees		9.83		4.92
Session sales		334.36		115.34
Special events/parties		0.00		0.00
Donations		7,158.92		8123.21
Bank interest		3.47		7.6
Gift Aid		295.50		1467.5
TOTAL	16,597.00	21,688.50	38,285.50	62,705.83
EXPENDITURE	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Previous year
Advertising/promotional	5.38	28.89	34.27	172.38
Child Safety Equipment	834.22		834.22	240.85
Equipment		54.99	54.99	813.55
Fundraising expenses		120.00	120.00	
General running costs	1265.54	4387.72	5653.26	3088.92
Insurance		1299.57	1299.57	1214.03
Management costs		61.74	61.74	70.00
Staffing costs	15465.78	13187.42	28653.20	23558.03
Outreach welfare	604.8	1728	2332.80	8,985
Toys books videos etc	24.54		24.54	0.00
Training				0.00
Travel	103.1		103.10	352.30
Volunteer expenses			0.00	33.00
Workshops & crafts			0.00	171.38
TOTAL	18303.36	20,868.33	39,171.69	38,698.94
PROFIT/LOSS	-1706.36	820.17	-886.19	1399.81
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022				
CURRENT ASSETS	Restricted	Unrestricted	Totals	
Current Account	874.49	9,836.45	10,710.94	
Business Reserve		29,678.52	29,678.52	
Cash in hand		100.00	100.00	
6 unrepresented items	-286.44	-370.80	-657.24	
	588.05	39,244.17	39,832.22	
REPRESENTED BY:				
Balance b/fwd 2020-2021	2,294.41	38,424.00	40,718.41	
Profit/loss for 2021-2022	-1,706.36	820.17	-886.19	
	588.05	39,244.17	39,832.22	
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2021				
CURRENT ASSETS	Restricted	Unrestricted	Totals	
Current Account	2,555.43	19,046.89	21,602.32	
Business Reserve		19,675.05	19,675.05	
Cash in hand		100.00	100.00	
7 unrepresented items	-261.02	-397.94	-658.96	
	2,294.41	38,424.00	40,718.41	
REPRESENTED BY:				
Balance b/fwd 2019-2020	1,011.75	15,699.77	16,711.52	
Profit/loss for 2020-2021	1,282.66	22,724.23	24,006.89	
	2,294.41	38,424.00	40,718.41	



We have:

- Re-opened our full range of services and found funding to continue operating during the most difficult period in the 39-year history of the toy library
- Gave away 47 Free memberships in addition to the free Outreach ones
- Introduced an online booking system for the stay-and-play sessions to manage visitor numbers and keep everyone safe during the pandemic
- Organised an outdoor treasure hunt event in Charlton Park before Christmas
- Held two successful Nearly New Sales raising funds for our charity
- Ran outdoor singing sessions in Charlton Park on Friday mornings.
- Supported 203 children through our Outreach Service, working across Charlton, Thamesmead, Woolwich, Eltham, Plumstead and Abbey Wood
- Provided 74 children with Christmas presents and 31 families (reaching 74 children) with Christmas food vouchers through our Outreach Programme
- Offered 79 food and essentials vouchers to 23 Outreach families affected by Covid-19 pandemic to a value of over ££1,870
- Provided 73 bags of essential clothing for 66 children

- Continued our Child Safety Equipment Loan Scheme
- Established and/or maintained strong links with organisations across the borough including Home Start, the Midwife Team, Social workers, Family Engagement Support workers, Greenwich Children's Disability Team, Health Visitors, Best Beginnings, MammaKind, Mama2Mama and many more.
- Promoted awareness and membership of our service among target groups, including black and minority ethnic and low-income families, asylum seekers and families suffering domestic abuse
- Held regular management committee meetings via Zoom and CTL meetings in person
- Publicised the Toy Library to local groups and around the borough. Maintained our Facebook and website
- Worked with and supported 6 volunteers throughout the year.
- Opened our services at Charlton House for two toy borrowing sessions per week in the school summer holidays





Our plans for 2022-2023 are:

- Carry out a members survey to see what services, activities, opening days are popular with our members
- Widen the support we offer to our Outreach families
- Reach more families in the Borough that would benefit from our Outreach services
- Re-establish support for women and children in Women's Refuges
- Offer support to Ukrainian refugee families who live in the borough
- Maintain and improve links with relevant organisations across the borough
- Continue to increase awareness and use of our services particularly amongst black and minority ethnic and disadvantaged families
- Continue to maintain our Facebook and Twitter pages and our presence on relevant apps and website listings
- Finish designing and launch a new website
- Increase the number of trustees on our Management Committee
- Hold regular committee meetings and AGM (online and/or in person)
- Continue to encourage good management committee representation
- Review regularly all Toy Library policies and procedures

The Management Committee

John Stephens, Chair

Janine Khoshnevisan, Treasurer

Patricia Santome, Committee Member

Daniela Kaltenbach, Committee Member

Nahid Kusar, Committee Member

Liz Grace, Committee Member (joined March 2022)

Trustees and Officers are elected and appointed at the AGM by nomination method, or co-opted by the Management Committee at a monthly meeting.

Staff

Sharon Jay, Outreach Worker

Vicky Thomas, Toy Library Co-ordinator

Vanessa Covington, CTL & Outreach Assistant

Volunteers & Fundraisers

Susan Wainwright, Jack Wheeler, Tess Wainwright, Ann Barlow, Jarmila Kubinova, Janine Khoshnevisan, Patricia Santome-Courtney, Daniela Kaltenbach, Nahid Kausar, Bhupinder Kaler, Vicky Pisarski, David Hall.

And to everyone else who has helped on a more informal basis... thank you!

As always there are a huge number of people and organisations to thank for their support.

Thank you to all our funders and supporters:

BBC Children in Need
Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust
Charlton House
City Bridge Trust
Greenwich Charitable Trust
The Royal Borough of Greenwich
Home-Start Greenwich
Fire Action Ltd
Headstart IT
Atlas Business Group
Greenwich Midwifery Team
Greenwich Social Workers
The British Legion Jesmond Branch Male Voice Choir
St Luke's and St Thomas'
Emmanuel Church
Mammakind
Mama2Mama
The Swan Pub, West Malling
Deansfield Primary School, Eltham
Thorntree Primary School, Charlton
Chris Mason, Political Editor BBC News
Hat Trick Productions

Thanks also to our Independent Examiner, Ms Caroline Sharp (FCA, DChA)

Finally, our thanks (and apologies!) to anyone else who has helped us this year and who we may have momentarily forgotten to mention!



Signature

I declare, in my capacity as Chair of the Management Committee, that:

- the Management Committee has approved the report above; and
- have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signature

Full name

Position

Date

Charlton Toy Library

Receipts and payments

For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022 Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
<i>From donations</i>						
Government Covid Support grants	10,667	-	10,667	19,431	-	19,431
Donations	7,159	-	7,159	8,123	-	8,123
Gift Aid	296	-	296	1,468	-	1,468
Fundraising	1,257	-	1,257	338	-	338
Special events/parties	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank interest	4	-	4	8	-	8
<i>From charitable activities</i>						
BBC Children in Need	-	16,597	16,597	-	15,464	15,464
Masonic Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	2,200	2,200
City Bridge Trust	-	-	-	-	7,392	7,392
Greenwich Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	7,952	7,952
Membership fees	1,437	-	1,437	158	-	158
Toy Loan Fees	525	-	525	52	-	52
Safety Equipment Loans	10	-	10	5	-	5
Session sales	334	-	334	115	-	115
Total receipts	21,689	16,597	38,286	29,698	33,008	62,706
Payments						
Advertising/promotional	29	5	34	3	170	173
Child safety equipment	-	834	834	-	241	241
Equipment	55	-	55	-	814	814
Fundraising costs	120	-	120	-	-	-
General running costs	4,389	1,265	5,654	1,458	1,631	3,089
Insurance	1,300	-	1,300	-	1,214	1,214
Management costs	61	-	61	70	-	70
Staffing costs	13,187	15,466	28,653	2,218	21,340	23,558
Outreach welfare	1,728	605	2,333	3,180	5,804	8,984
Volunteer expenses	-	-	-	33	-	33
Toys, books, videos etc	-	25	25	-	-	-
Travel	-	103	103	-	352	352
Workshops and crafts	-	-	-	11	160	171
Total expenditure	20,869	18,303	39,172	6,973	31,726	38,699
Net receipts for the year	820	(1,706)	(886)	22,725	1,282	24,007
Reconciliation of funds						
Cash funds brought forward	38,424	2,294	40,718	15,699	1,012	16,711
Cash funds carried forward	39,244	588	39,832	38,424	2,294	40,718

Charlton Toy Library

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 March 2022

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £
Cash funds						
Current account	9,466	588	10,054	18,649	2,294	20,943
Business reserve	29,678	-	29,678	19,675	-	19,675
Cash in hand	100	-	100	100	-	100
Total cash funds	39,244	588	39,832	38,424	2,294	40,718

Funds						
Restricted funds						
BBC Children in Need			588			712
Masonic Charitable Trust			-			1,582
Unrestricted funds						
General funds			39,244			38,424
Total charity funds			39,832			40,718

Approved by the trustees and signed on 16 November 2022 on their behalf by

Mrs Janine Khoshnevisan (Treasurer)

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of

Charlton Toy Library

Charity number: 285099

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Charlton Toy Library (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022 as set out on pages 1 and 2 .

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of Charlton Toy Library 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 charity'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 that give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 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.

Caroline Sharp
FCA, DChA

Date: **16 November 2022**

LONDON SE7 8PF

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY

England & Wales - Charity number 285099

Accounts

WHO WE ARE

Charlton Toy Library is a registered charity offering an inter-linked support service for the under-fives community in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. We operate a toy, book and safety equipment loan scheme and a stay and play service in our main base along with a much-needed outreach service to support disadvantaged families and children in desperate need.

Charlton Toy Library is a registered charity, governed by a constitution adopted 10th February 1982. It is run by members of a voluntary Management Committee (who are also the charity trustees), staff (a Toy Library Co-ordinator and an Outreach Worker) and volunteers, all helping to run play & borrowing sessions and giving help, support and advice to families.

All the money received from membership, loan fees and fundraising events is spent on toys and Toy Library running costs. We have an Equal Opportunities policy and aim to provide a good selection of multi-cultural and non-sexist toys and books along with impartial advice and support.

“Your are doing an amazing job for kids' present AND future lives, mums and families and the environment! Keep up the amazing work.”

“The Christmas treasure hunt was such a lovely event. My daughter really enjoyed it! Thank you again for organising!!”

“We love the safe haven and all the support from everyone here”.

“The music session was so wonderful – thank you so much, and especially to Susan. She is just the best! 😊😊”

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

AIMS:

To promote the principle that play does matter for the developing child.

OBJECTIVES:

- To make play available and lend appropriate toys to extend the opportunity for shared play into the home.
- To provide play areas where children and adults can use a wide range of toys and creative activities.
- To offer an opportunity to socialise and exchange experiences.
- To offer a befriending and supportive service to parents and carers.

We aim to improve the current quality of life and future life chances of local children by providing a much-needed child-centred support service to families in our main premises at Charlton House and through our outreach service HomeStart and other child-centred groups as well as other hard-to-reach families referred by Health Visitors and other health professionals. We also offer a low-cost toy/book/games and child safety equipment loan scheme.

Many of the children we support through our Outreach Service live in families experiencing poverty and disadvantage, some have suffered domestic violence and many feel isolated. This has a huge negative impact on the children's well-being and development. Our intervention at an early formative stage in their development aims to break the cycle of deprivation by improving their literacy, numeracy, creative & social skills, thus improving their school careers and their future life chances and contributing to stronger, more cohesive communities.

It has been a difficult year, with much uncertainty, not least for the families we support through our work.

Throughout this time, I have been humbled by the incredible community spirit and support shown to us. From making donations, to giving Christmas gifts and donating clothing and equipment, you have been amazing.

We started the year feeling concerned for our future. With a large proportion of our operating costs covered by our member fees and borrowing costs, the need to close put extreme pressure on our finances. Thanks to funding received from Greenwich Charitable Trust and the wider community, we have been able to make it through the difficult times and provide additional support to households under pressure.

Unfortunately, Covid restrictions have meant we have not been able to run our regular stay and play sessions, although we have been able to offer borrowing services periodically, as well as outdoor events and online singing sessions.

Whilst our stay and play services have been closed I'm proud to say our outreach support has continued. During all three lockdowns our outreach worker, Sharon provided phone support and continued to deliver essential equipment, toys and vouchers for food. Our coordinator, Vicky, provided additional support to our outreach service to help with the increased demand.

A big thank you to both Sharon and Vicky whose dedication and resilience in this difficult year has made the world of difference.

Unfortunately, some of our volunteers have not been needed this year due to our sessions being closed and others have been unable to help due to shielding. A big thank you to Ann for your craft videos, Sharon for your support wrapping gifts and with our borrowing service, as well as Susan for your wonderful online singing sessions.

CHAIR'S REPORT BY JO CURTIS

Charlton Toy Library does not receive any public funding and relies on our membership and loan charges, as well as the fundraising endeavours of a small team of volunteers. We are always looking for additional help to raise funds and support our work. If you would like to get involved, please do get in touch.

As we look ahead, we our 40th birthday is approaching. We hope to be able to celebrate this milestone with our members and supporters. It is too soon to say when we will be able to reopen fully and establish our stay and play sessions. Rest assured we will be back fully as soon as we are able.

This is my last year as Chair of the Toy Library and I would like to end by thanking my fellow committee members Janine, Patricia and Dani and Daniela for all their support. It's been a pleasure to work alongside you all, particularly in this difficult year.

Membership Statistics 1st April 2020 - 31st March 2021

Families using our main services & outreach service combined: 160 families
Total number of children helped: 260 children and 174 adults

Outreach families supported (free of charge): 81 families
Outreach children helped: 151 children

Families supported free of charge: 81 families (51%)
Families paying concessionary rate: 7 families

Families from BAME backgrounds: 61 families (38%)
New families: 62 families (39%)
Lone parents families: 36 families
Grandparent members: 11
Childminders: 6

Families in the SE7 area: 48 families
Families in the SE18 area: 50 families





We are proud to report that at no point during the Covid-19 pandemic was our Outreach project interrupted. It continued regardless. Our Outreach Worker, Sharon, simply altered the way she worked to keep herself and the families safe. Most of the interaction with families switched to over the phone. Sharon assessed what they needed and then delivered, at a safe distance, the toys, books, games and clothing and prams, and also educational materials for children not able to attend school. One family were made homeless and when re-housed, had no fridge, washing machine or cooker. We reached out to our local community who responded with a brand new cooker and a washing machine. We are immensely grateful and proud of the community that we live in as they always provide what these desperate families need.

Many families had no access to internet connections for their children to access sessions provided by schools online. Fortunately, we were nominated by BBC Children in Need to distribute free tablets from The Good Things Foundation. We organised for ten children were given free tablet devices, with 6 months free unlimited internet access via Vodaphone.

Sharon continued to work alongside the many organisations that she regularly works with such as HomeStart, Family Engagement Support Workers from Children's Centres, Health Visitors, Social Workers, the Pre-birth Assessment Team, the Best Beginnings Midwife Team and MammaKind, to name a few. Together we were better placed to help out families that were struggling before the pandemic began. The pandemic made their lives even more difficult. When Sharon heard of one mother who was begging for tins of spaghetti to be able to feed her daughter the trustees sprang into action. They opened a campaign to raise funds from the general public and made applications for grants. In all last year, we were able to supply over £8,000 of food vouchers to families who could not afford to buy sufficient food.

A few stats: During the year Sharon supplied 38 children with 76 bags of clothing. She delivered cots, beds, prams, pushchairs, high chairs, baby equipment and much more. Sharon made over 205 phone calls and carried out 102 Covid-safe 10-minute doorstep visits to deliver 726 items of play equipment and 223 items of child safety equipment. The toy library sourced, and Sharon delivered, Christmas presents to 55 children and a £50 Christmas food voucher to 40 families, reaching 81 children.

All in all, the toy library Management Committee are extremely proud of everything that Sharon and the Outreach Service has achieved in such a tough year for all concerned.

TOY LIBRARY CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT BY VICKY THOMAS

2020-2021 has been a rather strange and difficult year for everyone. In March 2020 the whole country went into the first lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic and we had to close our doors. In July we were allowed to open again, but we could not offer our very popular stay-and-play sessions due to social distancing restrictions. After a thorough Risk Assessment we opened for a 'Click and Collect' toy borrowing service. We created an online catalogue with our most popular toys, and our members could reserve them by email and collect them on an agreed date. We also extended all memberships for the amount of time we were closed due to lockdown. We remained open throughout the summer school holidays, enabling our members to borrow toys and books. At the end of October the country went into the second lockdown and we were forced to close again until early December when we opened for toy borrowing again until Christmas. After the Christmas holidays the country went into another lockdown until April 2021.

During the time we were open we organised two very successful treasure hunts in Charlton park, ensuring social distancing and people staying in their family bubble. We had a Halloween pumpkin hunt on 31st October and a Christmas treasure hunt on 12th December with Father Christmas giving out presents to the children. Over 100 children attended each event and it really brought the community together during difficult times. In January 2021 we started offering our popular singing session with Susan on zoom every Friday morning. Throughout the pandemic, we posted arts & crafts ideas on our Facebook page for families to try at home.

During the times we were closed, I supported our Outreach worker Sharon by procuring toys, clothes and safety equipment for our vulnerable families via advertising in local groups and I am truly humbled by the generosity of our community. I helped to find and apply for funding, which enabled us to get through the period we did not have any other means of income coming in. I have also attended a lot of online training, which will be very useful for my work at the Toy Library in the coming years.

I would like to say a massive thank you to our wonderful volunteers Sharon, Susan, Vanessa and Ann, as well as our Trustees who stayed with us throughout the pandemic and offered their free time.

I have really missed seeing our families and hope we can open our stay-and-play sessions again soon.

Thank you, Vicky

At the start of the year the Trustees were looking at a very stark situation. The Covid-19 pandemic meant that we had had to close the services at our main base and could not run our usual fundraising events. We had no income potential and yet the need for our normal and our outreach services increased vastly. BBC Children in Need continued to fund our outreach services and in June we were fortunately able to apply for emergency funding to cover core running costs and food vouchers for struggling families. We are incredibly grateful to the City Bridge Trust and to the Greenwich Charitable Trust for their support for our work across the borough. We were also eligible to apply for the Government's Coronavirus Business Grants and had funding from the Masonic Charitable Trust, Lloyds Bank Foundation and the Emmanuel Church. Combined together, this funding meant that we did not have to close and we were able to continue supporting local families in need.

We finished the year with a profit of £24,007. This means that we can go into the financial year 2021-2022 with confidence in covering our running costs should there be further restrictions that limit our ability to raise funds. Just over £2,480 of this profit was restricted funding from BBC Children in Need and the Masonic Trust, to be spent in the next following financial year.

Income: Over and above the grants mentioned above, our self-generated unrestricted funds this year totalled an all-time low of £676. This was due to the lockdown closures and to our decision to offer our click-and-collect toy borrowing services free of charge to help out all struggling families at this difficult time, not just those on the outreach service for whom it is always free of charge. We also received an amazing £8,123 in donations. Thank you everybody.

Expenditure: The major part of CTL expenditure was, as always, spent on our two part-time employees, our greatest asset. BBC Children in Need funded the Outreach Worker post for the eighth year running and our Toy Library Co-ordinator was funded the City Bridge Trust, the Greenwich Charitable Trust and the Masonic Charitable Trust.

Our thanks go to Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust for their continued help-in-kind through the peppercorn rent of our premises and to the Atlas Business Group who continue to provide our internet services for free, as do Fire Action Ltd.

A huge thank you also goes to the local community and organisations for their donations of books and play equipment, without which we would struggle to keep up our stocks. Another huge 'thank you' goes to ALL our helpers and volunteers whose contributions have helped to improve the lives of so many children and their families across the borough. CTL would not be able to achieve as much as it does without them!

These accounts have been successfully examined and accepted by our Independent Examiner, Caroline Sharp (ACA, DChA)
Janine



CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY INCOME RESERVES POLICY

Unrestricted funds are needed:

- 1) to provide funds which can be designated to specific projects to enable these projects to be undertaken at short notice and
- 2) to cover administration, fund-raising and support costs without which the charity could not function.

The trustees consider it prudent that unrestricted reserves should be sufficient:

- a) to avoid the necessity of releasing fixed assets held for the charity's use;
- b) to cover 6 month's administration, fund-raising and support costs (currently approximately £13,000)
- c) to provide a pool equal to 10% of the average charitable expenditure over the preceding 2 years from which funds can be designated to specific projects (currently approximately £2,700).

INCOME-EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2020-2021

CHARLTON TOY LIBRARY Income & Expenditure Account 2020-2021				
				Previous year
INCOME	Restricted	Unrestricted		
BBC Children in Need	15,464.15	BBC Children in Need		14,288.85
Masonic Charitable Trust	2,200.00	Masonic Charitable Tr		2,200.00
City Bridge Trust	7,392.00			
Greenwich Charitable Trust	7,952.00			
Government Covid support grants		19431.00		
Fundraising		337.81		2,634.85
Membership fees		158.07		1,737.57
Toy loan fees		52.23		1,025.96
Safety equipment loan fees		4.92		116.13
Session sales		115.34		821.45
Special events/parties		0.00		205.73
Donations		8,123.21		5361.40
Bank interest		7.60		14.41
Gift Aid		1,467.50		935
TOTAL	33,008.15	29,697.68	62,705.83	29,341.35
EXPENDITURE	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Previous year
Advertising/promotional	169.88	2.50	172.38	219.45
Child Safety Equipment	240.85		240.85	902.89
Equipment	813.55		813.55	18.99
Fundraising expenses				208.44
General running costs	1630.29	1458.63	3088.92	3812.95
Insurance	1214.03		1214.03	1206.06
Management costs		70.00	70.00	70.00
Staffing costs	21340.01	2218.02	23558.03	19985.40
Outreach welfare	5804.68	3179.82	8984.50	730
Toys books videos etc				322.17
Training				120.00
Travel	352.3		352.30	315.10
Volunteer expenses		33.00	33.00	0.00
Workshops & crafts	159.9	11.48	171.38	30.09
TOTAL	31725.49	6,973.45	38,698.94	27,941.54
PROFIT/LOSS	1282.86	22,724.23	24,007.09	1399.81

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2021			
CURRENT ASSETS	Restricted	Unrestricted	Totals
Current Account	2,555.43	19,046.89	21,602.32
Business Reserve		19,675.05	19,675.05
Cash in hand		100.00	100.00
7 unrepresented items	-261.02	-397.94	-658.96
	2,294.41	38,424.00	40,718.41
REPRESENTED BY:			
Balance b/fwd 2019-2020	1,011.75	15,699.77	16,711.52
Profit/loss for 2020-2021	1,282.66	22,724.23	24006.89
	2,294.41	38,424.00	40,718.41
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2020			
CURRENT ASSETS	Restricted	Unrestricted	Totals
Current Account	1,183.11	6,029.90	7,213.01
Business Reserve		9,667.45	9,667.45
Cash in hand		100.00	100.00
5 unrepresented items	-171.36	-97.58	-268.94
	1,011.75	15,699.77	16,711.52
REPRESENTED BY:			
Balance b/fwd 2018-2019	365.77	14,945.94	15,311.71
Profit/loss for 2019-2020	1,011.75	388.06	1399.81
Reconciliation	-365.77	365.77	
	1,011.75	15,699.77	16,711.52



We have:

- Re-organised our services and found funding to continue our services during the most difficult period in the 39-year history of the toy library
- Introduced a 'Click and Collect' Toy borrowing service for the periods of time we were allowed to be open between lockdowns.
- Organised two outdoor treasure hunt events in Charlton Park for Halloween and Christmas.
- Ran 10 online singing sessions on zoom on Friday mornings.
- Applied for funding for core costs and emergency food vouchers for our Outreach Service. We gave out over £8,000 of food vouchers
- Supported 151 children through our Outreach Service, working across Charlton, Thamesmead, Woolwich, Eltham, Plumstead and Abbey Wood
- Provided 55 children with Christmas presents and 40 families (reaching 81 children) with Christmas food vouchers through our Outreach Programme
- Offered food and essentials vouchers to 32 Outreach families affected by Covid-19 pandemic to a value of over £8,000
- Provided 76 bags of essential clothing for 38 children.
- Continued our Child Safety Equipment Loan Scheme

ACHIEVEMENTS (continued) 2020-2021

- Established and maintained strong links with organisations across the borough including Home Start, the Midwife Team, Social workers, Family Engagement Support workers, Greenwich Children's Disability Team, Health Visitors, Best Beginnings, MammaKind and many more.
- Promoted awareness and membership of our service among target groups, including black and minority ethnic and low-income families, asylum seekers and families suffering domestic abuse
- Held regular management committee meetings via Zoom
- Publicised the Toy Library to local groups and around the borough. Maintained our Facebook and website
- Worked with and supported 8 volunteers throughout the year.
- To help families during the pandemic we opened our services at Charlton House for two toy borrowing sessions per week in the school summer holidays
- Posted art & craft ideas and videos online throughout lockdown
- Extended memberships for free for the periods that we were not able to open due to national lockdowns, offering free loans of toys and books too
- Undertook a 2020 Members Survey to see what services, activities, opening days are popular with our members





Our plans for 2021-2022 are subject to change due to the pandemic restrictions, but we still aim to:

- Resume our normal stay and play services and borrowing services as soon it is safe to do so and restrictions allow
- Review our offering and update we can best support our community throughout the pandemic
- Widen the support we offer to our Outreach families
- Reach more families in the Borough that would benefit from our Outreach services
- Re-establish support for women and children in Women's Refuges
- Maintain and improve links with relevant organisations across the borough
- Continue to increase awareness and use of our services particularly amongst black and minority ethnic and disadvantaged families
- Continue to maintain our Facebook and Twitter pages and our presence on relevant apps and website listings
- Finish designing and launch a new website
- Increase the number of trustees on our Management Committee
- Hold regular committee meetings and AGM (online and/or in person)
- Continue to encourage good management committee representation
- Review regularly all Toy Library policies and procedures

The Management Committee

Jo Curtis, Chair

Janine Khoshnevisan, Treasurer

Patricia Santome, Committee Member

Daniela Kaltenbach, Committee Member

Daniela De Nicolo, Committee Member (29th Sept 2020)

Trustees and Officers are elected and appointed at the AGM by nomination method, or co-opted by the Management Committee at a monthly meeting.

Staff

Sharon Jay, Outreach Worker

Vicky Thomas, Toy Library Co-ordinator

Volunteers & Fundraisers

Sharon Mason, Susan Wainwright, Ann Frances Barlow, Vanessa Browne, Janine Khoshnevisan, Jo Curtis, Patricia Santome-Courtney, Daniela Kaltenbach, Daniela De Nicolo, Ben Khoshnevisan, David Hall, Ben Jay

And to everyone else who has helped on a more informal basis... thank you!

As always there are a huge number of people and organisations to thank for their support.

Thank you to all our funders and supporters:

BBC Children in Need
The Masonic Charitable Trust
City Bridge Trust
Greenwich Charitable Trust
Lloyds Bank Foundation
The Royal Borough of Greenwich
Home-Start Greenwich
Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust
Charlton House
Fire Action Ltd
Headstart IT
Councillor Gary Parker
Atlas Business Group
Councillor Gary Dillon
Councillor Linda Perks
Greenwich Midwifery Team
Greenwich Social Workers
St Luke's and St Thomas'
Emmanuel Church
Mammakind
The Good Things Foundation

Thanks also to our Independent Examiner, Ms Caroline Sharp (FCA, DChA)

Finally, our thanks (and apologies!) to anyone else who has helped us this year and who we may have momentarily forgotten to mention!



Signature

I declare, in my capacity as Chair of the Management Committee, that:

- the Management Committee has approved the report above; and
- have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signature

Full name

Position

Date

Charlton Toy Library

Receipts and payments

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	2021			2020		
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Receipts						
<i>From donations</i>						
Government Covid Support grants	19,431	-	19,431	-	-	-
Donations	8,123	-	8,123	5,361	-	5,361
Gift Aid	1,468	-	1,468	935	-	935
Fundraising	338	-	338	2,635	-	2,635
Special events/parties	-	-	-	206	-	206
Bank interest	8	-	8	14	-	14
<i>From charitable activities</i>						
BBC Children in Need	-	15,464	15,464	-	14,289	14,289
Masonic Charitable Trust	-	2,200	2,200	-	2,200	2,200
City Bridge Trust	-	7,392	7,392	-	-	-
Greenwich Charitable Trust	-	7,952	7,952	-	-	-
Membership fees	158	-	158	1,738	-	1,738
Toy Loan Fees	52	-	52	1,026	-	1,026
Safety Equipment Loans	5	-	5	116	-	116
Session sales	115	-	115	821	-	821
Total receipts	29,698	33,008	62,706	12,852	16,489	29,341
Payments						
Advertising/promotional	3	170	173	220	-	220
Child safety equipment	-	241	241	-	903	903
Equipment	-	814	814	19	-	19
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	208	-	208
General running costs	1,458	1,631	3,089	3,651	162	3,813
Insurance	-	1,214	1,214	1,206	-	1,206
Management costs	70	-	70	70	-	70
Staffing costs	2,218	21,340	23,558	5,883	14,103	19,986
Outreach welfare	3,180	5,804	8,984	730	-	730
Training	-	-	-	120	-	120
Volunteer expenses	33	-	33	-	-	-
Toys, books, videos etc	-	-	-	322	-	322
Travel	-	352	352	22	293	315
Workshops and crafts	11	160	171	14	16	30
Total expenditure	6,973	31,726	38,699	12,465	15,477	27,942
Net receipts for the year	22,725	1,282	24,007	387	1,012	1,399
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	366	(366)	-
Reconciliation of funds						
Cash funds brought forward	15,699	1,012	16,711	14,946	366	15,312
Cash funds carried forward	38,424	2,294	40,718	15,699	1,012	16,711

Charlton Toy Library

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 March 2021

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2020 Total £	2020 Unrestricted £	2020 Restricted £	2019 Total £
Cash funds						
Current account	18,649	2,294	20,943	5,932	1,012	6,944
Business reserve	19,675	-	19,675	9,667	-	9,667
Cash in hand	100	-	100	100	-	100
Total cash funds	<u>38,424</u>	<u>2,294</u>	<u>40,718</u>	<u>15,699</u>	<u>1,012</u>	<u>16,711</u>
Funds						
Restricted funds						
BBC Children in Need			712			1,012
Masonic Charitable Trust			1,582			-
Unrestricted funds						
General funds			<u>38,424</u>			<u>15,699</u>
Total charity funds			<u>40,718</u>			<u>16,711</u>

Approved by the trustees and signed on XX December 2021 on their behalf by

Mrs Janine Khoshnevisan (Treasurer)

Charlton Toy Library

Receipts and payments

For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Receipts						
<i>From donations</i>						
Government Covid Support grants	19,431	-	19,431	-	-	-
Donations	8,123	-	8,123	5,361	-	5,361
Gift Aid	1,468	-	1,468	935	-	935
Fundraising	338	-	338	2,635	-	2,635
Special events/parties	-	-	-	206	-	206
Bank interest	8	-	8	14	-	14
<i>From charitable activities</i>						
BBC Children in Need	-	15,464	15,464	-	14,289	14,289
Masonic Charitable Trust	-	2,200	2,200	-	2,200	2,200
City Bridge Trust	-	7,392	7,392	-	-	-
Greenwich Charitable Trust	-	7,952	7,952	-	-	-
Membership fees	158	-	158	1,738	-	1,738
Toy Loan Fees	52	-	52	1,026	-	1,026
Safety Equipment Loans	5	-	5	116	-	116
Session sales	115	-	115	821	-	821
Total receipts	29,698	33,008	62,706	12,852	16,489	29,341
Payments						
Advertising/promotional	3	170	173	220	-	220
Child safety equipment	-	241	241	-	903	903
Equipment	-	814	814	19	-	19
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	208	-	208
General running costs	1,458	1,631	3,089	3,651	162	3,813
Insurance	-	1,214	1,214	1,206	-	1,206
Management costs	70	-	70	70	-	70
Staffing costs	2,218	21,340	23,558	5,883	14,103	19,986
Outreach welfare	3,180	5,804	8,984	730	-	730
Training	-	-	-	120	-	120
Volunteer expenses	33	-	33	-	-	-
Toys, books, videos etc	-	-	-	322	-	322
Travel	-	352	352	22	293	315
Workshops and crafts	11	160	171	14	16	30
Total expenditure	6,973	31,726	38,699	12,465	15,477	27,942
Net receipts for the year	22,725	1,282	24,007	387	1,012	1,399
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	366	(366)	-
Reconciliation of funds						
Cash funds brought forward	15,699	1,012	16,711	14,946	366	15,312
Cash funds carried forward	38,424	2,294	40,718	15,699	1,012	16,711

Charlton Toy Library

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 March 2021

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Unrestricted £	2020 Restricted £	2020 Total £
Cash funds						
Current account	18,649	2,294	20,943	5,932	1,012	6,944
Business reserve	19,675	-	19,675	9,667	-	9,667
Cash in hand	100	-	100	100	-	100
Total cash funds	38,424	2,294	40,718	15,699	1,012	16,711

Funds

Restricted funds						
BBC Children in Need			712			1,012
Masonic Charitable Trust			1,582			-
Unrestricted funds						
General funds			38,424			15,699
Total charity funds			40,718			16,711

Approved by the trustees and signed on 13 January 2022 on their behalf by

Mrs Janine Khoshnevisan (Treasurer)

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of

Charlton Toy Library

Charity number: 285099

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Charlton Toy Library (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021 as set out on pages 1 and 2 .

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of Charlton Toy Library 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 charity'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 that give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 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.

Caroline Sharp
FCA, DChA

Date: **13 January 2022**

LONDON SE7 8PF