

Befrienders for Disability

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100726

Details

Status Removed

Registered 2014-10-08

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

Contact

Address 18a
Cesnor Park
Bt38 7pf
BT38 7PF

Phone 02893 360806

Email info@thebefrienders.org

Website www.thebefrienders.org

Activities

Purposes: To support, help and provide medical, financial and social assistance to sick/disabled children, their families and wider support network; The advancement of religion through the promotion of the Christian faith; The advancement of education through training children and their families in respect of health and social care, and farming and agricultural techniques; and The relief of poverty through assisting and empowering local communities including the provision of employment schemes and workshops.

What the charity does: The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of religion, The advancement of health or the saving of lives, The advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation or the promotion of religious or racial harmony or equality and diversity, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

How the charity works: Human rights/equality, Medical/health/sickness, Overseas aid/famine relief, Relief of poverty, Religious activities

Who the charity helps: General public, Learning disabilities, Overseas/developing countries, Physical disabilities, Sensory disabilities

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2022-12-31	£3,661	£3,354	£0	0

Befrienders for Disability

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100726

Accounts



Charity Name Sound Friends	Charity No. (if any) Charity No. NIC100725
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/04/2023	To	31/03/2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Fundraising	0			0	
Grant	500	1,800		2,300	
Donation	2,562			2,562	
				0	
				0	0
				0	0
				0	0
A1 Sub total (Gross income for the Annual Return)	3,062	1,800	-	4,862	0
A2 Asset and investment sales (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance).					
Proceeds from sale of fixed asset	0	-	-	0	0
Loan repayments received	0	-	-	0	0
A2 Sub total	0	-	-	0	0
Total receipts	3,062	1,800	-	4,862	0
A3 Payments					
Activities	138	6		144	
Bank Charges	45			45	
Outings	2,135			2,135	
				0	
				0	
				0	
				0	
				0	
A3 Sub total	2,318	6	-	2,324	0
A4 Asset and investment purchases (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance)					
Purchase of investments	0	-	-	0	0
Loans made	0	-	-	0	0
A4 Sub total	0	-	-	0	0
Total payments	2,318	6	-	2,324	0
Net of receipts/(payments)	745	1,794	-	2,539	0
A5 Transfers between funds	0	-	-	0	0
A6 Cash funds last year end	7,984			7,984	
Cash funds this year end	8,729	1,794	-	10,523	0

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current account	8,729	1,794	-	10,523	-
	Deposit account	-	-	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	8,729	1,794	-	10,523	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Charitable loan receivable	-	-	-	-	-
	Tax reclaim due	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
			Total	-	-	

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B3 Investment assets			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
		Total	-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Buildings	Unrestricted	-	-	-
	Motor vehicles	Restricted	-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
		Total	-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	When due (optional)	Amount due (optional)	Last year
B5 Liabilities				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
		Total		-	-

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

Signature
Ruairi Magennis

Print Name
Ruairi Magennis

Date of approval
27/05/2025

Befrienders for Disability

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100726

Annual report



Sound Friends Deaf Children's Society

Trustees Annual Report 2023-2024

Sound Friends Deaf Children's Society was set up in 2011 to support families of d/Deaf children. Many d/Deaf children (statistics suggest slightly more than 90%) are born to hearing parents and so it is a common occurrence that these parents need advice on how to deal with this diagnosis, communicate with their child and make plans for their social and academic lives. The charity supports members informally through questions being asked in their closed Facebook group (utilizing the shared experiences of the group), provides information from partner charities, signposts to other services where appropriate, and organises face-to-face events. Our events provide opportunities for parents to share experiences, ask questions and for the children to meet and play, to make new friends, help to develop and improve social skills.

Sound Friends DCS is affiliated with the **National Charity (NDCS – National Deaf Children's Society)** and is a registered charity within Northern Ireland – NIC100725.

We currently cover the following towns and surrounding areas:

- Portadown
- Lurgan
- Craigavon
- Banbridge
- Newry
- Kilkeel

Chairperson : Nataliia Buchanan

Treasurer : Ruairi Magennis

Secretary : Stephnie Thompson

Designated person for Safeguarding : Marietta Roddy appointed February 2023, stepped down in August 2023, replaced by Julie Lavery.

It has been agreed at the previous AGM that we should aim to organize at least 4 big events for the members, keep the events term times. The committee engages with group members via surveys to understand the needs, wants and preferences of its members to help focus its aims. The recent feedback from membership shown that there is lack of BSL provision in the area and committee agreed to see what can be done.

Events 2023

- Easter Party Streamvale Farm 15th April 2023
- End of the School Year Party South Lakes 1st July 2023
- Halloween Party 29th October 2023 Newry
- 16th Dec 2023 BSL Signed Panto/Christmas Party Armagh Market Place Theatre

2024

It has been the most successful year for the group. The attendance to the events has increased and the membership has grown.

Sound Friends DCS work hard to support our families and to increase the deaf awareness in the community. We want to make sure that every deaf child is given equal opportunities and inspired by sport and physical activity. Our members raised the issues about accessibility to swimming provision. Following on from this, further enquiries elicited the gap in swimming provision here in the Armagh, Banbridge, Craigavon and Newry Areas. We have progressed at our end raising awareness of these barriers, involving the local politicians with cross-party support from councillors/MLAs including Carla Lockhart, Robbie Alexander, Joy Ferguson, Kyle Savage and also input from the local operational and facility managers from South Lakes Leisure Centre.

The key inclusion milestones are as follows:

- · The ABC sports forum in partnership with Deaf Sports NI and one of Sound Friends kids who is very passionate about this project have delivered deaf awareness course on 15th Feb which was attended by council swimming teachers and swimming club coaches.
- · Partnering with DSNI officers to deliver specific pool-based activities
- · Buildings have hearing loop systems
- · Clear directional signage
- · Council purchased strobe light starting block
- · Council purchased of display cards to aid communication
- · Council purchased and installed the white boards.

We've been working closely with Armagh Planetarium and our members been very fortunate to be invited to the accessible events there.

Events 2024

- 17th February 2024 Armagh Planetarium The Ultimate Bubble Show.
- 13th April Easter Party in Streamvale Farm
- 11th of May. Deaf Awareness Week celebrated in Armagh Planetarium Happy Little Planet BSL/ISL Signed Dome Show. Funded by Heritage Fund.
- 6th October Back to school Party. Airtastic. Funded by National Lottery Community Fund.
- 27th October Halloween Party Newry community Centre/visit to Halloween House of horrors. Funded by National Lottery community Fund.
- 1st of December Mission Santa Armagh Planetarium Funded by National Lottery Heritage Fund.
- 14th of December Armagh Market Place Theatre BSL Signed Panto/Christmas Party. Funded by National Lottery community Fund.

BSL Everyday Sign for children and adults and Physical Activities for kids(dance, Bee Active, martial arts and self-defence) 2024 in partnership with St Joseph's Centre for the Deaf and NDCS.

8 weeks April-June Brownlow Community Hub 1-3pm.

6 weeks September - November 2024. Brownlow hub 2-4pm.

Feedback from families "we enjoyed the relaxed environment. It was fun while learning. Getting together with other families who are local to us. It strengthens our Deaf community and friendship".

Early years 2024 children aged 0-4 years

Started on September 13th, meeting fortnightly in Lurgan.

2024 has become the most successful financial year in the long history of Sound Friends DCS. We received a grant from National Lottery Community Fund which will enable us to continue providing our social programme to families for two years. This whole family approach fosters a sense of community and belonging, so that deaf children feel welcome, included and proud of their deaf identity.

We would also like to highlight that we were the beneficiary of sizeable donation from one of our families who annually put Halloween display in their garden, which was visited by many members of the Newry community. We remain very grateful to this family for their loyal support. One of family's friends nominated us and we received a donation from Lindt Foundation.

Sound Friends also been nominated as one of chairperson charities for Newry and Mourne Council, the committee members along with one of the local families attended few events and as a result group received two donations from the council.

We are exploring the options and working with Newry Council to improve our presence in the area and we are extremely grateful for their support.

Deaf Sports NI supported the swimming initiative with a sizable donation towards developing the swimming resources.

Sound Friends also welcomed donation from Waringstown Primary School.

We continue to work closely with the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) with whom we are affiliated, and upon whose support and guidance we depend. It has been highlighted that there is a gap in service for early years group and our local families feel disadvantaged that they are not able to travel to Belfast to access the services. In consultation and guidance from NDCS we are looking to start the project Communication without barriers for families with kids under 5. The families will become familiar with the techniques of music therapy, play therapy, AVT, sign language and speech therapy.

We also continue to liaise and sign post our members to organisations like NDCS, ADY, BDA.

Many of our families attend Action Deaf Youth (ADY) in Belfast, which supports them in number of ways, including weekly play sessions and formal sign language courses for parents. In collaboration with other organizations, we strive to improve deaf awareness in our local community, to create a deaf friendly environment for our children and all those of the d/Deaf community.

We've been working closely with the Ulster Society for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and the Blind and in 2024 Sound Friends DCS applied to be one of the nominating organizations for distributing of £50 LIDL gift cards. As a result, four of our families received the cost of living support just before Christmas.

Committee members update the public via our page on Facebook, we have a closed group for members which people can join when they fill the membership form, we also have whatsapp group to keep the members who don't have social media updated. We work closely with Social Services in the Southern Trust and get referrals from them and NDCS.

The group didn't hold a formal AGM as per members' feedback. The financial report is available annually. The membership views are gathered through regular feedback after the events.

Befrienders for Disability

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100726

Annual return

SOUND FRIENDS

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1ST APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Donations	0.00	2,562.37	2,562.37
NDCS Grant	1,800.00	500.00	2,300.00
	<u>£1,800.00</u>	<u>£3,062.37</u>	<u>£4,862.37</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>			
Activities	6.00	138.00	144.00
Outings	0.00	2,134.51	2,134.51
Bank Charges	0.00	45.13	45.13
	<u>£6.00</u>	<u>£2,317.64</u>	<u>£2,323.64</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments	£1,794.00	£744.73	£2,538.73
ACCUMULATED FUND			
Balance as at 1st April 2023	0.00	7,984.07	7,984.07
Surplus for the Year	1,794.00	744.73	2,538.73
Balance as at 31st March 2024	£1,794.00	£8,728.80	£10,522.80
REPRESENTED BY			
Bank Current Account			£10,522.80

In my opinion, from the records and books I received, the above Financial Statement gives a true and fair view of the state of Sound Friends financial position for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Marian Shields
Marian Shields
Independent Examiner
27th May 2025

SOUND FRIENDS

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1ST APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

Closing Bank Balance at 31st March 2024 **£10,522.80**
No Unpresented Cheques

I report on the accounts of Sound Friends for the year ended 31st March 2024.

As the Charity Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

I have examined your Charity Accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Charity Trustees concerning any such matters.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters and in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Marian Shields

Marian Shields
Independent Examiner
27th May 2025

4 Archdale
Millvale Road
Bessbrook
Newry
Co. Down
BT35 7NN

SOUND FRIENDS		Restricted		
INCOME		APRIL 2023 TO MARCH 2024		
Date	From	Total	Donations	NDCS Grant
13/04/23	Cash Donation	179.44	179.44	
24/04/23	Amazon Europe Core	13.92	13.92	
19/05/23	Amazon Europe Core	18.01	18.01	
08/06/23	NDCS Grant	1000.00		1000.00
06/07/23	NDCS Grant	800.00		800.00
25/09/23	Catriona Mullan	5.00	5.00	
25/09/23	Natalia Buchanan	5.00	5.00	
25/09/23	J. Lavery	5.00	5.00	
26/09/23	S.G. Thompson	5.00	5.00	
27/09/23	Agata Tobik	5.00	5.00	
27/09/23	Marietta Roddy	5.00	5.00	
29/09/23	Carla McArdle	5.00	5.00	
29/09/23	R & S Magennis	5.00	5.00	
29/09/23	D & S Doran	21.00	21.00	
02/10/23	Amy Eileen Ritchie Glen & Jack	5.00	5.00	
02/10/23	Rodney Smyth Joy Smyth	5.00	5.00	
02/10/23	Maria Reynolds	5.00	5.00	
02/10/23	Paula McKane	5.00	5.00	
04/10/23	Paula Loughran	5.00	5.00	
26/10/23	Nicole Campbell	5.00	5.00	
27/10/23	NDCS Grant	500.00		500.00
27/11/23	Saint Joseph's Cen	250.00	250.00	
13/12/23	Paula Loughran	1000.00	1000.00	
14/12/23	D. McMullan	5.00	5.00	
19/01/24	Lindt & Sprungli	500.00	500.00	
30/01/24	Portadown Credit Union	500.00	500.00	
28/03/24	Marietta Roddy	5.00	5.00	
		£4,862.37	£2,562.37	£2,300.00

SOUND FRIENDS		Restricted				
EXPENDITURE			APRIL 2023 TO MARCH 2024			
Date	Payee	Chq. No.	Total	Activities	Outings	Bank Charges
17/04/23	The Works	D/D	6.00		6.00	
15/05/23	Streamvale Open Farm	D/D	216.86		216.86	
09/06/23	Bank Charges	D/D	10.69			10.69
19/06/23	Stephanie Thompson	D/D	51.34		51.34	
30/06/23	Home Bargains	D/D	44.02		44.02	
03/07/23	Tesco Stores	D/D	13.72		13.72	
03/07/23	Incredable Enterprises	D/D	178.00		178.00	
08/09/23	Bank Charges	D/D	8.86			8.86
05/10/23	The Market Place	D/D	720.00		720.00	
26/10/23	The Market Place	D/D	16.00		16.00	
30/10/23	A.B.C. Borough Council	D/D	90.80		90.80	
30/10/23	Marks & Spencers	D/D	28.50		28.50	
30/10/23	Home Bargains	D/D	44.46		44.46	
30/10/23	Tesco Stores	D/D	2.85		2.85	
30/10/23	The Sheepbridge	D/D	347.00		347.00	
02/11/23	Google Cloud EMEA Limited	D/D	10.00	10.00		
22/11/23	The Market Place	D/D	80.00		80.00	
23/11/23	Institute Of Swimming	D/D	6.00	6.00		
08/12/23	Bank Charges	D/D	14.88			14.88
15/12/23	Natalia Buchanan	D/D	12.67		12.67	
18/12/23	Pauline Skelton	D/D	140.00		140.00	
18/12/23	Poundland Ltd	D/D	11.50		11.50	
18/12/23	TJ Morris Ltd Home Bargains	D/D	10.19		10.19	
18/12/23	Eurospar	D/D	27.00		27.00	
18/12/23	B&M Retail Ltd	D/D	8.00		8.00	
18/12/23	Eurospar	D/D	35.60		35.60	
31/01/24	Streamvale Open Farm	D/D	50.00		50.00	
08/03/24	Bank Charges	D/D	10.70			10.70
19/03/24	Indie & Willow	D/D	128.00	128.00		
			£2,323.64	£144.00	£2,134.51	£45.13

Befrienders for Disability

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100726

Accounts

Charity Name	Charity No. (if any)	
Sound Friends	Charity No.	
	NIC100725	

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/04/2022	To	31/03/2023	
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Fundraising	0	-		0	
Grant	500			500	
Donation	692			692	
				0	
				0	0
				0	0
				0	0
A1 Sub total (Gross income for the Annual Return)	1,192	-	-	1,192	0
A2 Asset and investment sales (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance).					
Proceeds from sale of fixed asset	0	-	-	0	0
Loan repayments received	0	-	-	0	0
A2 Sub total	0	-	-	0	0
Total receipts	1,192	-	-	1,192	0
A3 Payments					
Activities	30			30	
Bank Charges	38			38	
Outings	4,026			4,026	
				0	
				0	
				0	
				0	
				0	
A3 Sub total	4,094	-	-	4,094	0
A4 Asset and investment purchases (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance)					
Purchase of investments	0	-	-	0	0
Loans made	0	-	-	0	0
A4 Sub total	0	-	-	0	0
Total payments	4,094	-	-	4,094	0
Net of receipts/(payments)	-2,902	-	-	-2,902	0
A5 Transfers between funds	0	-	-	0	0
A6 Cash funds last year end	10,886			10,886	
Cash funds this year end	7,984	-	-	7,984	0

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current account	7,984	-	-	7,984	-
	Deposit account	-	-	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	7,984	-	-	7,984	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Charitable loan receivable	-	-	-	-	-
	Tax reclaim due	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
				Total	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B3 Investment assets			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
		Total	-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Buildings	Unrestricted	-	-	-
	Motor vehicles	Restricted	-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
		Total	-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	When due (optional)	Amount due (optional)	Last year
B5 Liabilities				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
		Total		-	-

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

Signature
Ruairi Magennis

Print Name
Ruairi Magennis

Date of approval
16/11/2023

FYE Mar 23 Transactions

DATE	Category	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE
22 April 2022	Outings	Tayto Park Deposit	£430.82		£10,455.34
09 May 2022	Donation	Amazon Smile		£7.30	£10,462.64
10 May 2022	Outings	Tayto Park Balance - chq 000290	£1,232.65		£9,229.99
12 May 2022	Outings	Cinema - chq 000289	£60.00		£9,169.99
31 May 2022	Outings	Tayto Park FX fee - chq 000291	£33.90		£9,136.09
31 May 2022	Activities	Bannville room hire - chq 000292	£20.00		£9,116.09
10 June 2022	Bank Charges	Quarterly charges	£11.46		£9,104.63
05 July 2022	Outings	Panto deposit	£162.40		£8,942.23
21 July 2022	Outings	Summerscheme - Limepark Equestrian	£245.00		£8,697.23
11 August 2022	Fundraising	NDCS Grant funding		£500.00	£9,197.23
09 September 2022	Bank Charges	Quarterly charges	£9.59		£9,187.64
10 October 2022	Outings	Panto balance	£649.60		£8,538.04
28 October 2022	Outings	Crafts & food for Halloween party - B&M	£43.29		£8,494.75
31 October 2022	Outings	Crafts & food for Halloween party - Around a Pound	£10.00		£8,484.75
31 October 2022	Outings	Crafts & food for Halloween party - Tesco	£6.00		£8,478.75
02 November 2022	Activities	Unknown transaction	£10.00		£8,468.75
15 November 2022	Outings	Halloween Party - room hire, fun house, pizza & Bus	£919.90		£7,548.85
09 December 2022	Bank Charges	Quarterly charges	£8.43		£7,540.42
19 December 2022	Donation	Loughran family donation		£670.00	£8,210.42
19 December 2022	Outings	Food, crafts & supplies panto - Home Bargains	£20.10		£8,190.32
19 December 2022	Outings	Food, crafts & supplies panto - Tesco	£14.16		£8,176.16
19 December 2022	Outings	Food, crafts & supplies panto - Pound Stretcher	£8.00		£8,168.16
19 December 2022	Outings	Food, crafts & supplies panto - Tesco	£15.00		£8,153.16
19 December 2022	Outings	Food, crafts & supplies panto - Lidl	£2.75		£8,150.41
19 December 2022	Outings	Food for panto - POH Catering	£150.00		£8,000.41
26 January 2023	Donation	Doran family towards Panto tickets		£14.50	£8,014.91
21 February 2023	Outings	Payment to Natalia for Christmas crafts bought online	£6.99		£8,007.92
21 February 2023	Outings	Payment to Natalia for Christmas crafts bought online	£14.99		£7,992.93
10 March 2023	Bank Charges	Quarterly charges	£8.86		£7,984.07
					£7,984.07
					£7,984.07
					£7,984.07
					£7,984.07
					£7,984.07

Category Summary FY23

Category	Data	Total
Activities	Sum of DEBIT	£30.00
	Sum of CREDIT	
Bank Charges	Sum of DEBIT	£38.34
	Sum of CREDIT	
Fundraising	Sum of DEBIT	
	Sum of CREDIT	£500.00
Outings	Sum of DEBIT	£4,025.55
	Sum of CREDIT	
Donation	Sum of DEBIT	
	Sum of CREDIT	£691.80
(blank)	Sum of DEBIT	
	Sum of CREDIT	
Total Sum of DEBIT		£4,093.89
Total Sum of CREDIT		£1,191.80
Surplus of Expenditure		£2,902.09
Opening Bank Blance		£10,886.16
Closing Bank Blance		£7,984.07

Befrienders for Disability

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100726

Annual report



Sound Friends Deaf Children's Society

Trustees Annual Report 2022-2023

Sound Friends Deaf Children's Society was set up in 2011 to support families of d/Deaf children. Many d/Deaf children (statistics suggest slightly more than 90%) are born to hearing parents and so it is a common occurrence that these parents need advice on how to deal with this diagnosis, communicate with their child and make plans for their social and academic lives. The charity supports members informally through questions being asked in their closed Facebook group (utilizing the shared experiences of the group), provides information from partner charities, signposts to other services where appropriate, and organises face-to-face events. Our events provide opportunities for parents to share experiences, ask questions and for the children to meet and play, to make new friends, help to develop and improve social skills.

Sound Friends DCS is affiliated with the **National Charity (NDCS – National Deaf Children's Society)** and is a registered charity within Northern Ireland – NIC100725.

We currently cover the following towns and surrounding areas:

- Portadown
- Lurgan
- Craigavon
- Banbridge
- Newry
- Kilkeel

Chairperson : Nataliia Buchanan

Treasurer : Ruairi Magennis

Secretary : Stephnie Thompson

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Events held January 2022- March 2023

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The members are happy to be back to meet in person, and we've noticed that towards the end of the year the attendance of the events was noticeably growing.

Due to the cost-of-living crisis, the charity experienced a predictable reduction in donations as disposable incomes fell across the region. We would however, like to highlight that we were the beneficiary of two sizeable donations. One of our member's family created a Halloween display in their garden, which was visited by many members of the Newry community. This was a fantastic boost for the groups finances, and we remain very grateful to this family for their loyal support. SF also welcomed a donation from another family, which arranged a Sound Friends donation box to be placed in their local shop. Their donation was much appreciated. We also secured a £500 grant from NDCS which helped to cover the costs of the Christmas Pantomime. SF also received a donation of selection boxes for the Christmas party from a local councillor. Tesco also contributed via their 'Community Champion' programme, providing snacks, drinks, and tableware for the children's Christmas party.

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Two of our former committee members stood down at the December 2021 AGM. We would like to thank them on behalf of Sound Friends for all their hard work during their tenure here. We would also like to thank all our supporters throughout the year for their fundraising efforts and all those who donated both time and money to help make all of these events possible.

Befrienders for Disability

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100726

Annual return

I report on the accounts of Sound Friends for the year ended 31st March 2023.

As the Charity Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

I have examined your Charity Accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Charity Trustees concerning any such matters.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters and in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Marian Shields

Independent Examiner

31st January 2024


4 Archdale
Millvale Road
Bessbrook
Newry
Co. Down
BT35 7NN

SOUND FRIENDS

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1ST APRIL 2022 TO 31ST MARCH 2023

Donations	691.80
NDCS Grant	500.00
	<u>£1,191.80</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>	
Outings & Activities	4,055.55
Bank Charges	38.34
	<u>£4,093.89</u>
Excess of Payments over Receipts	-£2,902.09
 ACCUMULATED FUND	
Balance as at 1st April 2022	10,886.16
Deficit for the Year	-2,902.09
Balance as at 31st March 2023	£7,984.07
 REPRESENTED BY	
Bank Current Account	£7,984.07

In my opinion, from the records and books I received, the above Financial Statement gives a true and fair view of the state of Sound Friends financial position for the year ended 31st March 2023.


Marian Shields
Marian Shields
Independent Examiner
31st January 2024

Befrienders for Disability

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100726

Accounts

Charity Name	Charity No. (if any)	
Sound Friends	Charity No.	
	NIC100725	

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/04/2021	To	31/03/2022	
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Just Giving	1,246	-		1,246	
Fundraising	1,300			1,300	507
Grant	0			0	500
Donation	410			410	2,150
BSL For All	0	1,899		1,899	0
Residential	1,000			1,000	19
Activities	48			48	0
				0	0
				0	0
A1 Sub total (Gross income for the Annual Return)	4,004	1,899	-	5,902	3,176
A2 Asset and investment sales (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance).					
Proceeds from sale of fixed asset	0	-	-	0	0
Loan repayments received	0	-	-	0	0
A2 Sub total	0	-	-	0	0
Total receipts	4,004	1,899	-	5,902	3,176
A3 Payments					
Activities	206			206	0
Bank Charges	56			56	46
Outings	1,892			1,892	795
Residential	1,000			1,000	0
Examiner	0			0	0
Tuition Fees	0			0	0
BSL For All	0	1,899		1,899	0
Just Giving (Dr)	0			0	162
		-	-	0	0
A3 Sub total	3,155	1,899	-	5,053	1,003
A4 Asset and investment purchases (see tables 1 and 2 in section 7 of the guidance)					
Purchase of investments	0	-	-	0	0
Loans made	0	-	-	0	0
A4 Sub total	0	-	-	0	0
Total payments	3,155	1,899	-	5,053	1,003
Net of receipts/(payments)	849	-	-	849	2,174
A5 Transfers between funds	0	-	-	0	0
A6 Cash funds last year end	10,037	-	-	10,037	7,862
Cash funds this year end	10,886	-	-	10,886	10,036

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current account	10,886	-	-	10,886	10,036
	Deposit account	-	-	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	10,886	-	-	10,886	10,036
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Charitable loan receivable	-	-	-	-	-
	Tax reclaim due	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B3 Investment assets			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
	Total		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	Last year
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Buildings	Unrestricted	-	-	-
	Motor vehicles	Restricted	-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
			-	-	-
	Total		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	When due (optional)	Amount due (optional)	Last year
B5 Liabilities				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
				-	-
	Total			-	-

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

Signature
Ruairi Magennis

Print Name
Ruairi Magennis

Date of approval
26/05/2022

Category Summary FY22

Category	Data	Total
Activities	Sum of DEBIT	£205.86
	Sum of CREDIT	£48.00
Bank Charges	Sum of DEBIT	£56.36
	Sum of CREDIT	
Fundraising	Sum of DEBIT	
	Sum of CREDIT	£1,300.00
Just Giving (Cr)	Sum of DEBIT	
	Sum of CREDIT	£1,245.76
Outings	Sum of DEBIT	£1,892.30
	Sum of CREDIT	
Sign For All (Cr)	Sum of DEBIT	
	Sum of CREDIT	£1,898.70
Sign For All (Dr)	Sum of DEBIT	£1,898.70
	Sum of CREDIT	
Residential	Sum of DEBIT	£1,000.00
	Sum of CREDIT	£1,000.00
Donation	Sum of DEBIT	
	Sum of CREDIT	£410.00
Total Sum of DEBIT		£5,053.22
Total Sum of CREDIT		£5,902.46
Surplus of Expenditure		£849.24
Opening Bank Blance		£10,036.92
Closing Bank Blance		£10,886.16

Befrienders for Disability

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100726

Annual report



Sound Friends Deaf Children's Society

Trustees Annual Report 2022-2023

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Just Giving	1,245.76
Fundraising	1,300.00
Donations	410.00
	<u>£2,955.76</u>

PAYMENTS

Outings & Activities	2,050.16
Bank Charges	56.36
	<u>£2,106.52</u>

Excess of Receipts over Payments **£849.24**

ACCUMULATED FUND

Balance as at 1st April 2021	10,036.92
Surplus for the Year	849.24
Balance as at 31st March 2022	£10,886.16

REPRESENTED BY

Bank Current Account **£10,886.16**

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