

# Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100856

## Details

Known as	TFS Downpatrick
Status	Received
Registered	2015-02-17
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register</a>

## Contact

Address	44 English Street Downpatrick County Down BT30 6ab BT30 6AB
Phone	02844616171
Email	<a href="mailto:tfs.downpatrick@myphone.coop">tfs.downpatrick@myphone.coop</a>

## Activities

**Purposes:** the Group is established to: relieve poverty amongst underdeveloped areas of the world or those suffering disempowerment by the provision of refurbished tools. educate the public in Downpatrick and its environs concerning the nature, causes and effects of poverty and distress and suffering arising.

**What the charity does:** The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of education

**How the charity works:** Environment/sustainable development/conservation, Overseas aid/famine relief, Volunteer development

**Who the charity helps:** Adult training, Ethnic minorities, General public, Learning disabilities, Mental health, Overseas/developing countries, Physical disabilities, Unemployed/low income, Volunteers, Youth (14-25 year olds)

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£6,283	£6,624	£0	0

## Trustees

---

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Christopher Vaughan		
Mr John Corry		
Mr Ken Orr		
Mr Stephen Wood		
Ms Nancy Graham		
Ms Sylvia Glass		

**Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100856

---

# Accounts

---

# Tools for Solidarity Downpatrick

## 24/25 ACCOUNTS

(2023/24)		2024/25	
	<b><u>Downpatrick Income</u></b>		
£963.00	Donations	£1,366.00	
£6,600.00	Grants	£3,800.00	Note 1
£300.00	Sale of Goods	£1,117.11	
£7,863.00		<b>£6,283.11</b>	
	<b><u>Downpatrick Expenditure</u></b>		
£2,026.97	Volunteer Lunches	£2,253.61	
£171.00	Volunteer Travel	£126.00	
£305.76	Materials	£202.31	
£144.46	Workshop equipment		
£431.21	Telephone	£439.33	
£902.38	Electricity	£965.45	
£292.71	Water	£296.46	
	Heating Oil	£289.00	
£1,800.00	Rent	£1,800.00	
	Fridge	£229.00	
£29.75	Misc	£23.08	
£6,104.24		<b>£6,624.24</b>	
£7,863.00	Income	£6,283.11	
£6,104.24	Expenditure	£6,624.40	
£1,758.76	Surplus/Loss	<b>-£341.29</b>	

### Account Balances

	<u>1st April 2024</u>	<u>31st March 2025</u>
Bank	£3,857.55	£3,397.14
Petty Cash	£114.64	£233.76
Paypal Bal	£363.67	£363.67
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£4,335.86</b>	<b>£3,994.57</b>
<b>Surplus/Loss:</b>		<b>-£341.29</b>

Note 1	Grants	2024/25
	Allen Lane	£2,000.00
	Black Santa	£1,300.00
	Ulster Garden Villages	£500.00
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>£3,800.00</b>

### Assests and Liabilities

TFS Downpatrick does not have any assests or liabilities

**Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100856

---

# Accounts

---

## TFS Downpatrick Annual Accounts April 23 –March 24

### Expenditure

Volunteer Travel	171
Materials	305.76
Workshop Equipment	144.64
Volunteer Lunches	2026.97
Telephone	431.21
Electricity	902.38
Water	292.71
Rent	1800
Misc	29.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6104.24</b>

### Income

Donations	963
Grants	6600
Sale of Goods	300

**TOTAL** **£7863**

### Balance Sheet

Income	£7863
Expenditure	£6104.24
Balance	£1758.76

Opening Bal	1st April 2023	£2230.14
Petty Cash	1st April 2023	£74.82
Paypal Bal	1st April 2023	£272.14

**Total** **£2577.1**

Closing Bal	31st March 2024	£3857.55
Petty Cash	31st March 2024	£114.64
Paypal Bal	31st March 2023	£363.67

**Total** **£4335.86**

TFS Downpatrick does not have assets or liabilities

**Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100856

---

# Annual report

---



# **TOOLS FOR SOLIDARITY DOWNPATRICK ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24**



**The Workshop**

# Tools for Solidarity Downpatrick

## Principles / Ethics

Underlying all the activities of Tools for Solidarity Downpatrick are the principles and values of self-help and empowerment, individual and global equality, environmental awareness, inclusiveness, voluntarism, and the right to challenge/oppose activities/actions that contradict these values.

## Mission Statement

TFS Downpatrick supports self reliance by providing high quality refurbished tools to working people overseas, promoting international solidarity, and challenging global inequalities through critical examination of development issues, environmental sustainability, and ethical working practices.

## TFS Downpatrick aims to:

Promote volunteering opportunities particularly for those with extra support needs

Involve individuals, organisations and the public in development and environmental issues.

Utilise working methods that develop and support a sense of international solidarity and promote volunteering and ethical working practices.

Promote self-reliance by furnishing overseas projects with high quality recycled hand tools and sewing machines.

TFS Downpatrick will have appropriate premises, personnel and funding to meet the agreed outputs and objectives of the organisation.



Some of our volunteers



Work in progress

## Chairpersons Address

This year the workshop continued to flourish with new volunteers and increased number of tools and sewing machines refurbished for artisans in Tanzania and Malawi.

We continue to work in partnership with the Global Concerns Trust by providing them with cane furniture making tools and sewing machine treadles that are provided to disabled artisans in Malawi so that they can set themselves up in business. We also provided tools and sewing machines to a pilot project in Tanzania.

In January 2024 TFS Downpatrick marked 20 years. For a very small organisation with very limited resources we make a real difference to people's lives here and in Africa.

I would like to thank the many, many people who throughout the years have supported our work through volunteering, donating money or tools or kind words and to the Southwell Trust for giving us such a great home.

A special mention must be made of the work of Christopher Vaughan who coordinates the work in the workshop and is always willing to give whatever support he can to the volunteers.



Alan, John, Sam and Jim mark 40 years of our sister organisation in Belfast

## Volunteer Report

Being a volunteer is an essential element of being involved in TFS Downpatrick. All of us are volunteers and this generates a sense of sharing and support we are proud of.

Most of our volunteers (more than 80%) are people who have extra support needs due to mental health issues and/or learning difficulties/disabilities. We host volunteers from a range of organisations including Mindwise, Action Mental Health/New Horizons, Autism Initiative and Mencap.

The mix of volunteers ranges from teenagers to the over 60s and they come from all backgrounds. What makes this so special is that we all offer encouragement and support one another. Sharing skills and experience about the work but also about life issues is what helps create a therapeutic environment for all.

We also host young international volunteers from our sister organisation in Belfast. These volunteers really enjoy the experience of meeting and working with local people from so many different backgrounds. For the locals they have the opportunity, often for the first time, to talk to someone from another culture and country about life there.

This year our volunteers refurbished and shipped 6 treadle bases and 2 cane furniture making kits for artisans with disabilities in Malawi. They made the crates for the kits and for starter kits for our new project in Iringa, Tanzania. They also refurbished over 200 tools for this project.



**Emma Dunca, Global Concerns Trust Coordinator gives feedback from her last field trip to Malawi to our volunteers William, John, Brendan, Hugh, John and Gary**

## TFS Downpatrick Annual Accounts April 23 – March 24

### Expenditure

Volunteer Travel	171
Materials	305.76
Workshop Equipment	144.64
Volunteer Lunches	2026.97
Telephone	431.21
Electricity	902.38
Water	292.71
Rent	1800
Misc	29.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6104.24</b>

### Income

Donations	963
Grants	6600
Sale of Goods	300

**TOTAL** **£7863**

### Balance Sheet

Income	£7863
Expenditure	£6104.24
Balance	£1758.76

Opening Bal	1st April 2023	£2230.14
Petty Cash	1st April 2023	£74.82
Paypal Bal	1st April 2023	£272.14

**Total** **£2577.1**

Closing Bal	31st March 2024	£3857.55
Petty Cash	31st March 2024	£114.64
Paypal Bal	31st March 2023	£363.67

**Total** **£4335.86**

TFS Downpatrick does not have assets or liabilities

## **Financial Report**

This year has been more positive than last thanks to the efforts of our fundraiser Ken Orr.

We have been able to make some reductions in expenditure and our grant donations are up over 30%.

Our reserves are now over half our annual expenditure which is reassuring.

In the coming year we will continue to seek support for our work from charitable foundations and trusts and ideally secure more stable funding streams to cover our core costs.

We are looking for funding that is not just on a one-off or annual basis – this is a challenge for us and for all small NGOs.

One disappointment was the failure to secure funding from the SE Health Trust for the services we provide for their clients, despite all our efforts. We will approach them again this year as we feel our work deserves the Trust's support.

Many thanks to all the organisations and individuals who have supported us financially over the year.

## **Special thanks**

**Global Concerns Trust**  
**Halifax Foundation for NI**  
**Mourne Grange Camphill Community**  
**Mindwise**  
**Action Mental Health**  
**Autism Initiative**  
**South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust**  
**Volunteer Now**  
**Mencap**  
**TFS Belfast**  
**Southwell Trust**  
**Black santa**  
**Allen Lane Foundation**  
**Geordie and Eleanor**  
**and all our Volunteers**

**Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100856

---

# Annual return

---

Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick Charity Number 100856

Unqualified report for a charity and has an income of £250,000 or less

I was asked by the charity to act as independent examiner of the Charities Accounts in January 2024. I agreed providing I had the standing to act as examiner. I confirmed eligibility by satisfying the following conditions

- The Charity had an income of less than £250000 thus allowing a receipts and payments account produced by an examiner
- The constitution of TFS Downpatrick allowed for the appointment of an independent examiner

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's 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.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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 of the Charities Act 2008.

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.

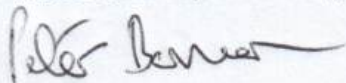
My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

CCNI ARR07 – supporting document 5 August 2016

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above 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.



Name: Peter Bannon

Relevant professional qualification or body: Not applicable

Address: 8 Shangarry Park BT14 8JD

Date: 31/1/2025

**Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100856

---

# Accounts

---

## TFS Downpatrick Annual Accounts April 22 –March 23

### Expenditure

Volunteer Travel	285.7
Materials	552.66
Workshop Equipment	569.8
Volunteer Lunches	1717.11
Telephone	390.16
Electricity	679.04
Water	401.55
Petty Cash	71
Rent	2000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6667.02</b>

### Income

Donations	968
Grants	4750
Sale of Goods	616
Fund Raising	1300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£7634</b>

### Balance Sheet

Income		£7634
Expenditure		£6667.02
Balance		£966.98
Opening Bal	1st April 2022	£1243.16
Petty Cash	1st April 2022	£94.82
Closing Bal	31st March 2023	£2230.14
Petty Cash	31st March 2023	£74.82
Paypal Bal	1st April 2022	£272.14
Paypal Bal	31st March 2023	£272.14

**Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100856

---

# Annual report

---



# **TOOLS FOR SOLIDARITY DOWNPATRICK ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23**



**The Workshop**

# Tools for Solidarity Downpatrick

## Principles / Ethics

Underlying all the activities of Tools for Solidarity Downpatrick are the principles and values of self-help and empowerment, individual and global equality, environmental awareness, inclusiveness, voluntarism, and the right to challenge/oppose activities/actions that contradict these values.

## Mission Statement

TFS Downpatrick supports self reliance by providing high quality refurbished tools to working people overseas, promoting international solidarity, and challenging global inequalities through critical examination of development issues, environmental sustainability, and ethical working practices.

## TFS Downpatrick aims to:

Promote volunteering opportunities particularly for those with extra support needs

Involve individuals, organisations and the public in development and environmental issues.

Utilise working methods that develop and support a sense of international solidarity and promote volunteering and ethical working practices.

Promote self-reliance by furnishing overseas projects with high quality recycled hand tools and sewing machines.

TFS Downpatrick will have appropriate premises, personnel and funding to meet the agreed outputs and objectives of the organisation.



**Colin prepares nutritious, healthy, vegetarian lunches each week for our volunteers**



**Mano Dismantling a sewing machine for spares**

## Chairpersons Address

This year feels like we are back to some sort of normality in terms of how our workshop functions following the difficulties and disruption caused by the COVID outbreak.

Our volunteers have returned and a few new volunteers have joined. The atmosphere is supportive and welcoming and we have been able to increase the number of tools and sewing machines we have been able to refurbish.

We have also collected more tools and sewing machines in large part due to the help of the Newcastle Lions who organised a collection event in Newcastle which brought in hundreds of tools and more than 10 sewing machines.

Each year the number and profile of our volunteers changes but a core group of volunteers remain. For them the workshop is a place where they can feel part of something important and where their work is valued and makes a difference to other people's lives – people who have to struggle to make a livelihood for themselves and their families.

We continue to work in partnership with the Global Concerns Trust in Edinburgh and look forward each year to welcome Emma Duncan, their CEO to our workshop to update our volunteers on their programme 'Tools and training for livelihoods in Malawi'. Our volunteers refurbish carpentry and cane furniture making tools and sewing machine treadles that are provided to disabled artisans in Malawi so that they can set themselves up in business. We also provided tools and sewing machines to artisan support and training centres in Tanzania.

With funding from Ulster Garden Villages we were able to build our very own disabled access toilet.

Finally, I would like to thank the many, many people who throughout the years have supported our work through volunteering, donating money or tools or kind words and to the Southwell Trust for giving us such a great home.



## Volunteer Report

Being a volunteer is an essential element of being involved in TFS Downpatrick. All of us are volunteers and this generates a sense of sharing and support we are proud of.

Most of our volunteers (more than 80%) are people who have extra support needs due to mental health issues and/or learning difficulties/disabilities. We host volunteers from a range of organisations including Mindwise, Action Mental Health/New Horizons, Autism Initiative and Mencap.

The mix of volunteers ranges from teenagers to the over 60s and they come from all backgrounds. What makes this so special is that we all offer encouragement and support one another. Sharing skills and experience about the work but also about life issues is what helps create a therapeutic environment for all.

We also host young international volunteers from our sister organisation in Belfast. These volunteers really enjoy the experience of meeting and working with local people from so many different backgrounds. For the locals they have the opportunity, often for the first time, to talk to someone from another culture and country about life there.

This year our volunteers refurbished and shipped 6 treadle bases and cane furniture making tools for artisans with disabilities in Malawi. They made the crates for the kits and refurbished over 300 tools for projects in Tanzania.

Some of our volunteers have become involved in the local Repair Cafes held in different parts of South Down, using their refurbishment skills to fix and repair tools and sewing machines brought in by the general public



**Grahame Sanding the block of sliding bevel for our projects in Tanzania**

## TFS Downpatrick Annual Accounts April 22 –March 23

### Expenditure

Volunteer Travel	285.7
Materials	552.66
Workshop Equipment	569.8
Volunteer Lunches	1717.11
Telephone	390.16
Electricity	679.04
Water	401.55
Petty Cash	71
Rent	2000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6667.02</b>

### Income

Donations	968
Grants	4750
Sale of Goods	616
Fundraising	1300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£7634</b>

### Balance Sheet

Income		£7634
Expenditure		£6667.02
Balance		£966.98
Opening Bal	1st April 2022	£1243.16
Petty Cash	1st April 2022	£94.82
Closing Bal	31st March 2023	£2230.14
Petty Cash	31st March 2023	£74.82
Paypal Bal	1st April 2022	£272.14
Paypal Bal	31st March 2023	£272.14

## **Financial Report**

This year has seen a turn around from the previous years in that we made a small surplus.

This is down to the hard work of our fundraiser Ken Orr who was successful in a number of applications to various trust and foundations. We are particularly grateful to the Black Santa appeal as this is an annual appeal and we can therefore apply again.

Both donations and sale of goods were up but the biggest impact on our income was the holding of a charity quiz. This one event raised £1300 and again we hope to make this an annual event.

Our expenditure remains fairly stable despite the return of more volunteers following the COVID pandemic.

Many thanks to all the organisations and individuals who have supported us financially over the year.

## **Special thanks**

**Global Concerns Trust**  
**Black Santa**  
**Green Hill Foundation**  
**Micro Community Investment Fund**  
**Ulster Garden Villages**  
**Newcastle Lions**  
**Mourne Grange Camphill Community**  
**Mindwise**  
**Action Mental Health**  
**Autism Initiative**  
**South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust**  
**Volunteer Now**  
**Mencap**  
**Margaret Ferguson and the Lakeside Inn**  
**TFS Belfast**  
**Southwell Trust**  
**Geordie and Eleanor**  
**and all our Volunteers**

**Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100856

---

# Annual return

---

Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick Charity Number 100856

Unqualified report for a charity and has an income of £250,000 or less

I was asked by the charity to act as independent examiner of the Charities Accounts in January 2023. I agreed providing I had the standing to act as examiner. I confirmed eligibility by satisfying the following conditions

- The Charity had an income of less than £250000 thus allowing a receipts and payments account produced by an examiner
- The constitution of TFS Downpatrick allowed for the appointment of an independent examiner

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Tools For Solidarity Downpatrick

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's 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.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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 of the Charities Act 2008.

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.

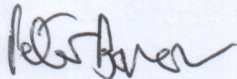
My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

CCNI ARR07 – supporting document 5 August 2016

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above 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.



Name: Peter Bannon

Relevant professional qualification or body: Not applicable

Address: 8 Shangarry Park BT14 8JD

Date: 17/12/23