



Trustee's Annual Report for SPECIAL Charity Shop

NIC109576

1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

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Introduction

The SPECIAL (Special People Exceptional Children Investing in Amazing Lives) Shop was established in November 2022 after securing rental premises on Main Street, Garvagh in County Londonderry.

After completing all required preparations to ensure the Shop was ready, it opened its doors to customers.

From humble beginnings and a grand sum of £1000 the Shop has flourished with the balance at the end of this accounting period standing at £41,884.

The SPECIAL Charity Shop was registered with the Charity Commission Northern Ireland in July 2023.

Eileen Rainey is responsible for the day to day management of the Shop (which opens Tuesday to Saturday), including sorting of donated items, pricing, sales and daily reconciliation of cash and weekly deposit of income. There are no volunteers but Eileen is assisted by Roberta Forsyth (Trustee) who looks after the Shop one day a week.

Governance, Purpose and Public Benefit Objectives

The SPECIAL Charity Shop is governed by a constitution.

The charitable purpose of the organisation is the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

The charity was set up with the purpose of providing tangible support to children, young people and older adults with disabilities and their families and carers within Garvagh and surrounding areas including Limavady, Magherafelt, Coleraine and Ballymena areas (25-mile radius).

This charitable purpose is achieved through funding the following (but not limited too):

- Equipment which has improved people's lives and living environment
- Holiday breaks
- Day trips
- Respite for carers and family members
- Attendance at special events

All funds raised by the SPECIAL Charity Shop for the year ending March 2025 (minus expenses as detailed in the statement of accounts) were solely dedicated to advancing its charitable purpose and offering valuable support both to our community and to others beyond it.

Funds were generated through shop sales, as a result of generous public contributions of items such as clothing, toys, and small household goods, in addition to monetary donations.

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees of SPECIAL Charity Shop confirm that they have complied with their duty as defined in the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (as amended) to have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and that the public benefit requirement has informed the activities of the Society in the year to 31st March 2025.

Achievements and Performance

The SPECIAL Charity Shop has made a tangible difference to the lives of children and young adults with special needs and their families by funding equipment, learning aids and breaks during the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. Total spent on funding was **£12964.59 which accounted for 70% of overall expenditure and almost 35% of revenue during the period.** A full breakdown of funding is provided at Annex A.

Revenue for the period was **£37603.92** with shop sales accounting for 88% of the total. The Charity also received **£4000 in donations** during the period - £3000 from the Agivey Cycling Club annual fundraiser and £1000 from Eurospar Garvagh.

The Charity earned a profit of **£18,963.37**, and **£8,000** of that amount was placed into a Reserve account at our bank.

The provision of funding for Special Needs Strollers has had a significant positive impact on the lives of children and their parents or carers. This equipment is often challenging to obtain through standard channels. Families benefit primarily by gaining greater ease and safety when accompanying children with mobility challenges, or those who may be at risk without access to an appropriate stroller.

In total the Charity purchased 15 special needs strollers at a cost of **£6586.00** which accounted for 51% of funding.

The Charity funded 6 respite trips and provided sensory toys and trampolines to support children who benefit from rebound therapy.

The funding of trips for two young men was especially noteworthy.

A young man who had lost his mother to cancer received funding for a trip to attend a Liverpool match. We also reached out to Liverpool FC, who sent memorabilia and helped make the day especially memorable for him.

Secondly, the Charity sponsored a once-in-a-lifetime trip for a young man with special needs to attend a Cobra Kai event in Edinburgh. This opportunity was particularly meaningful, as he has a strong interest in martial arts and is especially passionate about Cobra Kai.

Financial Review

The Charity had capital of **£22,920.77** at the start of the financial period (1st of April 2024) of which **£2000** was held in a Reserve pot and this had increased to **£41,884.14** at the end of the period (31st March 2025) of which **£10,000** is held in a reserve pot.

The Reserve of £10,000 is maintained to uphold financial propriety and best practices. Although this Reserve does not accrue interest, it provides the Charity with a contingency fund to address unforeseen financial needs if required.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	SPECIAL Charity Shop
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	NIC109576
Charity's principal address	54 Main Street, Garvagh, Co Londonderry. BT51 5AE

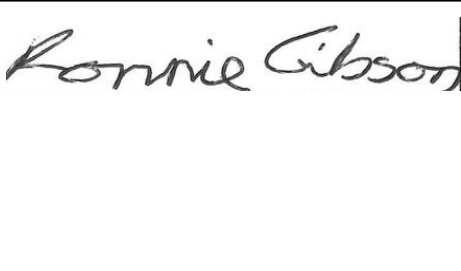
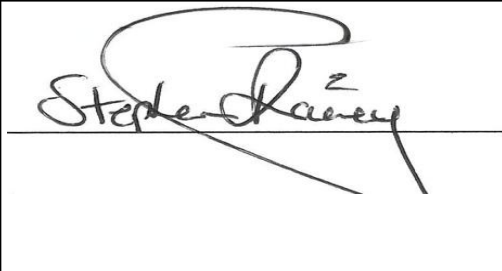
Trustees Details

Trustee name	Position Held
Mr Ronnie Gibson	Chairperson
Mr Stephen Rainey	Treasurer
Ms Eileen Rainey	Trustee
Mrs Emma McCloskey	Trustee
Mrs Roberta Forsythe	Trustee

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Ronnie Gibson	Stephen Rainey
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairperson	Treasurer
Date	29/01/2026	