



Annual report
and accounts

for the year ended 30 September

2024

Page	Contents
3	Legal and administrative information
4-5	Report of the trustees
6	Statement of financial activities
7	Balance sheet
8-11	Notes forming part of the financial statements
12	Independent examiner's report

Trustees

Dr Moses Lewis
Mrs Sarah Bard
Mr Salo Heimann
Ms Pearl Weinberger
Mrs Rachel Gruber

Administration address

Mrs Rachel Gruber
9 Watermint Quay
Craven Walk
London
N16 6DN

Charity number

1124803

Accountants

Finer Accounting Ltd

Statement from the Chair

Everyone could use a little sunshine.

At Sonshine Club, we're all about lighting up the lives of the children – and parents – whom we support. School and family circumstances aren't easy for everyone, and kids are bursting with creativity and talent that they're eager to express. We're here to help them do that: through nature activities, sports, and anything else that can improve their life chances.

And we extend those sunny rays of support to children with disabilities, too. Because their obstacles shouldn't define them. Our provision puts an emphasis on creating new possibilities for every single child, no matter what they can or can't do – with the right care and support, every child can explore the world around them and enjoy fresh experiences, every day again.

I am delighted to present here Sonshine Club's annual report and accounts. Read on to learn about the hundreds of lives we've brightened this year.

Mrs Sarah Bard
Chair of Trustees

Charitable objectives

- 1) To educate and help children and young people living in Hackney and the surrounding area, by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities for their recreation during out of school hours and school holidays.
- 2) To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a charitable company established in May 2008 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles. The charity is run by the board of Trustees, who are required to apply the charity's resources to achieve its charitable objects and to provide strategic leadership for the charity's work.

The four Trustees leading the charity possess wide-ranging skills, knowledge and experience in areas related to the charity's activities. 75% of the Trustees have lived experience of raising a child with disabilities, giving them the tools and sensitivity to support others facing similar struggles.

All Trustees were provided with a full induction into the charity's work prior to their appointment, and they meet regularly to govern and lead the charity.

Achievement and performance

20th Anniversary Celebration

Sonshine Club turned twenty years old – and we wanted to spread the joy! We marked this special milestone through a celebration of our flagship provision, gardening sessions, in a well-received project funded by Compass Wellbeing.

The project is multi-faceted, delivering various benefits to many different children.

First off, we ran woodwork sessions led by a qualified practitioner, where kids were taught to build their own raised garden bed. Once a garden bed was ready, it was sent to a local school, in time for the project's second phase.

When a school received their garden bed, they could now run free, exciting gardening lessons with their students, equipped with Sonshine Club's special instructions, support and guidance. Teachers reported the instant, incredible impact this project had on their students, especially those with additional needs; children are thriving with the opportunity to learn new and exciting skills in the healthy realm of nature. And under the tender hands of these young "gardeners", we also enabled the more derelict areas in school grounds to flourish, grow, and look appealing.

We've implemented these sessions in six schools so far. We'd like to reach twenty – and we're well on the way!

Monthly Food Box

Feeding off last year's success, we continued to provide monthly food box deliveries, gifting families of disabled children with an extra package of support. Considering the lingering effects of a Cost-of-Living crisis and the extra burdens a disability in the family brings, this project filled a vital need. Recipients were delighted with the essential foodstuff items they received.

We are deeply grateful to our six volunteers who tirelessly and selflessly packed large quantities of boxes for delivery.

Winter Warmth

Enabled by a generous National Lottery grant, we ran a popular winter project this year delivering after-school clubs to children with additional needs. Numbering 12, the children arrived at the premises directly from school for a fun-filled afternoon of crafts, projects, activities and of course, a hot supper. We also provided brand-new blankets and extra cardigans to fight off the frigid weather, especially welcome in this financially difficult climate.

Families were grateful for the compassionate, well-delivered provision as well as the respite it meant.

On The Move

We wanted to offer sporting opportunities for people who don't usually access this, and did so in a three-prong project supported by Hackney.

For kids looking for a healthy outlet, we offered after-school football sessions led by a qualified sports coach. For disabled children, there were special "keep fit" workouts, improving muscle strength and encouraging healthy movement. And for mothers of disabled children – to help them replenish their energies to continue being the hardworking caregivers they are – we provided relaxing yoga classes which were so well received – that we'd like to run a repeat!

Filling the Gaps

Understanding the challenges of a disabled child being off school, we ran a successful project to "fill the gaps", offering exciting clubs during holidays, half-terms or whenever school was closed. Centrally located, the club offered a comprehensive, stimulating program for children to unwind and develop life skills. Activities included exercise, art therapy, gardening and more. Caregivers of the children expressed what a tremendous impact the project made on their own lives, having that time to themselves without the extra burden of focusing on and taking care of their child.

Plans for the future

Forest School Pilot Project

Looking ahead, we'd like to pilot a creative new venture. "Forest School" is an internationally recognised teaching methodology in which children with additional needs, unable to attend school for whatever reason, can discover and learn through experiencing the natural world. Sonshine Club is currently delivering this to a group of 4 children, supported by a team of therapists and a qualified Forest School teacher. We aim to evaluate this project and to make considerations going forward, about its continuation or possibly expansion.

Financial Review

The Trustees gratefully acknowledge that the outstanding impact and achievement of the organisation are largely due to the generous support of London Borough of Hackney, along with other anonymous supporters and community donors.

Reserves policy

The Trustees aim to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the Charity at a level of at least three months running costs.

Risk management

The Charity has identified and assessed the major risks to which it is exposed, in particular those of safety and

protection of the vulnerable young adults whilst in the Charity's care as well as the finances of the Charity. The Charity is satisfied that systems are in place and routinely assessed including procedures for Child Protection, Health and Safety, Vulnerable Adults Policy and Financial Management and Controls.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm their compliance with the duty to have due regard to the Public Benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission as well as the Equality Act 2010 when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Trustees responsibilities statement

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the Balance Sheet, date, and of its incoming resources, including income and expenditure for the financial year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- a) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- b) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- c) Follow applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2015, disclosing and explaining any departures in the financial statements.
- d) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them as Trustees to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity Law.

The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other regularities.

Approval

The Trustees' annual report was approved on 14 July 2025 and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:



Mrs Sarah Bard
Trustee

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 30 September 2024



	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Incoming resources					
Activities to further the charity's objects	2	33,480	212,815	246,295	122,995
Interest income		0	0	0	0
Total incoming resources		33,480	212,815	246,295	122,995
Resources expended					
Cost of generating funds		7,418	0	7,418	3,060
Net incoming resources available for charitable application		26,062	212,815	238,877	119,935
Cost of activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	3	19,168	137,981	157,149	125,268
Governance costs	5	2,202	140	2,342	2,533
Total charitable expenditure		21,370	138,121	159,491	127,802
Total resources expended	3	28,788	138,121	166,909	130,862
Net movement in funds		4,692	74,694	79,386	(7,867)
Transfer to/(from) reserves		0	0	0	0
Net reserves for the year		4,692	74,694	79,386	(7,867)
Total funds brought forward		49,019	1,237	50,256	58,123
Total funds carried forward	11	£ 53,711	£ 75,931	£ 129,642	£ 50,256

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	31	42
		31	42
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		131,104	50,355
		131,104	50,355
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(1,490)	(140)
Net current assets		129,614	50,215
Total assets less current liabilities		129,645	50,257
Net assets	11	£ 129,645	£ 50,257
Restricted funds	12	75,931	1,237
Unrestricted funds	13	53,711	49,019
Total funds		£ 129,642	£ 50,256

Approved by the trustees on 8 July 2025, and signed on behalf of them all.

S. Bard

Mrs Sarah Bard
Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 11 form part of these accounts.

1) Principal accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The Accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Charities Act (Accounts and Reports) 2011, and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities 102, and follow the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (effective from April 2015).

Cash flow

The accounts do not include a cash flow statement because the charity as a small reporting entity is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement.

Donations and fund accounting

Donations received for the general and main purposes of the charity is included as unrestricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Donations and grants for activities restricted by the donors are taken to restricted funds if the wishes and conditions of the donor are legally binding on the trustees.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided after taking into account of any grants receivable at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Fixtures and fittings: 25% on net book value

Durable tools: 25% on net book value

Durable equipment: 25% on net book value

Resources expended

Management and administration costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

The irrecoverable element of VAT is included with the item of expense to which it relates.

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
2) Incoming funds				
Donations received	15,571		15,571	12,739
Social Enterprise income	9,697		9,697	13,142
Community Organisation TN Lottery	8,212	36,177	44,389	0
BC Trust		0	0	250
City of London		7,681	7,681	4,178
Compass Wellbeing		49,962	49,962	0
East End Comm Foundation		9,308	9,308	10,000
GLA Building Stronger Community		999	999	8,991
Groundwork		1,500	1,500	0
HAF		1,368	1,368	4,811
LB Hackney	55,027		55,027	24,999
London Marathon		150	150	0
LYC Community Fund City Airport		3,000	3,000	0
Mayor of London-Kitchen Social		3,400	3,400	2,500
Merchant Taylor		0	0	4,391
People's Health Trust		0	0	1,008
Santa Barbara Trust		0	0	1,450
Shoresh Charitable Trust		983	983	1,000
Skipton	1,000		1,000	0
Sport Together Fund		0	0	4,998
Souter Charitable Trust		0	0	2,240
The Bradians Trust		2,760	2,760	0
The Childrens Aid Committee		1,000	1,000	0
The Gosling Foundation		9,000	9,000	0
The London Community Foundation		20,000	20,000	10,000
The Toy Trust		0	0	1,800
Together with Sport/Sport England		0	0	4,998
Young Hackney		9,500	9,500	9,500
Total incoming funds	£ 33,480	£ 212,815	£ 246,295	£ 122,995

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
3) Analysis of total resources expended charitable activities				
Cost of activities in furtherance of the charity's objects				
Charitable activity costs	13,088	66,632	79,720	50,882
Evaluation and learning	2,720	8,161	10,881	5,280
Insurance		1,094	1,094	479
Materials and activity packs	1,490	9,172	10,662	8,026
Office costs	120	15,677	15,797	10,886
Refurbishment		8,115	8,115	11,281
Residential		0	0	4,570
Staff costs		21,469	21,469	26,919
Volunteers		7,151	7,151	6,070
Website	1,750	510	2,260	875
Total charitable activities	19,168	137,981	157,149	125,268
Total cost of activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	£ 19,168	£ 137,981	£ 157,149	£ 125,268
4) Cost of generating funds				
			£ 7,418	£ 3,060
5) Governance costs				
Accountancy	1,350		1,350	1,100
Legal	852	140	992	1,433
	£ 2,202	£ 140	£ 2,342	£ 2,533
6) Taxation				
The charity is exempt from taxation on its charitable activities.				
7) The average number of employees during the year:				
on a full time equivalent basis				
on a part time basis				
			2024	2023
			0	4
			6	

No employee was paid above £60,000 per year.

8) Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Durable tools £	Durable equipment £	Total £
<i>Cost or valuation</i>				
At 30 September 2023	689	963	543	2,195
Additions	0	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0	0
At 30 September 2024	689	963	543	2,195
<i>Depreciation</i>				
At 30 September 2023	685	930	538	2,153
Charge for the year	1	9	1	11
At 30 September 2024	686	939	539	2,164
<i>Valuation</i>				
30 September 2024	£ 3	£ 24	£ 4	£ 31
1 October 2023	£ 4	£ 33	£ 5	£ 42

9) Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	1,490	140
	£ 1,490	£ 140

10) Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	0	0
Debt due after more than one year	£ 0	£ 0

11) Net assets of the charity's funds

	Fixed assets £	Current assets £	Long term liabilities £	Fund balances £
Unrestricted funds	0	53,683	0	53,683
Total funds	£ 31	£ 129,614	£ 0	£ 129,645

12) Restricted funds: movements in the year

	Balance at 1 October 2023 £	Income £	Expended £	Transfer to/from reserves £	Balance at 30 September 2024 £
	1,237	212,815	138,121	0	75,931
Total Funds	£ 1,237	£212,815	£ 138,121	£ 0	£ 75,931

13) Unrestricted funds: movements in the year

	Balance at 1 October 2023 £	Income £	Expended £	Transfer to/from Reserves £	Balance at 30 September 2024 £
General reserves	49,019	33,480	28,788	0	53,711
Total funds	£ 49,019	£ 33,480	£ 28,788	£ 0	£ 53,711

14) Related party transactions

No trustee nor any person connected with them received any remuneration, or claimed any expense, during the year, from this or any related charity.

There were no related party transactions in the year.

We report on the financial statements of Sonshine Club for the year ended 30 September 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared, under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (Issued 2015), and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities 102 (effective 2016), and the accounting policies set out therein.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and the independent examiner

As described on page 5, the trustees of the charity are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and they consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 144 of the Act, whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. These procedures provide only the assurance expressed in our opinion. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Opinion

In our opinion, no matter has come to our attention,

- 1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date 8 July 2025

Independent examiner
Finer Accounting Ltd