



# therendezvous

Annual Report

2020/21



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## Vision and Mission

**Vision** | That young people are resilient and optimistic and have the skills and knowledge they need to make a smooth transition into adulthood.

**Mission** | To enable young people to help themselves by discovering and building on their strengths.

### Our values:

**Positivity** | Believing in young people and the fact that every life can change for the better.

**Trust and honesty** | Building positive relationships with young people based on trust and honesty.

**Inclusive** | Celebrating and supporting every young person’s individuality irrespective of gender, identity, race, cultural or religious background, beliefs or circumstances.

**Patience and understanding** | Recognising that it takes some young people much longer than others to find their way in the world.

# Chairman's Report

As this is my first year as Chair, I would like to begin by thanking my predecessor, Andrew May, for leaving the charity ready to face the challenging circumstances presented by Covid-19. No-one could have anticipated that it would remain such a major factor for so long and that young people would continue to be so heavily impacted.

As a result, 2020-21 has been a difficult year for our young people and the charity. Although some activities had to be suspended or reduced in scope, the team created new ways of engaging young people in Sherborne and across North Dorset. Whilst we have maintained our strong base of services and volunteers in Sherborne, grant funding has also helped us extend our reach, with a learning satellite in Yeovil and a pilot outreach project in Shaftesbury. Our post-pandemic plan will build on the work of the past 18 months.

The lack of traditional fundraising events over the year put the financial situation under stress. However, we are extremely grateful for the continued generous support of a number of trusts and foundations. Together with emergency charity funding and a strong reserves position, we are pleased to report that the charity remains financially viable and able to fund front-line activities for those in need.

I am also thankful for the support of my fellow trustees and the knowledge and commitment that they bring. This year saw the sad loss of long-standing supporter, Roy Catchpole and we were sorry to say good bye to Bob Eccleshall who stood down as Chair of the Friends after many years. Bob was fundamental to the charity surviving financial difficulties over ten years ago and I would like to recognise them both for the tremendous contribution they made.

While the Friends have not been able to hold events during the pandemic, we are grateful for their continued support and look forward to connecting with them again in the near future. We have also retained a wide network of committed volunteers, and we are immensely grateful for their continuing work with young people.

I would like to express my enormous gratitude to Helen and the whole team at The Rendezvous for their hard work, resilience and commitment to support young people in need whatever the circumstances. The ever-changing situation has required so much from them, yet they have risen to every challenge.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has supported The Rendezvous over the past 12 months. The work that the charity does in supporting young people in our communities is now more important than ever.



**Stephen Uden**  
Chair of Trustees



# Summary of Activities

What a year! We have never worked harder, nor been through so much change in such a short period of time, however with the help and support of the community and our regular supporters, we are very proud to be able to say that we are still here and in good shape. We are not out of the woods yet, but we can look back on the first year of the pandemic knowing that we have done, and will continue to do, some very good and much needed work with young people.

Over the year we have kept young people safe, reduced levels of anxiety, stopped young people feeling isolated and afraid, solved housing problems, helped others to gain qualifications, and given some a reason to get up in the morning.

Lockdowns and the cancellation of informal drop in sessions mean that we have worked with fewer young people than normal (200 in comparison to 350-400) but that work has been far more intensive. Work that is all about building relationships face-to-face was delivered online and over the phone. This was challenging for the team who found themselves having to work from home for the first time. Combining home-working with home-schooling created its own difficulties for some and the lack of social interaction was testing for others but as always, the team's loyalty and commitment to the Rendezvous and the young people we work with knows no bounds. They pulled together and supported each other as well as the young people we work with to get through the longest days of lockdown.

Our learning programme faced many challenges over the year but thanks to the tenacity of our Learning and Volunteer Manager, Julie Bartle, and the motivational skills of our volunteer tutors, our learners have since gone on to sit 50+ exams. Our learning programme really is transformative as can be attested by those learners who will soon be moving back into education, starting apprenticeships and taking up university places.

Whilst targeted work continued, we struggled to deliver informal open access sessions although our Young Parents Support Groups were eventually able to meet up outside in person in the spring.

## Covid-19 Update

As we write this the national Covid-19 restrictions have been eased but the coronavirus has not gone away. Demand for one-to-one support for poor mental health is continuing to increase, whilst many other young people have missed out on normal life and the opportunities to grow and develop. We will be continuing to 'proceed with caution', reviewing the situation regularly and adapting our programme accordingly. From September face-to-face work will take place in all our locations but in an attempt to avoid 'overloading' the Sherborne centre which has poor ventilation, our open access drop in sessions will be replaced by smaller targeted group work in the form of 'Bekah's Kitchen' and the Discovery Social Group. Staff will continue to work flexibly.

This gave young parents much needed social interaction and their children the opportunity to learn to mix with others – and share!

Our outreach projects suffered too and even after lockdowns ended, individual circumstances impacted the best laid plans. This was, however, in part mitigated by the production of a short film in the late summer, “Covid & Me” which documents young people’s feelings about life in lockdown and the global pandemic. (<https://bit.ly/3ipiutE>)

Whilst much of the year was about managing and maintaining our normal workload we were delighted to be able to set up a small learning satellite in Yeovil funded by Somerset Community Foundation.

Behind the scenes too we were busy. We improved some of our systems and processes and redeveloped our website to make it more user-friendly for those using phones to access the internet.

As we look ahead we suspect the road will be bumpy for the next year or two, but we feel optimistic and ready to cope with whatever comes along. And, much like the young people we work with, we will continue to learn, to adapt and to thrive.

**Helen Da Silva Wood**  
Chief Executive

**Mental Health**  
1:1 support  
Targetted group

**Young Parents**  
Weekly groups  
Home visits  
Advice & Info  
1:1 support

**Learning**  
1:1 tuition  
English/Maths  
Next step support

**Development**  
Targetted group work  
Outreach  
Advice and Info

**2174**  
interventions

**1000hrs**  
mental health

**200**  
young people

**540hrs+**  
English/Maths

**37**  
volunteers

**6**  
core staff



# Mental Health & Wellbeing

Over the last year, many people struggled to find ways of coping with a wide range of emotions sparked by the changes the pandemic brought to all our lives. From fear to frustration, anger to sadness, people of all ages have been affected and we have seen yet more increases in young people struggling with anxiety, self-harm and/or eating disorders.

Despite the challenges of providing emotional support over the phone, the team have been there constantly for young people. They have carried out some excellent work with both existing clients and others who were seeking help for the first time.

Over the year we introduced “DINKITs” for those young people at risk who are unlikely to ask for help. These ‘dropping in and keeping in touch’ (DINKIT) phone calls which had no formal agenda or expectation about engagement were well-received by young people. They reminded them that people cared and that there was someone to turn to in times of need and led to follow-up targeted work.

After many Covid-related delays we were able to start our pilot project for the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service. This involved working with a small group of young people struggling with extreme anxiety and the Dorset Mental Health Forum. Together they co-produced a programme of work which was extremely successful for the young people involved. The group produced the content for an informative booklet to give professionals insight into the life experience of young people who struggle with anxiety.

**Lead:** Jemma Turner

**Team:** Sarah Childs, Sam Dawes (Lucy Catley-Dyson starts September 2021)

**Key themes:** anxiety, stress, eating, disorders, social isolation, self-esteem, relationships

**Referral:** self-referral, schools, GPs and CAMHs, parents, social care

**Hours pa:** 1000+ hrs **Young people:** 135+

**Future plans:** Increase staff for 1:1 support, continue Discovery Project

## Ben | Age 19



**The situation** | Ben is autistic and didn't fit in. He had a miserable time at school and had no friends. His parents had gone through a messy divorce and four years later he was still angry. He clashed constantly with his younger brother to whom he directed his anger and frustration.

**What happened next** | Ben worked with Jemma for four months to understand his emotions and the cause of his anger and frustration and find healthier ways of managing them.

**The difference it made** | Ben says that “it's made a massive difference to me having you to talk to every week.” He's found a full-time job and is beginning to find his place in the world. He is developing a social life around work and is much happier than he was. Fights with his brother are now few and far between. He now meets Jemma fortnightly rather than weekly and will soon be confident enough to stop completely.



# Young Parents & Advice & Information

Becoming a new parent in normal times can be hard and becoming a parent during a global pandemic even more so. Over the year we have helped young families deal with the broad ranging effects of Covid-19. Keeping people connected has been essential for those struggling with isolation and in addition to working by phone, we strived to keep the community active online. Money and relationships were key areas of concern, with several young families suddenly losing jobs before the furlough system was introduced. There were also unusual situations to deal with, such as the new mum who was unable to access the money she needed to feed her family. The registry office was shut and she couldn't register her new-born baby, without which Universal Credit could not be accessed. (Happily, the situation was resolved.)

The children too missed out on opportunities to play and learn to socialise with others. Being 'stuck at home alone' can be tough, so it was a great relief when the groups were able to meet up again – initially outside but eventually indoors, although social distancing with active toddlers proved tricky at times.

The project continues to thrive and we anticipate a busy year ahead.

**Lead:** Sarah Childs

**Volunteers:** Bekah Witt-Tower, Helen Southall

**Key themes:** Isolation, relationships, housing, benefits, budgeting

**Referral routes:** Self-referral, health visitors

**Young parents:** 53

**Advice and information:** 239 sessions

**Thanks to:** Health Visitor teams, Riversmeet Leisure Centre, the Foodbanks, Ali Berry and House Group

**Future plans:** Introduce Young Volunteers/Mentors



## Hannah | Age 21



**The situation** | Hannah and her partner struggled with their mental health during lockdown. They were living in a small flat with a tiny baby and tensions grew. This resulted in a domestic violence incident at which point social care became involved.

**What happened next** | We were asked by social care to provide opportunities for Hannah and the baby to get out of the house, making them a priority family at a time when group numbers for indoor support sessions were heavily restricted. After some initial reluctance, Hannah came to the group with a friend.

**The difference it made** | Hannah was supported to leave the unhealthy relationship and is now living safely with her baby. She engages well with the team and through the group sessions she has developed a number of strong friendships with other young mums her age. She is less isolated and social care are no longer involved.



# Learning

Our learners have had a tough and frustrating year. As they are not registered in formal education, they did not qualify for teacher assessment but could not sit exams because of lockdowns. Keeping them engaged until this could happen was paramount.

Behind the scenes things were not much easier. The exam situation was exacerbated by the need to switch to an affordable exam board who were committed to delivering exams on demand (in this case Pearsons). However, before we could offer exams we first had to prepare for, and learn about, teaching online. We needed laptops to lend to our learners and a huge thanks go to our secret 'Fairy Godmother', the Somerset Community Foundation and the Sherborne Masons for their help with this. We had to; develop new policies and procedures for working online, recruit and induct new tutors, develop training to help them teach in an online world and reorganise the centre so that we would be ready to safely deliver face-to-face sessions when the guidance changed.

We couldn't have done this without the help of volunteer Hugh Griffiths and the willingness of our volunteers to join us on our own 'learning journey'. In addition to this we also managed to set up a small satellite project in Yeovil, led by Faye Dimdore which is continuing to grow.

We are extremely proud of everything that our learners, volunteer tutors and the small staff team achieved in such difficult circumstances. We will continue to play 'catch up' for some time, but the hard work has been done and we are ready to welcome more new learners and volunteer tutors both online and in person in the coming year.

## Lead: Julie Bartle

**Tutors:** 30+

**Young people:** 22

**Learning sessions:** 500+ sessions

**Locations:** Sherborne, Yeovil, online

**Future plans:** Improve learning administration and develop our volunteer-led employability project, 'The Future is Yours'.



## Case Study: Heba | Age 23



**The situation:** Heba comes from Syria. A bright young woman, she arrived as a refugee with limited English language skills but lots of determination. She was introduced to the Rendezvous by a local charity helping to settle her family into the area.

**What happened next:** Heba signed up for English and Maths tuition. She worked well with Judy and Hugh Griffiths, improving her English with Judy and refreshing her maths knowledge with Hugh.

**The difference it made:** Heba is now one step away from university. She has passed both Level 2 qualifications and has a place on an access course at Yeovil College to enable her to go on to study at university.



## Youth Work | Outreach

The pandemic brought a swift end to our regular open-access, drop-in sessions in Sherborne. However, we continued to deliver outreach sessions in both Gillingham and Sherborne whenever we could and we remain grateful to Gillingham Town Council (Gillingham project funders) for their continued support and understanding.

Outreach sessions helped us to stay in touch with many familiar faces as well as get to know some new ones too. They led to some good pieces of follow-up work and are informing plans for the autumn when we hope life will be more predictable. A real highlight of the work in Gillingham was working with young people and film-maker, Marianne King to produce the short film, "Covid & Me" exploring the impact the pandemic was having on young people. It was funded by Dorset Council and can be seen on our website.

Covid also caused a delayed start for our new outreach project in Shaftesbury. Funded by the Toby's of Shaftesbury Fund we are delighted that the project is now up and running.

**Future plans:** introduce targeted group work sessions feeding into/from outreach

**Gillingham Outreach:** Lou Donovan and Bekah Tower-Winter

**Sherborne Outreach:** Jemma Turner, Sam Dawes

**Shaftesbury Outreach:** Rebecca Jobling, Zoe Matthews



“ I first met the Rendezvous team when I was out with my friends in Gillingham on a Thursday evening and got chatting to them. I told them that I was a young volunteer at the Youth Club and how much I enjoyed it. I was really flattered when they tracked me down through Karen and Tony at Youth Club and asked if I would get involved with the film project. I most definitely wasn't expecting to end up presenting it!

It was around the time when we were locked down, but the restrictions had slightly eased allowing people to go out a bit and so I went with them onto the streets of Gillingham to find out about young people's views towards Covid-19. We developed some questions and were interested at the range of things that some young people had said. Most interestingly all the young people had different views which made making the film great fun.

Some young people were really excited to see the final result of the film. I am proud to say that all the young people and myself are pleased with the final result and with all of the positive feedback from the community.

Since then I've been involved in another film production that the council are funding. It's to promote the new orienteering trail in Gillingham. The council really seem to support young people in Gillingham. The [now ex-] mayor, Barry Von Clemens, kindly allowed me to interview him and he has a really positive attitude about young people and the future for Gillingham.

Filming has really helped me see the true potential in the young people of Gillingham. I'm still volunteering for the Rendezvous – I love the team and we work incredibly well together. I would love to get involved with more filming and then after that, who knows...

Alisha, Young Volunteer Gillingham



# Volunteers

Our volunteers are amazing. We are pleased that throughout the year we have continued to attract a wide range of new volunteers from retired head teachers to ex-Rendezvous service-users who are keen to give back. Our success in recruiting new volunteers is in part the result of Faye Dimdore's hard work. Faye has been responsible for setting up the Yeovil satellite learning hub and her good work promoting volunteering opportunities means we have attracted more tutors than we could have hoped for. This means that despite losing several volunteers at the start of the pandemic for health reasons we ended the year with an active group of 37.

However, the rapid influx of new volunteers posed some administrative challenges. Each volunteer goes through a thorough 'Safer Recruitment' and induction process including safeguarding checks which proved challenging given that there were restrictions on movement and people were working remotely. But, thanks to the tenacity of Julie Bartle, our programme lead, and the patience and understanding of our volunteers we managed.

+

Whilst most of our volunteers take on tutoring roles, those working behind the scenes have again proved invaluable and special mention must go to Helen Devonshire and Debbie Webber for the work they have done promoting employment opportunities and helping young people move towards work. The data wizardry of Paul Whybrew has also proved an invaluable asset to the organisation

## Volunteering manager: Julie Bartle

**Volunteers:** 35+ volunteers

**Tutor hours:** 600hrs+ tuition

**Future plans:** Continue to improve processes and build on the camaraderie and peer support within the volunteer group to develop further opportunities for young people

“

I tutor one-to-one English and my husband Hugh tutors one-to-one maths. We both joined the Rendezvous in 2016.

I initially joined as a mentor, then that developed into tutoring when a young person came along and said he needed his English so he could go to university. I thought I could help him and even though English isn't my subject I felt I could do this.

It's been a complete joy for me seeing the young person achieve – the same joy as I had for teaching. It has honestly been the highlight of my week especially during Covid.

”

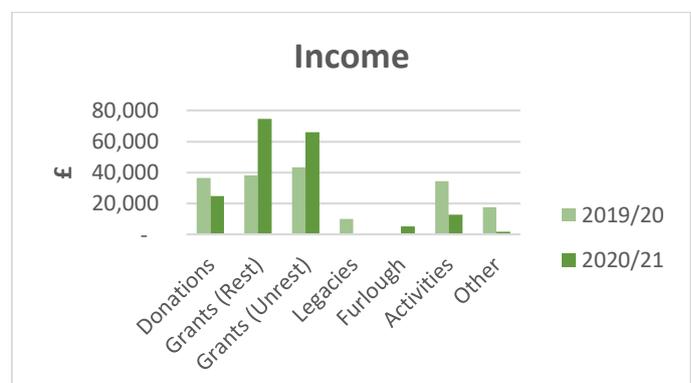
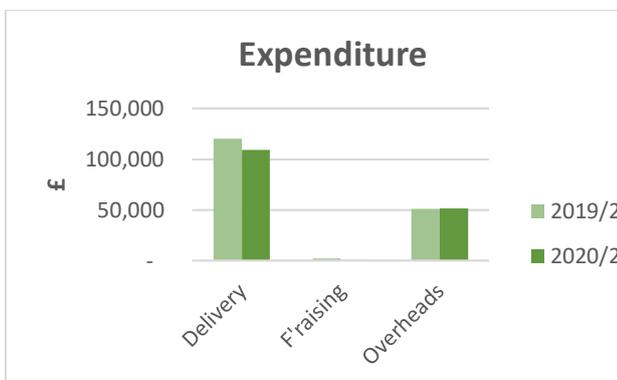
Judy Griffiths, Volunteer



# Funding

The charity ended the year in a stronger position than originally expected. In March 2020 the pandemic caused the cancellation of all fundraising activities resulting in an overnight loss of over £50,000 for 2020-2021. The Board then agreed that unrestricted reserves would be used to make up the shortfall. Thanks to emergency funding provided by The National Lottery this did not prove necessary. However, as grant funding is becoming more difficult to secure in the future and community fundraising continues to be limited, the Board have agreed to use reserves to help plug the expected funding gap over the next three years.

We are, as always, extremely grateful for the confidence shown in us by those trusts, organisations and individuals who have continued to support the charity at a time when the situation was uncertain. We are grateful to the Friends of the Rendezvous who continue to make regular donations throughout the year and are sorry that the pandemic brought an end to the regular coffee mornings, run by Bob Eccleshall, which provided such a useful community function as well as raising funds. As the pandemic wanes we hope to be able to restart the Friends' events and activities in the community and look forward to re-establishing some financial stability.



As always we remain grateful to all those who support us including:

## Trusts & Foundations

Alice Ellen Cooper Dean  
Charitable Foundation  
BBC Children in Need  
Corton Hill Trust  
Dorset Community Foundation  
Elizabeth & Prince Zaiger Trust  
European Social Fund  
Friends of the Yeatman Hospital  
Garfield Weston Foundation  
Gladys Watson Trust  
Holbeche Corfield Charitable Trust  
The National Lottery  
SC & ME Morland  
Somerset Community Foundation  
Valentine Trust

## Local groups & Organisations

Charlton Horethorne Church  
Friends of the Rendezvous  
Milborne Port Parish Council  
Poyntington All Saints Church  
Sherborne Parish Faith in Action  
Committee  
St Andrew's Church, Leigh

## Business

Lodestone Property  
Troy AML  
White Stuff

**Statutory:** Dorset Council, Gillingham Town Council, European Social Fund



# Stories of anxiety and isolation

## Coral's story | Age 17

**The situation** | “My anxiety was so bad that I didn't want to go to school, ever! My mum used to make me go in and we would argue a lot. Instead of lessons I would go to the bathroom, lock myself in the toilet and have a full meltdown. Since leaving school it's better, less stressful and my relationship with my mum is better. But I don't follow the normal path of learning as people my age. What would have helped me was being really listened to and taken seriously. I told people I was struggling, and I asked for ways to accommodate my anxiety, but these weren't put into place or were done too late. I felt I was asking for help, but the adults had no idea how to help. Everything took so long - before me and my mum knew it several years had passed, I had withdrawn from school, and nothing had changed, it had only got worse”\*

**What happened next** | Coral's mum brought her to the Rendezvous for English and Maths tuition. Coral's confidence grew as she worked with her tutor and began to succeed. She had one-to-one sessions and after a lot persuasion she joined the Discovery Project pilot with three other young people who were also struggling with anxiety.

**The difference it made** | Coral is thriving. She has passed her English and Maths exams, has met up with her Discovery friends and is hoping to go to college in the autumn.

\*Quoted from: the Rendezvous/Dorset Mental Health Forum "Discovery Project" booklet

## Toby's story | Age 14

**The situation** | Toby's home environment was difficult. Both his parents struggled with poor mental health. He started missing school and rarely left the house becoming increasingly anxious and socially isolated.

**What happened next** | Toby's Doctor suggested he come to the Rendezvous for support. Over three months we worked to build up his self-esteem and reduce his anxiety.

**The difference it made** | Toby began to attend school more regularly and in turn became less isolated. He is now at the point of feeling able to meet up with friends out of school. He won't be needing us for much longer – and that can only be a good thing.

“

I just wanted to say what a privilege it is to work alongside the Rendezvous. Your team are highly skilled in engaging with young people and have been really open to co-producing with our peer specialists and the young people you are supporting. This really puts young people's voice at the heart of their experience.

**Lead for Recovery and Social Inclusion  
Mental Health Directorate  
Dorset Health Care**



”

# Trustees & Staff (as of September 2021)

## Board of Trustees

**Chair:** Stephen Uden  
**Vice Chair:** Linda Bygrave  
**Treasurer:** Sue Prescott  
**Learning:** Carol Johnson  
**Young People:** Martin Singer  
**Marketing:** Julie Warren  
**Secretary:** *Ingrid Uden*

## Friends of the Rendezvous

**Chair:** TBC

## Staff Team

**Chief Executive:** Helen Da Silva Wood  
**Finance:** Jo Lowndes  
**Centre/Learning Admin:** Andrea Airey  
**Mental Health:** Jemma Turner  
**Young Parents, A & I:** Sarah Childs  
**Learning & Volunteers:** Julie Bartle

## Sessional Staff

**Emotional Support Worker:** Sam Dawes, Lucy Catley-Dyson  
**Gillingham Outreach / Special Projects:** Lou Donovan, Bekah Witt-Tower, Alisha Hill  
**Shaftesbury Outreach:** Rebecca Jobling, Zoe Matthews  
**Support worker:** Josh Terzi

## Organisations we work with or have close links to:

### Statutory services

CASH – Contraception & Sexual Health Service  
Children & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)  
Dorset Youth Offending Team  
Sherborne & Gillingham Health Visitor Teams  
Sherborne & Gillingham Police  
North Dorset Local Alliance

### Councils

Dorset Council  
Gillingham Town Council  
Sherborne Town Council

### Other

**Sherborne:** Cheap St United Reform & Methodist Church | **Gillingham:** Riversmeet Leisure Centre; Gillingham Youth Partnership | **Yeovil:** Methodist Church, The Samaritans

### Third sector

Dorset Mental Health Forum  
Dorset Youth Association  
Dorset Community Association  
Future Roots (Rylands Farm)  
Gillingham Foodbank  
Gillingham Youth Centre  
Sherborne Foodbank  
Somerset Community Association (SPARKS)

### Schools

Gryphon School, Harbour Vale School; Sherborne Areas Schools Trust (SAST)  
Sherborne Primary School  
Gillingham School



## Leah's story



**My situation** | I felt broken. Everything was too much. I had an eating disorder. I saw CAMHS and ended up in a specialist unit. This meant I didn't go to school and I started to lose touch with my friends. When I came out of the unit I couldn't cope with going back to school and so stayed home and had nothing to do which made things difficult with my parents and there were lots of arguments.

**What happened next** | My mum was told about the Rendezvous by the Doctor. She arranged for me to see Jemma. I didn't want to at first but my mum made me go and waited outside for me. It was much better than I thought it would be. She really listened to what I had to say and it didn't feel like talking to a doctor or a psychiatrist. I started seeing her every week and we talked about all sorts of things.

That was last summer and we could meet face-to-face. Since then we've done a mix of face-to-face sessions and also some on the phone. She helped me find different ways of coping with my parents, to stop me blowing up at them all the time.

**The difference it made** | Jemma's really helped me feel better about myself and made me think about my future. I've decided I want to go to college so she's helped me sign up to do my English and Maths at the Rendezvous because I'm going to need those to be accepted. Things feel much better now and things are much calmer at home – we don't shout at each other all the time. I lost quite a lot of time but I know where I'm going and I only see Jemma once a month now but I know I can always call her if things get bad - and that's good.



### Our snapshot surveys regularly reveal that...

- 84%** say their relationships have improved
- 85%** say their self-confidence/self-esteem has grown
- 95%** say they can cope better with problems
- 90%** say they make better choices some or all of the time
- 100%** say they would recommend the Rendezvous to others

# Accounts

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
<b>Incoming resources</b>				
Donations, grants & legacies	92,686	77,992	170,678	128,192
Charitable activities	8,064	4,858	12,922	34,495
Other fundraising activities	1,097	-	1,097	17,022
Investment income	655	-	655	633
	<u>102,502</u>	<u>82,850</u>	<u>185,352</u>	<u>180,342</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>				
Charitable activities	53,436	56,031	109,467	120,411
Other fundraising activities	81	-	81	2,111
Premises & administration	30,802	21,021	51,823	51,082
	<u>84,319</u>	<u>77,052</u>	<u>161,371</u>	<u>173,604</u>
Net movement in funds	18,183	5,798	23,981	6,738
Total funds brought forward	<u>139,819</u>	<u>17,504</u>	<u>157,323</u>	<u>150,585</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>158,002</u>	<u>23,302</u>	<u>181,304</u>	<u>157,323</u>

## Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Tangible assets	<u>1,538</u>	<u>2,789</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors	12,433	4,577
Stock	-	66
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>179,258</u>	<u>159,543</u>
	191,691	164,186
<b>CREDITORS</b>		
Amounts falling due within one year	<u>11,925</u>	<u>9,652</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>179,766</u>	<u>157,323</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>181,304</u>	<u>157,323</u>
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>		
Unrestricted funds	158,002	139,819
Restricted funds	<u>23,302</u>	<u>17,504</u>
	<u>181,304</u>	<u>157,323</u>

Note: Of our unrestricted reserves, the Board of Trustees have designated £75,000 as six months contingency operating reserves and the remaining £83,000 to provide continuity of service over the next three years whilst the funding situation settles after the pandemic.

# Governance

## Legal Status

- We are a Company limited by guarantee and registered under the Companies Act 2006. The Company Registration Number is 07592624.
- We are a Charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The Charity Registration Number is 1162722.
- We are governed by our Articles of Association, which outline our objectives and powers.
- The Directors of the company are responsible to the Members.
- The Directors are also Charity Trustees as defined by the Charities Act 2011.

## Trustees

- The Trustees meet six times a year and are responsible for formulating the strategy and policies for the charity as a whole.
- During the year there were nine trustees with a range of skills which are related to the aims and work of the charity. The ideal number of trustees is considered to be between seven and ten with a broad mix of business, educational and youth work skills. We are currently recruiting.
- Potential trustees are assessed by the Nominations Committee and approved by the full Board. All are asked to submit to a Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check. New trustees undertake a trustee induction programme to familiarise themselves with the charity.
- A Finance and General Purposes Committee (F&GPC) is under the chairmanship of the Treasurer.
- The Trustees review the major risks facing the charity on a regular basis, including the adequacy of financial reserves, the appropriateness of financial controls and the operational, reputational and business risks facing the charity. As far as possible the Trustees believe that appropriate measures have been taken to mitigate these risks.

# Making the difference – tools to thrive

The Rendezvous exists to help young people navigate their way towards adulthood. Our work makes tangible differences to young people's lives, helping them gain qualifications, find jobs and manage their money. But we also guide, encourage and support them to affect changes that are less easy to see and quantify - particularly regarding mental health and wellbeing.

These changes are not the final outcomes. They are indicators of likely success. We give young people the tools they need to grow into happy, healthy, resilient individuals. We help them find a reason to believe in themselves, to find a sense of purpose and the support they need to 'survive and thrive.'

Ultimately it is the young people themselves who do 'the real work' and it is the young people who need to be recognised and celebrated for their achievements both big and small.

## Giving young people the tools they need to thrive



### Help

- Finding accommodation
- Registering for Universal Credit
- Learning to budget and manage money
- Resolving problems with Universal Credit
- Knowing where to get help
- Sorting out debt problems
- Setting up payment plans
- Sexual health advice



### Support

- Greater emotional literacy
- Communication and social skills
- Less social isolation
- Help with anxiety
- Being safe, eg leaving a violent relationship
- Improving relationships
- Increased self-esteem
- Coping mechanisms to reduce self-harm
- Engaging/re-engaging with school



### Tuition

- Qualifications
- Jobs and apprenticeships
- Staying in school
- Gaining a college place



### Hope

- Planning for the future
- Self esteem
- Self confidence
- Believing in themselves



# therendezvous

works with young people to give them:



**Help** to resolve practical problems with housing, benefits, debt and employment.

**Tuition** to gain the qualifications they need to go to college, start an apprenticeship or find a job.



**Support** to improve their social, emotional wellbeing and mental health.

**Hope** for the future.

