

Rotherham Talking Newspaper

Registered Charity number: 512545

**Financial Statements for the period
ending 31 December 2024**



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**Rotherham Talking Newspaper
for the year ending 31 December 2024**

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Rotherham Talking Newspaper
Legal and administrative information
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Registered Charity number: 512545

Trustees

Lisa Astle - Chairperson
Sally Wilkinson - Vice Chair
Wendy Birch - Treasurer
Heather Lilleker - Secretary
Doreen Atkinson
Robert Wilkinson
John Binstead - Listener Representative

Administrative address

Rosehill Park Hall
Rosehill Victoria Park
Rawmarsh
Rotherham
S62 7HJ

Bankers

The Co-operative bank
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
S60 1SN

Accountant

Melvyn Revitt
Voluntary Action Rotherham
The Spectrum
Coke Hill
Rotherham
S60 2HX

Rotherham Talking Newspaper
Report of the Chair
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Report of the Chair

I would like to start by taking this opportunity to thank the trustees, staff and our lovely volunteers for acting tirelessly for the benefit of our charity, service and our listeners. I am proud of what we have achieved this year under challenging circumstances.

We started the year with the very real possibility that we might have to wind up the service as our finances were such that we only had enough to cover several months operating costs and salaries.

The Trustees agreed that we would have a fundraising drive with adverts in the local papers, and on social media making people aware of our situation. This was well received, and we received an influx of donations from listeners and people in the local area whose relatives had received our service in the past. It was heart-warming to see how much the local community values our service. This also led to an increase in our listener

Having applied to over forty grant funders, we were fortunate to receive a grant from the National Lottery and a grant from the Prevention and Early Intervention Grant Programme to Combat Social Isolation, we also received smaller grants from other funders, many of whom have supported us in the past. The outcome of all this fundraising was that our service could continue, and we could afford to give our staff a small but well deserved pay rise.

Yet again this year we have still been affected by delays with the post, this has been ongoing for the last year leading to delays with both the recordings being delivered to our listeners and delays with items being returned to us. The Talking News Federation had a meeting with Royal Mail as this is a countrywide problem experienced by many Talking Newspaper services. We are fortunate that grants from Morrisons Supermarket and Hillard's Trust have enabled us to buy extra pouches to help alleviate the impact on our service and ensure that it continues uninterrupted. The postal issues have improved slightly but we are still experiencing delays as are our listeners.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following grant funders who have ensured that our service could continue this year

YAPP.

National Lottery

Prevention and Early Fund

Morrisons Foundation

Souter Trust

Wakeham Trust

Inman Charity

Archer Trust

Mollie Croysdale

Hillard's Trust

And finally, a huge thank you to Rotherham Charity Cup for their unwavering support for our charity both this year and over the years. This support is greatly appreciated.

Additional thanks must be extended to our Trustees, staff and volunteers who have all worked tirelessly to keep the Talking Newspaper operational throughout the year.

We were delighted to welcome two new members Pip and Tony to the recording team in 2024 their input has made a big difference.

2024 has proved to be one of the most challenging years to date.

The rising cost of living & current economic situation, means that our service is needed more than ever to help reduce isolation, make people feel more involved with their community.

Lisa Astle, Chairperson,
Rotherham Talking Newspaper.

Rotherham Talking Newspaper
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

Rotherham Talking Newspaper is a registered charity and was first registered with the charity commission on 22 January 1982. The charity is operated under the rules of the constitution

Appointment of Trustees

The maximum number of charity trustees is 12.

Trustees are appointed at each Annual General Meeting and shall hold office for 12 months

Charitable Aims and Objectives

Provide support to visually impaired people or those people whose disability or incapacity prevents them reading local news and information, by the provision of audio recordings.

Main activities undertaken for public benefit

Rotherham Talking Newspaper produce a local newspaper, together with a magazine, which is sent out to listeners each week on memory sticks, tapes cassettes or CD's.

Rotherham Talking Newspaper's activity is in accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines.

Rotherham Talking Newspaper employs two part-time staff so the bulk of the work is carried out by volunteers.

Financial review

Rotherham Talking Newspaper has been fortunate to receive a number of grants during 2024. The grants have helped to cover all expenditure and general running expenses.

The income from our listeners generous donations and fundraising activities has allowed the charity to accumulate reserves.

Reserves Policy

At 31 December 2024 the charity held free reserves of £18,806 (2023 £9,010)

To be able to continue its work, Rotherham Talking Newspaper is reliant on donations, fundraising and grant awards.

The trustees declare that they have approved the above report:

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Signed:



Date: 27-10-2025

Name and position:

Wendy S Birch

TREASURER

**Independent examiners report to the trustees of
Rotherham Talking Newspaper
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Rotherham Talking Newspaper (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As charity trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').


I report in respect of my examination of RTN accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiners statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 27-10-2025

Melvyn Revitt
Community Accountancy
Voluntary Action Rotherham Ltd
The Spectrum, Coke Hill
Rotherham
S60 2HX

Rotherham Talking Newspaper
Receipts and Payments
for the year ended 31 December 2024

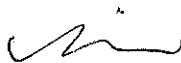
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£		£	£	
Incoming resources						
Charitable donations	720	-	720	93	-	93
Listeners donations	4,439	-	4,439	2,331	-	2,331
Friends of RTN donations	-	-	-	585	-	585
Bequests	3,421	-	3,421	400	-	400
Fundraising & events	-	-	-	165	-	165
Raffle sales	835	-	835	1,217	-	1,217
Gift aid	-	-	-	2,500	-	2,500
Grants & contracts	12,650	28,200	40,850	10,057	4,275	14,332
Miscellaneous income	-	-	-	36	-	36
Total incoming resources	<u>22,065</u>	<u>28,200</u>	<u>50,265</u>	<u>17,384</u>	<u>4,275</u>	<u>21,659</u>
Resources expended						
Cost of activities in furtherance of the charity's objects						
Wages/NI/admin	9,975	9,960	19,935	19,437	-	19,437
RMBC service charge	700	2,100	2,800	2,100	700	2,800
Equipment	166		166	1,618	507	2,124
Telephone & ICT	942	262	1,204	766	-	766
Insurance	517		517	524	-	524
Office expenses	849	1,260	2,109	382	921	1,302
Professional fees	300		300	300		300
Hardware repairs	84		84	295	620	915
Publicity	20	600	620	130	-	130
Payroll charges	190		190	123	-	123
CD/Tapes	-	997	997	-	50	50
Pouches & transport			-	-	-	-
Asset and investment purchase						
Purchase of Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expensed resources	<u>13,743</u>	<u>15,179</u>	<u>28,922</u>	<u>25,676</u>	<u>2,797</u>	<u>28,473</u>
Net income/(deficit) for the year	8,322	13,021	21,343	(8,292)	1,477	(6,814)
Funds brought forward	9,010	7,268	16,278	17,265	5,827	23,092
Transfer between funds	1,474	(1,474)	-	37	(37)	-
Funds carried forward	<u>3</u> <u>18,806</u>	<u>18,815</u>	<u>37,621</u>	<u>9,010</u>	<u>7,268</u>	<u>16,278</u>

**Rotherham Talking Newspaper
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	2024	2023
Cash funds	£	£
Current account	37,594	15,655
Cash in hand	27	623
Total Cash funds	37,621	16,278
Represented by funds		
Unrestricted funds		
General funds	18,806	9,010
Restricted Funds	18,815	7,268
Total Funds	37,621	16,278
Assets retained for charity's own use		
Erasing and copying equipment		
Computer/Printer		
Recording Equipment		

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Signed:



Date: 27/10/2025

Name and position:

WENDY S BIRCH
TREASURER.

Rotherham Talking Newspaper
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the charity during the financial year.

In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

Fund Accounting

The charity maintains an unrestricted fund which represents funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Unrestricted funds may arise from general donations, fundraising activities, grants of a general nature, fees for service provision and payment for service delivery contracts.

Restricted funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes and may only be spent for the purposes for which they were given. Any balance remaining outstanding on restricted fund at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on the fund, unless permission has been given by the funder to remove the restriction on the balance outstanding. Restricted funds will arise from grants and donations given to the charity for specific purposes.

2 Grants and contracts

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total 2023 £
The Yapp Charitable Trust	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000
Archer Trust	2,000	-	2,000	3,000	-	3,000
David/Barnby Hunt	-	-	-	1,057	-	1,057
Charity Cup	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	-	1,000
Lennox Hannay	-	-	-	1,000	-	1,000
Mr Watts	-	-	-	600	-	600
Marsh Charitable Trust	-	-	-	400	-	400
Harry Bottom Trust	-	-	-	-	2,800	2,800
Free Masons	-	-	-	-	1,475	1,475
Sheffield Hallam University	500	-	500	-	-	-
Morrisons Community	-	2,000	2,000	-	-	-
Wakeham Trust	-	750	750	-	-	-
National Lottery	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-
Souter Charitable Trust	3,000	-	3,000	-	-	-
The Inman Charity	1,750	-	1,750	-	-	-
Mollie Croysdale	400	-	400	-	-	-
Wickersley Funeral Care	-	450	450	-	-	-
RMBC/VAR Prevention Fund	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
Hillards Charitable Trust	1,000	-	1,000	-	-	-
	<u>12,650</u>	<u>28,200</u>	<u>40,850</u>	<u>10,057</u>	<u>4,275</u>	<u>14,332</u>

Rotherham Talking Newspaper
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 December 2024

3 Restricted funds

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Co-op Community Fund (Round 3)	2,176	-	997	-	1,179
Harry Bottom Trust	2,100	-	2,100	-	-
Free Masons	1,475	-	-	1,475	-
Co-op Community Fund (Round 2)	668	-	664	-	4
Rotherham Charity Cup	400	-	-	-	400
Tesco Covid Fund	375	-	-	-	375
The Scurrah Wainwright Charity	45	-	-	-	45
Souter Charitable Trust	27	-	-	-	27
Skipton Building Society	2	-	-	-	2
Morrison Community Fund	-	2,000	1,196	-	804
Wakeham Trust	-	750	-	-	750
National Lottery	-	20,000	6,752	-	13,248
RMBC/VAR Prevention Fund	-	5,000	3,469	-	1,531
Wickersley Funeral Care	-	450	-	-	450
Total Funds	<u>7,268</u>	<u>28,200</u>	<u>15,178</u>	<u>1,475</u>	<u>18,815</u>

4 Trustee payments, benefits and expenses

No trustee received any remuneration or expenses during the year (2023 none)

5 Accountancy services

During the period, the cost of accountancy services was £300 (2023: £300).