



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2023 - 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024



## Section A Reference and administration details

<b>Charity name:</b>	<b>Climbing for All Sheffield</b>
<b>Other names charity is known by:</b>	<b>CfAS</b>
<b>Registered charity number:</b>	<b>1166860</b>
<b>Charity's principal address:</b>	100 Marlcliffe Road Sheffield <b>Postcode: S6 4AG</b>

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates active if not for the whole year</b>
1	Nick Whittaker	Chair	
2	Ruby Whittaker		
3	George Smith		
4	Jenny Hands		
5	Clare Hands		
6	Ben Conway		
7	Robin Whittaker		
8	Hazel Whittaker		

Trustees Ruby Whittaker and Ben Conway are standing down from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024. We are grateful for their contributions, and we wish them well in their future endeavours.

Note: There are no other trustees.

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document:	<b>Constitution</b>
How the charity is constituted:	<b>Charitable Incorporated Organisation</b>
Trustee selection methods:	<b>Appointed by meeting of trustees</b>

## **Additional information**

The charity runs climbing sessions at The Foundry Climbing Centre, Sheffield. Sessions are supervised by qualified and experienced climbing instructors. The centre's procedures are followed, including safety procedures for climbing, and recording of parent/guardian consent for children and for adults under guardianship.

## **Section C Objectives and activities**

### **Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

*THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS THE PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN HEALTHY RECREATION, IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR PARTICIPATING IN CLIMBING ACTIVITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SHEFFIELD AND SURROUNDING AREAS.*

### **In more detail, the objects of the charity are:**

1. To provide opportunities for children, young people and adults with a wide range of disabilities to access and enjoy rock climbing and mountaineering and be visible and included in the climbing community in Sheffield.
2. To increase levels of participation of children, young people and adults with a wide range of disabilities in rock climbing and mountaineering, in order to:
  - Improve their physical development, health and wellbeing;
  - Improve their self-image and self-esteem; and
  - Develop their confidence and ability to communicate and interact with other people.
3. To develop a strong and sustainable network of instructors with the qualifications, skills and experience needed to confidently help children, young people and adults with a wide range of disabilities to access and enjoy rock climbing and mountaineering.

### **Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects**

Trustees acted throughout the period to provide public benefit:

**PROMOTING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN HEALTHY RECREATION, IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR PARTICIPATING IN CLIMBING ACTIVITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SHEFFIELD AND SURROUNDING AREAS.**

Operating at The Foundry Climbing Centre, the charity enables disabled climbers to be visible and included in the climbing community in Sheffield. Involvement of volunteers from the climbing community, and development of experience amongst volunteers and instructors, promotes climbing as an inclusive activity for children, young people and adults with disabilities.

The climbing club ran regular sessions through 9 months of the 12-month period, with small groups of climbers assisted by volunteers. Diverse sessions catered for different climbers' needs and aspirations, some sessions with more climbers and more social aspects, others with greater technical support from volunteers, some individually focused, but all aimed at what is important to each climber.

In its eighth year of operation, Climbing for All Sheffield held more climbing sessions than ever, and further developed our approach to sessions to meet the needs and aspirations of disabled climbers even more.



## Additional details of objectives and activities

Volunteers are essential to the operation of climbing activities. Many of the charity's climbers require the assistance of one or two side-climbers, with belayers for the climber and side-climber(s) and assistive ropes. Whilst instructors are employed by The Foundry and are paid, volunteers are unpaid, keeping the cost of sessions affordable.

Friendly interactions with volunteers make climbing sessions fun for many climbers, while the involvement of most volunteers in various aspects of climbing is a major contributor to the visibility of disabled climbers in the climbing community. For the second consecutive year, the charity provided placements for a small cohort of medical students. Apart from the obvious societal benefit of increasing future doctors' awareness of disabled people, the placements further the charity's aim to promote inclusive climbing in the wider community.

## Section D Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Following our first General Meeting in June 2023, reported last year, a wider group of volunteers became involved in the planning and organisation of climbing sessions. We believed we could go further in developing our approach to delivering "what matters" to each of our climbers.

Several meetings were held in social venues near the Foundry to develop the approach. In September 2023, we asked our existing climbers to re-register with us, and to let us know how and when to contact them to discuss "what matters" to them in climbing. A small group of volunteers phoned, met or emailed the climbers, and we planned sessions and short-term goals for climbers based on these discussions.

From November through the remainder of the year, we ran weekly or fortnightly club sessions during school term-times, as follows:

- **Buddy Thursday!** A busy evening session, with teen and adult climbers upskilling their climbing.
- **Climb Friday!** Morning and afternoon sessions for small groups of mainly adults and young adults, with plenty of volunteer assistance, focused on individual goals. From April, we also added a third bespoke group session for some young wheelchair users from Paces school.
- **Send Saturday!** Two or three sessions, small and larger groups of mainly children, young people and young adults to work on individual goals.

Through the year, we ran a total of 112 club sessions, with typically 3-6 climbers at each, plus some 1:1 sessions for new climbers or climbers preferring very quiet surroundings. This exceeds last year's total of 91 sessions and is our highest annual number of sessions to date.

Around 36 climbers climbed at club sessions during the year, and 31 volunteers helped at sessions, including 3 of the charity's trustees and placement students inducted into volunteering.

The trustees are very pleased that both children and adults are represented at the club, with a variety of physical, cognitive and sensory impairments and/or neurodivergent conditions such as autism. The club has provided opportunities for families to climb together, with non-disabled siblings or children getting an opportunity to climb alongside disabled family members.

7 new climbers registered with the charity to try climbing. This is fewer than last year's 15 new climbers, partly because climbers were signposted to other opportunities, and partly because of the difficulty in fitting in individualised "taster" sessions where needed. We had a high sign-up of returning climbers and good attendance at sessions, so there were less gaps we could fill with new climbers.

Although CfAS could not meet all the demand for climbing, some new climbers or groups with additional support needs were referred to the Foundry Climbing Centre, a number of whose instructors have developed inclusive climbing experience through working with CfAS. We have also taught some parents and carers how to belay, meaning that climbers are less reliant on the charity for climbing sessions.

Some CfAS climbers have been helped to find new opportunities with other organisations. In particular, a relationship with Eyam-based charity, Climb, which offers outdoor climbing, was forged.

8 new volunteers were registered and inducted, including the 4 placement students, who became fully involved in assisting at sessions. The placement students were a cohort from The University of Sheffield Medical School, all of them climbers in their spare time. Some volunteers undertook accredited courses, such as 'Climbing Wall Assistant', developing not just their personal skills and their role with Climbing for All Sheffield, but the integration between accessible and mainstream climbing.

The charity maintained a social media presence on Facebook, posting photographs and sharing climbing experiences with permission on its Facebook page. We updated our website: with a new look we also improved accessibility for visually impaired visitors amongst others; we flagged our ability to accept donations not just via bank transfer but also via PayPal; we posted some up-to-date photographs and news stories.

## **Section E      Financial review**

### **Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

At end of FY (July 2024) unrestricted funds stood at £20,355, an increase of £4,087 over the year. Annual expenditure was £8,246, of which the largest part was on instructor costs, and the remainder on equipment purchase. The ratio of reserves to annual expenditure was therefore considerably greater than 100%, and the charity is financially secure.

Policy on reserves will be reviewed alongside operational planning and financial review.

### **Details of any funds materially in deficit**

None.

### **Further financial review details**

The attached financial report sets out key income and expenditure headlines.

As with last year, the biggest element of income was from providing student placements, totalling £10,192. This was slightly less than last year because we took on four rather than five students. Our own instructors and volunteers devoted time to coaching and working with the students, so there were no separate monetary costs.

Income from sessions was £1,126. We remain committed to providing climbing opportunities to all, regardless of their ability to pay, and non-subsidised pricing would be prohibitive to many CfAS climbers. Many climbers do pay the suggested contribution of £7.50 per session, and some pay more.

Income from donations was £1,015. We gratefully acknowledge the significant donation from Core Climbing, Sheffield-based climbing holds manufacturer, and extend thanks to our other benefactors too.

The biggest element of expenditure was £4,658, for hire of Foundry instructors at our climbing sessions. This was higher than last year because we ran many more sessions, as outlined above.



Our equipment costs, at £3,588, were also higher than last year because we needed to retire and replace some equipment, as well as investing in additional specialist equipment to support our climbers. Note that equipment items are not listed as assets because monetary transfer of equipment would not be feasible.



## Section F Other optional information

The trustees are proud of the charity's success to date and consider it to be their duty and privilege to further expand climbing opportunities, enjoyment and inclusion for the disabled community.

## Section G Declaration

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

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

Signature(s):		
Full name(s):	Nicholas Whittaker	JENNY HANDS
Position:	Trustee	Trustee
Date:	16/5/25	16/5/25



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name <b>Climbing for All Sheffield</b>	No (if any) <b>1166860</b>
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## Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date <b>01-Aug-23</b>	To	Period end date <b>31-Jul-24</b>
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Session payments from climbers	1,126	-	-	1,126	858
Community - placement students	10,192	-	-	10,192	12,740
Events income	-	-	-	-	-
Merchandise sales	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising & donations	1,015	-	-	1,015	818
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>12,333</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,333</b>	<b>14,416</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>12,333</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,333</b>	<b>14,416</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Session costs (instructors)	4,658	-	-	4,658	2,164
Support of work in community	-	-	-	-	1,146
Events costs	-	-	-	-	85
Merchandise	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment purchase	3,588	-	-	3,588	482
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>8,246</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,246</b>	<b>3,877</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>8,246</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,246</b>	<b>3,877</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>4,087</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,087</b>	<b>10,539</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,268</b>	<b>5,729</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>20,355</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,355</b>	<b>16,268</b>

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

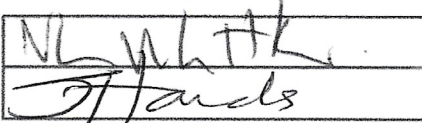
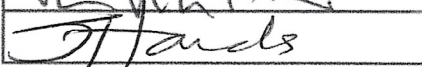
	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Nicholas Whittaker	16/05/2025
	J. HANDS	16/5/2025