



**PARTY KIT**  
★ NETWORK ★

# **Impact Report**

## **2022 - 2023**

Party Kit Network CIC | [partykitnetwork.org](http://partykitnetwork.org) | [@partykitnetwork](https://www.instagram.com/partykitnetwork)  
Registered in England & Wales: 12733258

# Contents

## About Us

Page 3

## Our Impact

Page 6

## Our Members

Page 8

## Our Income & Spend

Page 10



# About Us

**The Party Kit Network CIC is a social enterprise committed to making reusable tableware an accessible and practical eco-friendly alternative to disposables.**

Part of the emerging sharing economy, party kits are locally-run boxes of reusable tableware and decorations. A party kit is lent within the community for events and returned to be used again.

Each party kit is owned and operated independently, but we come together to help promote the concept and support each other.

The Party Kit Network CIC (Registered in England & Wales 12733258) is a non-profit social enterprise committed to making reusable tableware an accessible and practical eco-friendly alternative to disposables.

Through the hire of our party kits we have collectively avoided over **686,000 single-use items from landfill.**



**"It's everything a zero waste initiative should be - practical, economical and joyful."**



# The Problem



It's the 1980s and, like many parties of the time, this one was full of Care Bears. As guests delved into their party bags used tableware was binned, destined for landfill.

Not much has changed - disposable tableware is just as prevalent at parties. Difficult to recycle, these items can take years to breakdown. The plastic tableware from that party will still be in a landfill today.

Switching to reusables offers the most sustainable solution to our waste crisis. If used at least 10 times<sup>(1)</sup>, a reusable plastic cup has a lower environmental impact than a disposable one. And as part of a party kit, cups will get used many many times more.



**1.1 billion** single-use plates used in the UK each year<sup>(2)</sup>



**32 million** trees are used globally to make paper cups<sup>(3)</sup>



**only 10%** single-use plastic tableware is recycled<sup>(2)</sup>



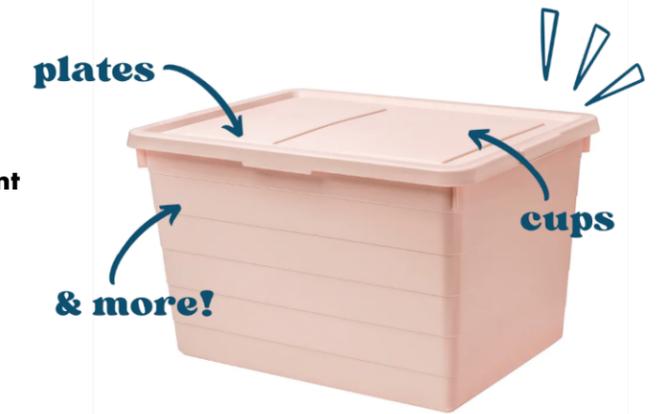
**450 years** time a plastic cup takes to breakdown<sup>(4)</sup>

(1) Garrido and Alvarez del Castillo (2007)  
 (2) DEFRA Consultation on proposals to ban commonly littered single items in England (2021)  
 (3) Environmental Paper Network (2016)  
 (4) WWF Australia

# Benefit of Party Kits

Party kits offer an easy and convenient way to switch to reusables.

Borrowing a party kit is good for the party host, the local community and the planet.



**Protect Resources**  
 Reduce demand for new materials and water by sharing and reusing.



**Banish Soggy Plates**  
 Get a better quality product without the need for ongoing storage space.



**Keep It Local**  
 Support local businesses and community fundraisers.



**Planet Friendly**  
 Local sharing is an easy way to reduce your carbon footprint.



**Waste Busting**  
 Avoid the waste of 100+ single-use items per party.



**Convenient**  
 Save time with everything you need in one box.



**Budget Friendly**  
 It's often cheaper to hire a basic kit than the equivalent disposables.



**Circular Economy**  
 We take responsibility for end-of-life and stop litter.



"Sharing, reusing, connecting what we already have with our neighbours makes the Party Kit Network a truly eco-friendly alternative."

Erin Rhoads (@therogueginger)  
 Zero waste campaigner & author

# 290,506

single-use items avoided  
by the hire of party kits



624

Network members  
on the map



468

downloads of  
'Get Started' Guide



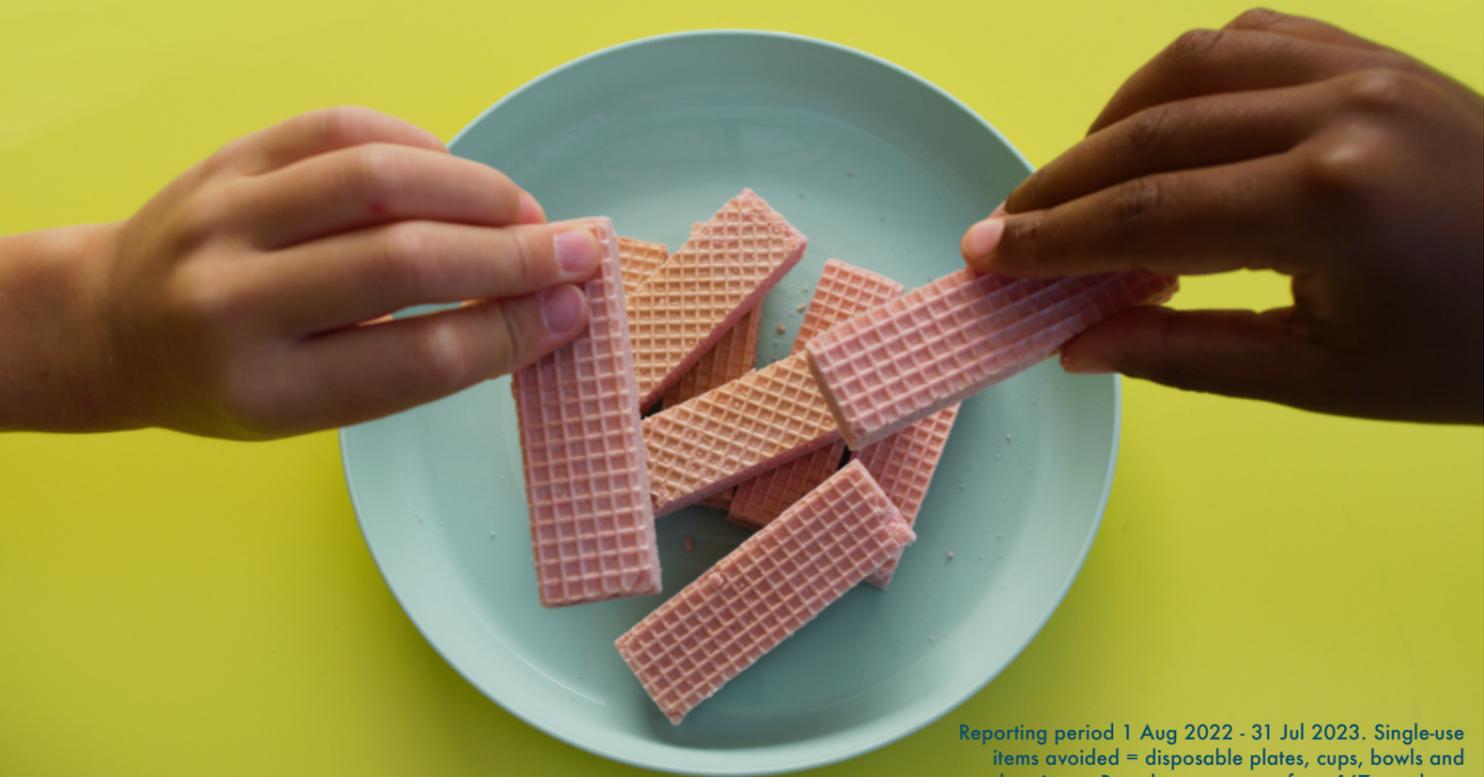
+142

new Network  
members added



1,352

hire enquiries  
facilitated



Reporting period 1 Aug 2022 - 31 Jul 2023. Single-use items avoided = disposable plates, cups, bowls and cutlery items. Based on responses from 167 members.

## Founder's Message

**This year our map has grown - each pin representing someone helping their community take action against waste. It has been a year of milestones; we welcomed our 400<sup>th</sup> member in the UK, our 100<sup>th</sup> member in Australia, and have now celebrated over 600 active members worldwide.**

There's been a growing interest in party kits from North America adding more pins to our map. In response, I have joined the US-based *Reuse Solutions Network* hosted by Upstream. It has been inspiring to see what communities across the US are doing to make reuse more accessible.

The awareness of the wider sharing economy continues to grow with party kits offering just one of many things you can now borrow instead of buy. The benefits of borrowing are closely linked our sense of community and offer an opportunity to save people money. This makes sharing about more than just reducing our impact on the planet and hopefully on it's way to becoming more mainstream.

This year has seen more governments take action against waste from single-use plastic tableware. England and Wales have announced new bans coming in October 2023. In Australia ACT, NSW, SA and VIC have all banned a range of single-use items. This means that impact of party kits has never been more relevant.

Personally, I was proud to be awarded a funded place on the School for Social Entrepreneurs *Accelerating Women's*

*Enterprise* course and to be accepted to the *Inspired Women Lead* global mentoring programme. I was also shortlisted in the Digital Women for Good category for the *Digital Women Awards 2023*.

Thank you to our board members and to Erin Rhoads, Amanda Hepburn, Michelle Nitz (HoneyStone Accounting). Each have donated their time and expertise to support me.

And huge thank you to all of our members for joining me in making reusables an accessible alternative to single-use tableware.

**Isabel Mack**  
Founder



# Our Members



Without our members the Network simply wouldn't exist. While the set up of each party kit is unique, all are united in a desire to have a positive impact for the environment and supporting more people to choose reuse.

The benefit of party kits doesn't end with the reduction in waste; many party kits fundraise for school PTAs, local causes and environmental charities.



"It's wonderful being able to call on this group for advice and encouragement. Also great for getting a snapshot on how it's going for others around the world too. In New Zealand this is a relatively new concept so it's great to have experienced folk to be inspired by."

Sherie Hinga (The Party Godmother, New Zealand)

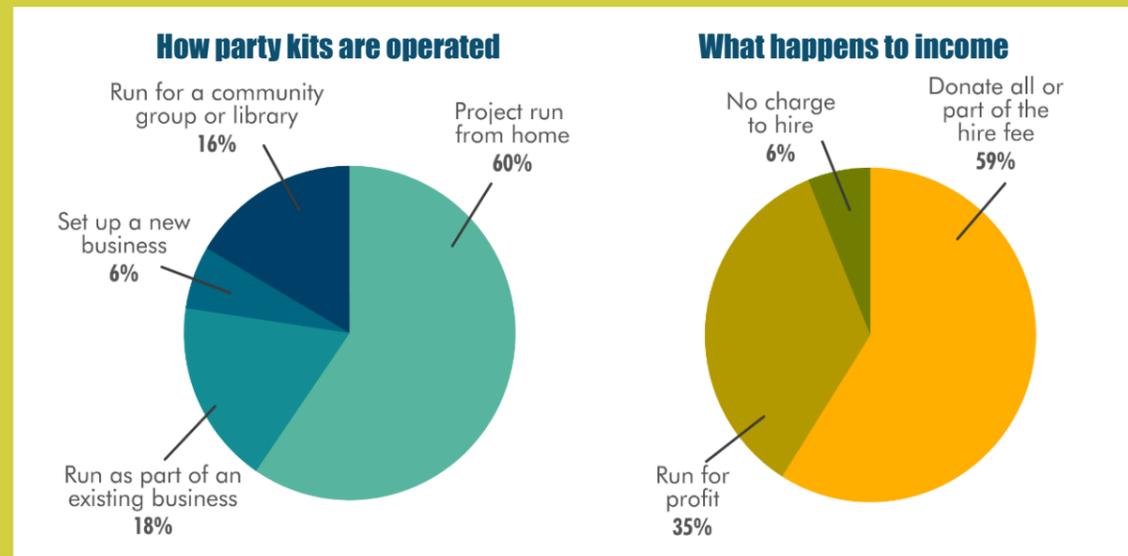
"This network is what gave me the motivation to finally launch my kit, after years of procrastinating about it. I love knowing that I am part of a bigger movement and thinking about our collective impact. Also love the resources and the Facebook group to learn from."

Babs Jenkins (Central Coast Party Kits, Australia)



"Being part of the party kit network is great to know you are part of a larger movement to make reuse and sharing the norm. Plus the support and advice is invaluable."

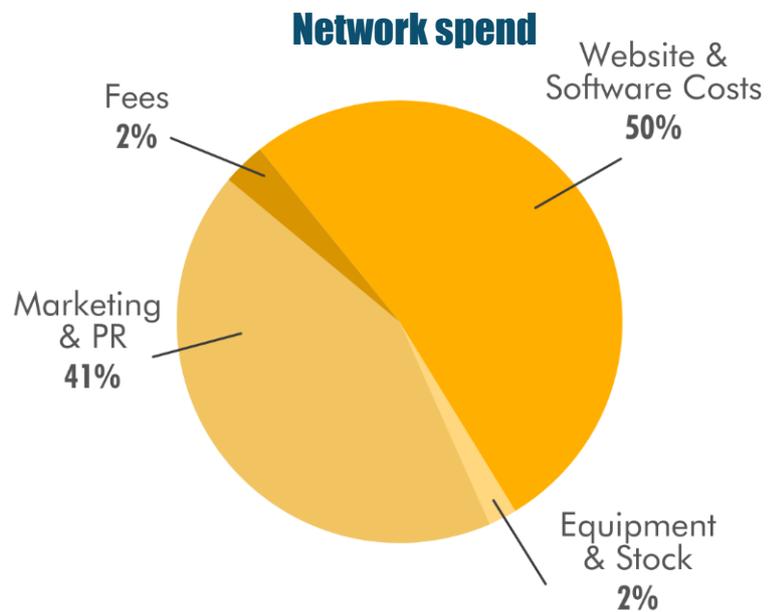
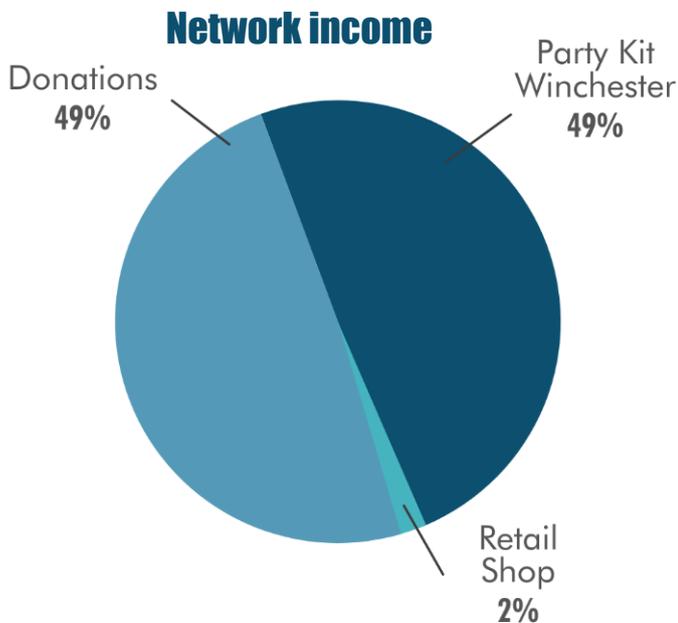
Juliet Jones (Sustainable Party Kits, USA)



Data from 2021 Members Audit



# Our Income & Spend



**In 2022-23 we generated an income of almost £1,460 and spent £1,340.**

Our costs are so low because everyone who works on the Network donates their time and we benefit from some gifted or discounted services.

We do not charge members a joining fee or take commission from any referrals.

The income from Party Kit Winchester (the only party kit owned and operated by the Network) grew by +47% YoY.



**Please support us with a donation**  
[Partykitnetwork.org/donate](https://partykitnetwork.org/donate)



**"Reusable party kits are such a beautifully simple idea and a total no-brainer when it comes to planet-friendly parties!"**

Jen Gale (@sustainableish)  
Sustainability coach, mentor & author