



Stockton Heath Festival Trust Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Trust Information

Registered Office:

C/O Finton Doyle Accountants
Whitehouse
Wilderspool Business Park
Greenalls Avenue
Warrington
WA4 6HL

Trustees:

Mathew Forshaw	Chair
Darren Smith	Secretary
David Craggs	Treasurer
Helen Dutton	Trustee

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Going forward, it has been recognised by the Trustees that continued deficits are not sustainable over the long-term and costs need to be kept under review.

Public Benefit Statement

The Charity Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Summary of events and achievements

The Trustees and Organising Committee continued to meet throughout 2022, online where necessary. Commitment and enthusiasm for the Festival remains strong, both within the organisation and in the wider community.

Good weather contributed once again to healthy sales being reported by stall holders and caterers over the weekend. Queuing was less problematic this year compared to 2018 due to an increase in bar staff.

Seven events sold out (>95%): Children's Gospel Choir, comedy drama 'Ladies Night', Amazing Andre magic show, the children's clay workshop, two Little Movers events and 'Midsummer Night's Dream' performed by Illyria.

The Comedy Night, performances by Covertones and Soul Federation, 'Rhythmtime' Baby Sensory and the children's Art Class were all very popular too. Overall, of the 2,084 tickets available, 63% were sold. Although this was down on previous years, as a first post-Covid event it was a very satisfactory result.

Some of this year's highlights....

Once again the Art Exhibition at St Thomas' Church was well attended, while away from the field local historian Bill Cooke gave a talk on the Greatest Moments in the History of Warrington. There were musical performances from five local primary schools as well as the Warrington Male Voice Choir. Thursday evening also saw the performance of Ladies Day written by Amanda Whittington, the Comedy Night at Expedition Lounge Bar and the Priestley College students put on a Musical Theatre Showcase.

The main events on Friday were 'Schwing', an evening of jazz and swing classics, while the North Cheshire Wind Orchestra performed a varied programme at St Thomas' Church.

Saturday saw a variety of events in the Children's Marquee including Baby Sensory, Little Movers, clay workshop and a magic and comedy show from the Amazing Andre. Elsewhere there were free events in Stockton Heath Library including poems, stories, crafts and even an hour of coding! The evening's main event were the Covertones performing a range of popular indie, rock and pop anthems.

On Sunday evening, we were delighted to welcome back Illyria, the outdoor theatre company to perform A Midsummer Night's Dream, in the stunning setting of the Grappenhall Heys Walled Gardens. There were art classes and a Punch & Judy show, Rhythm Time music classes and a festival Songs of Praise. Meanwhile for the grand finale, Soul Federation performed classic hits from the likes of Otis Redding, Dusty Springfield and Stevie Wonder in the Festival Marquee.

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It was with great delight and much relief that, after two years of cancellations, the full-scale Stockton Heath Festival returned in July 2022. The event was huge success, with large crowds in attendance across the whole weekend.

As ever, the Organising Committee did a fantastic job, with a full programme of events that covered music, dance, drama, art, crafts and light entertainment. Staffed entirely by unpaid members, the Committee were assisted in the running of events, organising on-field facilities and the selling of tickets by a troupe of around 30 volunteers from the local community, without all of whom the Festival would not be possible.

Once again the Trustees would like to formally thank the Organising Committee for all their efforts in organising the 2022 Festival. We know that without their hard work and dedication the Festival would not be possible.

Established in 2008, Stockton Heath Festival Trust is a registered charity which aims to celebrate arts, culture and heritage, and to generate community spirit. In doing so it also strives to be accessible to all local residents irrespective of age, means, occupation or cultural background via the provision of a mix of both ticketed and free events, with something of interest to all.

Although named Stockton Heath Festival, the event draws audiences from all the neighbouring communities of South Warrington including Appleton, Walton, Grappenhall & Thelwall and beyond.

The benefits the Festival brings to the local community include:

- Encouraging local talent through entries in the art competition, inclusion of up and coming local performers in music, dance and drama in both the daytime and evening events;
- Increasing awareness of the local community – raising local knowledge via the Stockton Heath village competitions, events held in local facilities e.g. local schools, churches, Appleton Parish Hall and the QE11 Jubilee Field and encouraging local groups to participate in the local flower and history groups, and local sports groups;
- Partnership working with local organisations – the Community Police, Promote Stockton Heath, local churches and schools, and local businesses;
- Supporting local charities through provision of free pitches at the festival markets, fundraising raffles and publicity;
- Promotion of community spirit by providing an opportunity for local people to come together. Over 1,900 people attended ticketed events during the 2022 Festival period and estimated attendances on the festival field over the weekend exceeded 3,500;
- Promotion of the local area to a wider audience through the website <https://stocktonheathfestival.co.uk>, articles in the local press and via social media. Programmes are hand delivered to local households and businesses prior to the Festival, and used at venues;

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- Promotion of local businesses and organisations through listing in various Festival publications and publicity on the field and at ticketed events;
- Sponsors and grants supporters featured in programmes, website and on Facebook;

Although organised by a relatively small number of local volunteers, Stockton Heath Festival is very much a community event, drawing a variety of support from many quarters. Staging the Festival costs in the region of £40,000 each year and whilst just over half of this was recovered from ticket sales, stalls and catering income, the rest of the money was generated by the fundraising efforts of the Festival volunteers. Critical to the Festival's success each year is the support received from the local Parish Councils of Stockton Heath, Appleton and Walton, and from Warrington Borough Council via a local area fund application, and in 2022 support was received in the form of a National Lottery grant.

Organisation

Our patron is Tim Firth who grew up in Stockton Heath. Tim is a screen and song writer famed for Calendar Girls and several musical collaborations with Gary Barlow amongst many productions for film, theatre and television. His musical THE BAND features the music of Take That, while A DIFFERENT STAGE is based around the early life of Gary Barlow and was toured nationally throughout 2022.

The Trust is run by four trustees who oversee the running of the charity. The charity is an unincorporated association which was formed on 14 January 2009 by Trust Deed. Our trustees are Mathew Forshaw (Chair), David Craggs (Treasurer) Darren Smith (Secretary) and Helen Dutton.

The Festival is organised and run by an Organising Committee which is made up entirely of volunteers from the local community. It benefits from the continuity of a number of experienced members but is also able to attract new members into their ranks.

New trustees can be nominated by the Organising Committee and following nominations any new trustee is appointed by the existing Trustees. All key decisions relating to the running of the charity are made by the Trustees. All decisions relating to the running of the festival are made by the Organising Committee with guidance from the Trustees when required.

Finance

A balance on the unrestricted fund account of £21,714 was carried forward from 2021 to 2022. This gave us a healthy reserve and a strong platform for moving forward.

Income for the year was £39,437 which included £14,933 from ticket sales and £16,000 from sponsorship and grants. This included £5,000 from the National Lottery Community Fund.

Expenditure for the year was £38,029 which included £21,082 on site costs and £9,931 on artists' performance fees.

This produced a surplus for the year of £1,408 and reserves carried forward to 2023 stood at £23,598.

As a charitable trust, it is the policy of the Trustees to maintain a reserve that enables us to prepare for the following year, with a maximum reserve equivalent to about 50% of our annual expenditure.

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A wide variety of art and culture events were held over the four days at a range of venues. This included:

- The Art Exhibition
- Festival Songs of Praise
- Music for a Summers Evening
- Festival Family Movie Night
- Heritage Walk
- Charity Bingo Evening

Festival goers also had the opportunity to:

- take a boat ride down the Bridgewater Canal;
- wander around the market stalls and be tempted by the art, crafts and food;
- buy fresh produce at the allotment open day;
- partake in the sports taster events in Alexandra Park;
- enter their pets in the dog show run by the Greyhound Trust;
- watch the sights of the Studio 54 Dance Academy and JC Dance Academy;
- enjoy the Warrington Rock Choir, Melody Makers Choir and Batida Rio Samba Band
- sing along with local acts such as Olivia Booth, The Raymonds and Splinters Ensemble
- enjoy the Earl of Stamford Morris Dancers on the Festival Field.

Reflections and improvements for the future

The 2023 Festival will be staged from Thursday 27th June to Sunday 2nd July. Planning is at an advanced stage with the majority of the events and activities confirmed.

Volunteers

The Organising Committee and over 30 volunteer festival crew bring everything together. The Committee do an extraordinary job with great attention to detail to make the Festival a success. We see many motivating factors for why people volunteer to help us, such as a way to get to know their community, giving something back and the love of the arts. We also recognise the enormous personal value people gain from volunteering; it can be such a help to get people 'back on their feet' after difficult times. Please do come and join us!

Signed.....

Mathew Forshaw, Chair of Trustees

Date.....19.06.2023

STOCKTON HEATH FESTIVAL TRUST
TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

ON HEATH FESTIVAL**OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**
ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted 31 December 2022		Unrestricted 31 December 2021	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Incoming Resources from Generated Funds</u>				
Festival Income				
Box office, and on line takings	14,933		0	
Stall and catering income	5,195		0	
Art exhibition	54		0	
		20,181		0
Fund Raising Income				
Lottery and raffles	583		180	
Bingo & Comedy night	0		259	
Bar takings	0		0	
Commission on bar takings	2,671		0	
		3,254		439
Voluntary Income				
Sponsorship	5,100		0	
Grants	10,900		1,500	
		16,000		1,500
Investment Income				
Bank interest received		1		1
Total Incoming Resources		39,437		1,940
<u>Resources expended</u>				
Festival Activities				
Festival Site costs	21,082		90	
Artists performance fees	9,931		1,050	
Art exhibition	150		0	
Photography exhibition	0		0	
Scarecrow competition	0		0	
Hire of external venues	654		0	
Licenses	83		20	
Festival programmes	2,793		0	
Printing, postage and stationery	1,066		0	
Equipment storage	0		0	
Insurance	1,362		473	
Computer and website costs	193		208	
On line ticket sales commission	0		0	
Charity comedy night comedian	0		0	
Subscription	0		0	
Sundry costs	469		193	
Depreciation Festival Equipment	0		0	
Amortisation of Website Design costs	0		0	
		37,782		2,034
Fund Raising Expenditure				
Lottery and raffles	583			
Bar costs	0			
		583		
Carried Forward		1,072		(94)

STOCKTON HEATH FESTIVAL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - Continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted 31 December 2022 £	Unrestricted 31 December 2021 £
Brought Forward	1,072	(94)
Governance Costs		
Accountancy fees	372	372
Donations		
NET OUTGOING RESOURCES	700	(466)
Fund Balance Brought Forward at 1 January 2022	21,724	22,190
Fund Balance Carried Forward at 31 December 2022	<u>22,423</u>	<u>21,724</u>

STOCKTON HEATH FESTIVAL

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	2	21	23
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors		489	0
Cash at bank		<u>22,273</u>	<u>21,691</u>
		<u>22,762</u>	<u>21,691</u>
CREDITORS			
Creditors	3	<u>372</u>	<u>500</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>22,390</u>	<u>21,191</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u><u>22,762</u></u>	<u><u>21,714</u></u>
 UNRESTRICTED FUND		 <u><u>22,423</u></u>	 <u><u>21,724</u></u>

The Financial Accounts were approved by the Trustees on 21.08.2023



M. Forshaw

Chairman

STOCKTON HEATH FESTIVAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 ACCOUNTING BASIS

The financial accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011.

2 FIXED ASSETS

	Festival Equipment £
Cost	
At 1 January 2022	5,048
Additions	0
Disposals	1,130
At 31 December 2022	3,918
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2022	5,025
Charge for the year	0
Eliminated on disposals	1,130
At 31 December 2022	3,895
Net Book Value	
At 31 December 2022	23
At 31 December 2022	21

STOCKTON HEATH FESTIVAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS - Continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

3 DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Artists Deposit 2023	285	0
Storage fee half year	204	375
	489	375

4 CREDITORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Festival creditors	-	-
Accountants fees	372	366
	372	366

STOCKTON HEATH FESTIVAL TRUST

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS TO THE TRUSTEES
OF THE STOCKTON HEATH FESTIVAL TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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

Ms Su Rai BA(Hons) FCA DCHA
Raise
Chartered Accountants
Trimble House
9 Bold Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1DN

Date: 21/02/23