



Celebrating books by the sea

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON LITERARY FESTIVAL

**Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Registered Charity No. 1127885.
Trustees' Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.**

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31 December 2023 to be read in conjunction with the attached Financial Statements.

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

The charitable objectives of the Budleigh Salterton Literary Festival are:

The advancement of education for the benefit of the public in East Devon by the promotion of the arts of Literature, poetry, the written and spoken word and related arts. In particular by fostering and supporting the work of the Budleigh Salterton Literary festival.

The Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting.

MAIN ACTIVITY AND PUBLIC BENEFIT

The main activity is the funding, organisation, and promotion of the annual Budleigh Salterton Literary Festival. Festival events which are open to and attended by members of the public from across the community. The Budleigh Salterton Festival celebrates books and their authors and promotes the art of reading and the enjoyment of writing in our East Devon community and in our local schools. BSLF decided to continue the 2022 festival initiative and subsidise the costs of events and workshops for children and families in addition to offering free activities. During 2023 the BSLF charity worked with 1535 students in 7 different local schools with author visits co-ordinated by Annie Ashworth and led by David Marston. During 2023 smaller workshop groups were arranged together with big year group sessions and working with Mill Water School and the Exmouth Deaf Academy for the first time. Each school received a set of author texts to be donated to the school library. Beach hut books was repeated during the September festival and operated during the May Gala week with exclusively children's books with daily story telling sessions.

The Trustees have paid due regard to the relevant Charity Commission guidance and consider that the activities outlined in this report meet the public benefit requirement for charities.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

This is the third review since the status of the Budleigh Salterton Literary Festival (BSLF) was changed from a Company Limited by guarantee to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the approval of the Charities commission. The BSLF Spring festival weekend went ahead with 5 events in St Peter's Church on 17 & 18 March 2023. This was popular and profitable providing a range of interesting events with inspirational authors. Cathy Renzenbrink became the BSLF president succeeding Dame Hilary Mantel. The main festival programme went ahead in September 2023 with a full programme of 65 events including 11 events for children and families and free activities in the mini marquee. Heartfelt thanks are due once again to all the members of the BSLF committee together with a huge team of willing and enthusiastic volunteers who delivered the 2023 festival so efficiently and responsibly. Due to rising costs in every area, the 2023 did not meet budget targets.



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Annie Ashworth, BSLF artistic director informed the Trustees that 2024 would be her last festival in Budleigh. She has produced 7 years of interesting programmes and is due our grateful thanks.

The BSLF Trustees plan to run a recruitment process for a new Artistic director in March 2023 and have allocated £5,000 from reserves to facilitate this process.

The BSLF Trustees together with the committee look forward to planning both a Spring festival in March and a full September in 2024 aiming to continue working with local schools, the local library and making partnership arrangements with groups in the community.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income, net of VAT, amounted to £162,274 (2022 £137,624), expenditure amounted to £172,267 (2022 £148,774) This resulted in a leaving an deficit of Income over Expenses of £9,993 (deficit £11,102 in 2022) taken from Reserves.

RESERVES

The BSLF Trustees continue to be fortunate that the accumulation of reasonable previous years' Reserves allowed them to fund the five-day festival, consistent with the objects of the charity. All Trustees are assiduously monitoring costs which have risen over the past 3 years and will continue to act prudently to maintain sufficient reserves in order to secure the sustainability of the charity.

RISK POLICY

The Trustees have considered all risks to which the Charity might be exposed to in 2022 with specific focus on continuing train strikes and the need to protect the ongoing financial security of the charity.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Trustees as at 31 December 2023 were

Chairman	Sue Briggs	Deputy-Chairman	Carol Ackroyd
Treasurer	Ruth Jones	Trustee	Jane Burton
Trustee	Jennie Milverton	Trustee	Jackie Collins

David Cornes died on 6.9.2023

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income from Donations		
Sponsors and Advertising	15,000	14,410
Donations	16,572	24,851
Friends	8,153	5,695
Income Tax Recovered	0	2,000
Charitable Activities		
Ticket Sales	116,985	84,129
Sundry Income	5,564	6,588
Total Income	162,274	137,674
Less Expenditure on Raising Funds		
Administration and Printing	9,921	9,408
Advertising and Publicity	31,016	29,892
Commission on Ticket Sale	6,250	4,864
Charitable Activities		
Other Expenses	10,140	5,188
Speakers Fees	24,670	24,560
Speakers Expenses		
Purchase Books	5,510	3,654
Venue Expenses	37,451	29,762
Hospitality	12,832	10,739
Outreach Education	6,996	9,036
Consultancy Fees	27,481	21,671
Total Expenditure	172,267	148,776
Excess of Income over Expenditure	-9,993	-11,102
Tota Funds brought forward	-8,525	2,577
Tota Funds carried forward	-18,518	-8,525

**BALANCE SHEET
as at 31 December 2023**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Current Assets		
Debtors and Prepayments	2,460	5,992
Prepayments	4,000	0
Balance at Bank	75,944	74,906
Total Current Assets	82,404	80,898
Less Current Liabilities		
Creditors and Accruals	17,390	5,894
Net Assets	65,014	75,004
Total Funds (unrestricted)	65,014	75,004

Approved by the Trustees on

Signed by Ruth Jones on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON LITERARY FESTIVAL
A Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered charity no 1127885

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES
OF BUDLEIGH SALTERTON LITERARY FESTIVAL

I report on the accounts of the charitable organisation for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on page 2 of this report.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true & fair view and that the financial statements are free from material misstatement. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission, and
- state whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charitable company 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, I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require me to report to you if, in my opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' Report; or
- the charity has not kept adequate accounting records: or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations required.

Use of Independent examiners report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

Signed:



Anita Turner, Holcombe, Teignmouth

Date:

10th July 2024