



Charity No 1129485

Report and Accounts of the Trustees of Leyland Band

Year Ending 31st March 2025

Charity Principal Address

15 Hugh Barn Barn Lane
New Longton
Preston
PR4 6ED

Trustees

Dan moore

Chairman

Andrew Blackledge

Treasurer

Minute Secretary

Marianne Garbutt

Events Secretary

Gary Westwood

Independent Examiner

Eric Rigby

Type of Organisation

Association

Type of Governing Document

Constitution

Trustees Report prepared by Andrew Blackledge

For and on behalf of the Trustees of Leyland Band
15th January 2025

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Introduction

This is the sixteenth Report of the Trustees of Leyland Band. Charitable status continues to develop a disciplined approach to management of the organisation and the Trustees acknowledge this to be a positive outcome of the process. This Report summarises the status, activities, and financial status of the organisation in the reporting year.

Aims and Objectives

The object of the band is to advance the education of the public in the United Kingdom and throughout the World, in the art and science of British Brass Band Music through the provision of public band concerts and recitals and training in Brass Band Music

Trustees

Trustees of Leyland Band are appointed 'ex officio' (virtue of office) as outlined in the constitution. As members of the committee, Trustees are actively engaged in the normal running of the organisation. In addition to normal management meetings the Trustees meet independently on a regular basis to review the strategic direction of the organisation, monitor cash flow, and approve specific items of expenditure outside normal operational requirements. This is reported at management meetings and appropriate decisions taken considering the experience and advice of the Trustees. This allows the management committee and Trustees to ensure that both short term and long-term objectives and issues are being dealt with to time and cost.

The following Trustees were active during the reporting Period.

Name	Office
Dan Moore	Chairman
Andrew Blackledge	Treasurer
Marrienne Garbutt	Minute Secretary
Events Secretary	Gary Westwood

Trustees have been appointed by the committee based on professional experience and added value to the organisation. The Trustees are minded of the need to ensure any new Trustees appointed at AGM are fully aware of their responsibilities.

Summary of Report Period

Status

Since the report of 31st March 2024, the revitalisation of Leyland Band continues at pace with vigour and renewed vision for sustainable long-term success.

Musical Direction

FY2024 reported the appointment of a young and vibrant Musical Director, Danny Brookes. With a proven record of developing youth, building musical outfits from bottom up and a long-term vision of encouraging young talent Danny introduced a total of thirteen players to the band. A mix of experience and young aspirants completed the new player line up for the 2024/2025 contest season. Danny has brought vibrancy, fun and a strong work ethic to the band and the commitment and drive to succeed was noted almost immediately. Danny also brought to the table a long-term plan of

success, not just in achieving top ten status in the World Rankings but developing concert formats to appeal to the wider community, plan for succession and develop partnerships with affiliated youth organisations.

Achievements

Competitions

As reported FY2024 the first competition with the new team was the Northwest Area Championships. A very raw team assembled very quickly resulted in fourth place. The band did not qualify for the National Finals with this result but was a great measure of where the band needed to be. The Whit Friday March Contests were next in June 2024. The band had a great run achieving third place overall in the Thameside competition and won a substantial prize fund. The next objective was to ensure staying in the most prestigious contest of all, The British Open Championship. With a previous 17th place, another low aggregate score could mean demotion and an arduous task of requalification it was imperative the band achieved a top ten finish. The revitalised band took to the stage and performed magnificently achieving a ninth place. This was a high enough result to ensure continued participation and further cemented the recovery process and philosophy. The run of good results and confirmation of the plan working was a resounding second place (February 2025) at the Northwest Area Qualifier for The National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain. The band pushed nine-time past winners Foden's band to a very close second to a delighted Leyland Band. The belief in the strategy was achieving set goals.

Concerts

The band continues to maintain its matinee series of concerts four times yearly. This is a great outreach to the community and gives the band an opportunity to play for and meet its many supporters and Patrons.

Other events of note included
Festival of Makings
Concert for RNLI
Preston Playhouse

The provision of a fanfare team for UCLAN degree ceremonies is a major fixture, a significant earner and provides a public platform for many people to enjoy our services. Hopefully this long-term relationship can be maintained.

It was evident that 'traditional' concert bookings were reducing at a significant rate, and it was evident that there was not enough paid work to sustain the organisation. With the renewed vigour of musical direction and playing standard there was a considerable up turn in the committee involvement especially the creative proposals of several members. It was proposed that a screening of 'The Snowman' to live band accompaniment would be staged. Consisting of three houses, thanks to the creative talents of several committee members and Musical Director the band was able to perform three shows to an enthralled audience harnessing commercial realities of online ticketing, promotion and merchandising. It was an enormous success and provided the blueprint for future productions. In March 2025 the band staged its biggest production ever with two screenings with live brass accompaniment of the Ardman Wallace and Gromit classic 'the Wrong Trousers'. The screenings were very profitable raising much needed cash to sustain the band with falling concert revenue. This model will now form a cornerstone as to the future viability and sustainability of the

organisation. Replacing traditional concert revenue with self-generated funds from a totally new 'non brass band' audience is a new and unique concept that will hopefully provide significant revenue streams, allowing the band to continue to be successful, not just on the contest stage but with a whole new self-made audience.

CD Recordings

CD Recordings are a very specialised genre now. The band has managed to record live concerts with a streaming provider and it is suspected that there will be development in this form.

World Rankings

The band continue to hold their position as one of the top twenty-five brass bands in the world (sources – www.4barsrest.com/rankings and www.brassstats.com). The rankings aim to grade competing brass bands in an aggregate score. This is an enviable position for a self-funded organisation maintaining a proud tradition within the community.

Community

The band continued to have strong links with the community. Brass Attack is an annual event that combines the bands of Lancashire Youth, Lostock Hall High School, Lostock Hall senior and junior band and Leyland Band. The band has also established a partnership with Red Admiral Music Academy that will be the catalyst for many future players of Leyland Band. Once again, the South Ribble Mayors Charity Concert was delivered for no charge in December 2024 to support charity fundraising. Leyland Band continues to support local and national charitable organisations.

Patrons and Support

The band continue to be incredibly grateful to the members of the Patrons scheme who continue to give financial support, attend the Matinee series concerts, play the 100 club and support our activities in the community. The band also acknowledges and thanks Patrons for many donations and gifts throughout the period. Many of these are gift aided adding to the financial benefit. A small support committee of Patrons and helpers continue to contribute to our local organisational needs assisting with ticket sales, refreshments and raffle organisation. A great help to the band.

Corporate Governance and Risk Management

Corporate Governance is the internal procedure that ensures the organisation operates within the boundaries and rules of the constitution and requirements of the Charities Acts. Risk Management is the process of adopting policies that protect the assets and the people of the organisation. Corporate Governance and Risk Management are therefore considered under the same category. The Trustees recognise the need for Corporate Governance to ensure correct appropriation of finance, maintenance of assets and protection of people to maintain a compliant organisation. As part of the management structure the Trustees recognise a responsibility to ensure advice is obtained in each professional field required. The greatest risks to the organisation are financial control, protection of assets and people related issues including Health and Safety and Child Protection.

Financial control is maintained by adopting the constitutional procedures. In addition, all expenditure outside 'normal' operating expenditure requires the consent of the Trustees and

Management Committee. The financial transactions are authorised before commitment and the payment and approval functions are segregated. This provides transparency of commitment, income collected and payments made.

The 'people' issues are equally as important to the organisation. All members undertake a duty of care to act responsibly when travelling, performing, and rehearsing with the band. Leyland Band is involved in educational workshops and therefore each event is risk assessed prior to implementation. Advice is sought from the many CRB cleared teachers within the band. The policy is stated in the constitution of the organisation.

Ethics

The Trustees acknowledge the necessity to always maintain an ethical code of conduct. In our activity this relates mainly to the negotiation of fee related performance and the management of people. The Committee must manage the people aspects of the organisation. In the world at large the Trustees recognise the importance of maintaining credible business relations and professional integrity in all undertakings.

Accessibility

Leyland Band has an open membership and is represented without prejudice of race, gender or sexual orientation. Membership is drawn from the local community, the United Kingdom at large and has included members from Australia, Japan and Switzerland. Young people are encouraged to join the band to aspire to reach their full potential with the North West's premier brass band.

Child Protection

The band continues to admit and develop members under the age of eighteen. This is testament to the ability of brass players as young as fourteen to attain the high standards required. The band is also involved with youth development workshops. The band is fully aware of its obligations to ensure the welfare and protection of minors. The band maintains a child protection policy and takes advice and guidance from the many CRB cleared teachers within the band. Leyland Band is fully signed up to 'Band safe' and has several fully trained and accredited personnel. 'Band Safe' is the scheme championed by BBE ((Brass Bands England) to ensure minors are supervised and not subject to coercive or abusive behaviour. With an emphasis on developing young talent in the future this is the responsibility of all band members to ensure policies and procedures are adhered to.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have re-examined the statement of public benefit and have categorised into the following headings.

a) Benefits to playing members

To attain the standards of competence to perform with a championship section brass band takes dedication, personal practice, and self-development. Membership of Leyland Band may be the culmination of many years of study and the band provides the outlet to perform at the highest level to a wide cross section of audience throughout the United Kingdom and the world at large. The benefits to the individual may be expressed as a vehicle to perform at the highest level, continue development and become a role model for the many hundreds of brass musicians in the lower sections.

b) Benefits to non-playing members

Members who cannot commit to the dedication and standard of playing membership are encouraged to be actively involved in the organisation and administration of the band. Non-playing administrative functions include band marketing, library, transport, and CD sales. Non-playing members have a pride in supporting Leyland Band and are integral to the long-term growth of the organisation.

c) Benefits to supporters and Patrons

Leyland band enjoys an enthusiastic following of Patrons. Patrons subscribe annually supporting the band. Patrons are spread through a wide geographical area and receive a quarterly newsletter including news and special features such as player profiles. Patrons have their own concert series and obtain discounts on tickets and purchases of CDs. Many Patrons are now actively involved promoting the concerts and organising fundraising activities. The Patrons have become integral to the ongoing success of the organisation providing many retired members with an ongoing interest and focus.

d) Benefits to the local community

Leyland Band was formed as Leyland Motors in 1946. Whilst associated with the vehicle works the band enjoyed a high profile within the local community. With the demise of the motor works, Leyland Band had to leave the area to seek support and rehearsal premises. The last few years has seen the band return to the town of Leyland and the Trustees have placed great importance on the establishment of community links and strategic partnerships to encourage development of local brass band talent, mentor youth and provide accessibility opportunities for members of the community who may be restricted due to physical disadvantage.

In the period Leyland Band has successfully: -

- 1) Through the new MD a link has been made to Red Admiral Music Academy. Leyland Band will be actively involved in training the young brass players and many joint ventures are planned to develop the talent of this organisation as a source for future players once progression in standard is obtained.
- 2) The Patrons support committee continues to work alongside the operational committee to support the ongoing objectives. This is made up of Patrons and supporters drawn from the community.

e) Benefits to the world at large

Leyland Band performs throughout the country and has previously performed in countries as far away as USA, Korea, and Japan. The language of music has no boundary and our role in this sphere can be summarised as 'entertainment, education and enjoyment'.

Short Financial Appraisal

INCOME

	2025	2024	+/-
Turnover	59155	40494	+18660
Concert Fees	34229	17641	+16588
Patrons Activity	11485	12933	-1448
Grants	0	0	0
Gift Aid	5016	4680	+336
Other	<u>8424</u>	<u>5241</u>	<u>+3183</u>
	59154	40495	+18659

Expenditure	49495	55696	-6201
Income Less Expenditure	9659	-15201	+24860
Cash Balance	6947	797	+6150

In conjunction with the revitalisation of the playing aspects of the band the financial position of the organisation was steadied. Turnover was increased by 19k and excess income over expenditure turned around from -15k to +10k in the period. Costs were reduced but this was reflected as not attending the National Championships. Due to a legacy from a Patron the band was able to contribute this to the purchase of a Marimba. The first renewal of musical kit for many years. The turnaround in financial stability is largely due to the vision of certain committee members bringing a new concept of film screening with live brass band accompaniment. The screenings of 'The Snowman' and 'The Wrong Trousers' brought in significant revenue, developed ticketing and marketing concepts and built a new nontraditional brass band audience. This audience base will form the basis for ongoing productions, and it is envisaged this formula will sustain the long-term financial security of the band allowing the profits to be used to fund the more traditional aspects such as competing.

The reporting period is a milestone achievement. Playing standards have been achieved beyond expectations combined with improved financial performance is securing the long term future for generations to come.

Reserves Policy

The organisation has no restricted funds. It is revenue based and must ensure that it operates within the confines of cash generation. Expenditure outside normal operating requirements is identified during the cash cycle and funds raised or allocated appropriately. Considering the improvements in performance and financial security the Trustees will monitor and recommend future minimum cash reserve balances to be maintained.

Conclusion and Future Objectives

The Trustees acknowledge the long-term stability and maintenance of a Championship Brass Band cannot rely solely on the 'traditional' activity of fee generation. This has been recognised in the reporting period and the new approach of encouraging new audiences to new musical experiences will continue to be explored for both musical and financial advantage. Further plans will be announced in relation to the Red Admiral Academy Partnership which will see closer collaboration. FY 2026 sees the band reach a milestone 80th anniversary and this will be ideal opportunity to celebrate the success of the local 'champion' town band.



Charity No 1129485

Income and Expenditure Accounts Year Ending 31st March 2025

	£	£	£	£
	2025			2024
INCOME				
Concert Fees (Including UCLAN/Recordings)	34229			17,641
Patrons Concerts/Matinee Concerts	7466			8,264
Patrons Subs and Sponsorships	3371			4,670
100 Club	648			485
Prize Money	2340			0
Sponsorship	0			0
Gift Aid	5016			4,680
CD Sales and Merchandise	497			338
Fundraising	0			0
Donations	2858			0
Grants and Matched Funding	1000			0
Interest	0			0
Other Misc Income	264			44
Player Contributions Hotel Open/National	1465			4,373
Total Income		59155		40,495

EXPENDITURE	2025			2024
Vans	2443			1,603
Fees & Registrations (Includes web hosting/development) Licences	3165			1,316
Insurance	822			1,017
Coaches (not Open/Nationals)	695			1,160
Borrowed Players	1298			1,065
Miscellaneous (Bandroom Supplies/Social Media Adverts)	1681			485
Musical Director	9000			9,530
Player Expenses (Includes UCLAN)	6391			6,636
Uniforms & Instrument Repairs	140			1,523
Stationery/Print/Post/Xerox/Engrave	764			587
Bandroom Rent	7566			7,566
100 Club	360			287
CD Costs	0			42
Instruments Music & Accessories (includes AV)	1323			379
Utilities	1016			1,017
Hall Hires & Misc Rehearsal Facilities	3560			3,211
Events (British Open/National Finals Accommodation and Facilities/Coach)	7092			18,271
Merchandise Stock	0			0
Commissions/Profit Share Payments	2178			
transfers	0			0
Total Expenditure		49495		55,696
Total Income Less Total Expenditure			9660	-15,201



Charity No 1129485					
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025					
				31 March 2025	31 March 2024
	£	£		£	£
Fixed Assets					
Music				22656	22656
Musical Instruments				10539	7239
				33195	29895
Current Assets					
Bank Current Account	6947				797
Bank Community Account	0				2087
Prepayments	1906				
Accrued Income	2791				
Cash	0				0
Total Current Assets		11644			2884
Current Liabilities					
Creditors	0				0
Loans	0				0
Accruals	2400				0
		2400			0
Net Current Assets				9244	2884
Total Assets				42439	32779

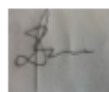
Represented By			
General Fund b/f		32779	47981
Excess Income Over Expenditure for Year		9660	-15201
		42439	32779
			47981
Prepared by	Andrew Blackledge		
Date	12 June 2025		
Signed			
Examined by	Eric Rigby		
Date	12 June 2025		
Signed			

Examiners Statement for Year Ending 31st March 2025

I have examined the records, procedures and accounts of Leyland Band. I have found no material discrepancies. I have attended committee meetings and AGM and am satisfied that the organisation is compliant with Charity Commission Regulations.

Prepared by
Date

Andrew Blackledge
12 June 2025



Signed

Examined by
Date

Eric Rigby
12 June 2025



Signed
