



Trustees' Annual Report for the period			
Period start date		Period end date	
01	04	31	03
2022		2023	
From		To	

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	FRIARY BRASS BAND
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	1137290
Charity's principal address	C/O 37 PONDTAIL ROAD FLEET
Postcode	GU51 3JF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	David Wicks	Chairman	
2	Lauren Straker	Secretary	
3	Jane Challiss	Treasurer	
4	Alex Sears	Contest Secretary	01.04.2022 – 15.08.2022
5	Hannah Richards	Contest Secretary	22.09.2022 – 31.03.2023
6	Chris Powell	Band Manager	
7	Michael Trumble	Band Librarian	
8	Richard Straker	Digital Media Manager	
9	Christopher Attwood	General MT member	
10	Tim Straker	Public Relations Officer	
11			

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Election by members in General Meeting

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	<p>The trustees, who also constitute the Band's management team, are elected by the members in General Meeting.</p> <p>The management team meets monthly.</p> <p>A risk management policy is in place, together with a risk register. The policy and risk register are reviewed regularly by the management team.</p>
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Section C Objectives and activities

<p>Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document</p>	<p>To promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of brass band music in all its aspects.</p>
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- You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:
- policy on grantmaking;
 - policy programme related investment;
 - contribution made by volunteers.

Friary Brass Band does not make grants, although as stated above, some events raise funds for other charities.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The Friary Brass Band undertakes a wide variety of activities aimed at increasing public awareness and appreciation of brass band music. These activities include self-promoted concerts, concerts and other events to raise funds for other charities, outside engagements for individuals, organisations and events and public engagements, as well as contests.

The Band is keen to encourage all players to develop their musical skills. Potential new players are also welcomed to rehearsals, and open rehearsals are held from time to time to enable members of the public to see how, for example, the Band prepares for a major contest.

The Band is also keen to maintain and develop links with educational establishments for mutual benefit in developing musical skills.

Finally, the Band's Public Relations Officer undertook two recorded brass band music sessions before the end of the current calendar year at a local nursing home. The programmes included contributions from Friary Brass Band. This genre of music is very nostalgic and consequently therapeutic for many of the residents.

2022-2023 was another successful year for the Band, with notable successes on the contest stage, although the number of other engagements was down on the previous year. The following engagements were undertaken by the full Band unless otherwise stated:

Concerts and other engagements:

- 2022
- ♫ Armed Forces Day (cornet player)
 - ♫ Godalming Proms concert
 - ♫ King's Proclamation (cornet player)
 - ♫ The Hawth concert
 - ♫ Woking Salvation Army Hall concert
 - ♫ Guildford Remembrance events (cornet player)
 - ♫ ITV This Morning Christmas competition launch filming (nine players)
 - ♫ Teddington concert
 - ♫ Hogs Back carol concert
 - ♫ Hartley Wintney concert
- 2023

Contests:

- 2022
- ♫ British Open Spring Festival, Grand Shield, placed 5th
 - ♫ Brass in Concert, placed 8th
- 2023
- ♫ scaba Spring Contest, placed 1st; best championship section band; award for best euphonium
 - ♫ London & Southern Counties Championship, placed 2nd; award for outstanding tenor horn

As far as concerts were concerned, The Hawth, Crawley was a new venue: the concert was part of their Brass Season which featured top bands. The carol concert at Hog's Back Brewery - a new engagement in 2021 - was again so successful that a repeat booking was made for December 2023. The Hartley Wintney concert - also a new venue for the Band in 2021 - was again so successful that a return booking for 2024 was made within a matter of days. At short notice, nine players provided background seasonal music for ITV Good Morning's 'Win Christmas' competition which featured personality Gok Wan and reached an estimated tv audience of around one million.

On the contest stage, Friary achieved its best placing to date in the Grand Shield contest at Blackpool in May 2022. Having been placed third at the Regional Championships in March 2022, the Band did not qualify for the National Finals at the Royal Albert Hall in October 2022 for the first time since 2013, but the second place achieved in the 2023 Regional Championship earned a return in October 2023.

The Band returned to the scaba (Southern Counties Amateur Bands' Association) contest stage in March 2022, winning the event. Having won the audience entertainment award at the 2021 Brass in Concert contest, Friary was invited to perform again in November 2022 when a George Gershwin-themed programme was well received. This event is generally regarded as the world's leading brass band entertainment contest, and to be one of only 12 bands invited is extremely prestigious.

Friary was ranked 26th in the world as at 31st March 2023 (2022: 19th), and remains the highest ranked band in London & Southern Counties region by some margin.

The Band's Management Team continually reviews progress against the Band's objectives.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Section E	Financial review
<p>Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves</p> <p>The Band's Reserves Policy was revised in January 2022. In summary, reserves should normally be maintained at a level between 70% and 100% of forecast annual running costs, excluding members' expenses. They should not be allowed to fall below 50%, and any amount above 100% should be deemed to be surplus reserves with a clear plan in place for their utilisation.</p> <p>Sustainability of the Band is of paramount importance. External charitable or other grant support for running costs is not generally available, hence the need to maintain a prudent amount in the Band's reserves to ensure short term continuity.</p> <p>The Reserves Policy is re-examined annually, in conjunction with the Band's annual budget and forecast, with any changes to be approved unanimously by the entire Management Team.</p> <p>Friary Brass Band remains well funded, unlike many brass bands - including some major names - which have been pushed to the brink of closure over the past two years due to the lack of income from engagements, contests and recordings. That said, reserves have now been utilised to subsidise running costs for the past two years to the extent of £9,000 in total, so a close watch is being maintained on finances which are fully discussed at each monthly management team/trustees' meeting.</p>	<p>Details of any funds materially in deficit</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Further financial review details (Optional information)</p>	<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.
Section F	Other optional information
	<p>Whilst activity was more or less back to normal following the disruption from Covid-19, with GiftAid forming a significant proportion of the Band's income, and the lag in its receipt, expenditure again exceeded income for the financial year, by some £5,000. This was forecast and documented in last year's trustees' report, and the Band's reserves were adequate to make good the shortfall.</p> <p>Other principal sources of income were derived from members' subscriptions, donations of members' travel expenses, and engagement fees.</p> <p>The major items of expenditure were for the Band's Musical Director's fees; fees for guest players; rehearsal hall hire; equipment hire and maintenance; music purchases; and members' travel expenses (which are donated back to the Band). A number of vacant seats had multiple adverse impacts: loss of income from subscriptions; loss of travel expenses and consequently GiftAid; and the cost of engaging guest players.</p> <p>It is pertinent to mention that the Band is looking for a new rehearsal venue, as the current hall is scheduled for redevelopment. Current hire rates are modest, so it is extremely likely that the cost of hiring a new venue will be higher.</p> <p>The Band does have an investment policy but in view of the possible need to access its reserves at short notice, these are maintained in the form of cash deposits. There are no long term investments.</p>

Section G Declaration	
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees	
Signature(s)	Full name(s)
David Wicks	David Wicks
Lauren Straker	Lauren Straker
Chairman	Secretary
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	
Date	
2023	

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

FRIARY BRASS BAND

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/03/2023

RECEIPTS

INTEREST	90.32
SUBSCRIPTIONS	7,362.50
PRIVATE ENGAGEMENTS	5,176.80
Full Band	
Ten Piece	0.00
CONTEST PRIZES	100.00
CONTEST TRAVEL SUPPLEMENT	481.00

FUNDRAISING/DONATIONS	1,760.31
TRAVEL EXPENSES/DONATIONS	16,558.20
GIFT AID	6,983.44
CD SALES	106.12
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD 2021/2022	3,594.79
LLOYDS A/C No 1	3,594.79
less cheques outstanding	
None	
LLOYDS A/C No 2	240.89
Deposit A/c	46,075.37
88,529.74	49911.05

Liabilities Outstanding :	300.00
Hall Hire - Chobham Jan-March	300.00
Prepayments included above :	130.80
Blackpool Contest - Music	320.00
Blackpool Contest Entry Fee	548.74
Blackpool Hotel Deposit Paid	120.00
Blackpool FC - Rehearsal Room	150.00
Coach Deposit - Whit Friday	1269.54

Treasurer : J Challiss

Thalass

PAYMENTS

CONDUCTORS	9,744.24
Resident	
Guest	1,017.55
GUEST PLAYERS	10,761.79
	5234.62

CONTEST ADMIN	628.24
CONTEST ENTRY FEES	555.00
INSURANCE	706.84
ADMINISTRATION	1562.66
HALL HIRE (inc Contest extra rehearsals £585.00))	2095.00
UNIFORMS	787.50
EQUIPMENT/ACCESSORIES Purchases	38.99
INSTRUMENT PURCHASES	1698.80
EQUIPMENT/ACCESSORIES Hire/Serviceing	411.52
VAN HIRE	393.61
GIFTS	1501.42
MUSIC (inc arrangements for Bic £1000.00)	16558.20
DONATION	548.74
TRAVEL EXPENSES	150.00
BLACKPOOL HOTEL Deposit	
WHIT FRIDAY Coach Deposit	
43,632.93	44896.81

BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD 2023/2024	696.81
LLOYDS A/C No 1	696.81
less cheques outstanding	
None	
LLOYDS A/C No 2	200.00
Deposit A/c	44,000.00
88,529.74	44896.81
Member Subscription overdue	25.00

Independent Examiner :

MM 2023 FCA

2-12-23

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Treasurer : J Challiss

Alumina

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Independent Examiner :

MM 2023 FCA

2-12-23

RECEIPTS PAYMENTS

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RECEIPTS

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