



## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date		Period end date
From	01 04 2023	To	31 03 2024

### 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	Hannah Richards	Contest Secretary		
5	Andrew Singleton	Band Manager		
6	Alistair Richards	Band Librarian		
7	Michael Trumble	General MT member		
8	Richard Straker	Digital Media Manager		
9	Tim Straker	Public Relations Officer		
10				
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)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- 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.

The trustees, who also constitute the Band's management team, are elected by the members in General Meeting.

The management team meets monthly.

A risk management policy is in place, together with a risk register. The policy and risk register are reviewed regularly by the management team.

## Section C

## Objectives and activities

**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

To promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of brass band music in all its aspects.



**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.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

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.

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:

2023

- ♪ Ash concert
- ♪ Armed Forces Day (cornet player)
- ♪ Bookham concert
- ♪ Lewes Bonfire parade
- ♪ Guildford Remembrance events
- ♪ Teddington concert
- ♪ Hogs Back Brewery carol concert

2024

- ♪ Hartley Wintney concert

Contests:

2023

- ♪ British Open Spring Festival, Grand Shield, placed 8<sup>th</sup>
- ♪ National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain, placed 18<sup>th</sup>
- ♪ Brass in Concert, placed 10<sup>th</sup>

2024

- ♪ London & Southern Counties Championship, placed 2<sup>nd</sup>; awards for outstanding cornet and euphonium players; qualification for National Finals

As far as concerts were concerned, the venue at Ash was a familiar one for the Band. St Nicolas Church, Bookham was a new venue and a sell-out and we were invited to return later this year. The Band was also delighted to be asked to perform at the traditional Lewes Bonfire parade, again with a subsequent request for 2024. The carol concert at Hog's Back Brewery - a new engagement in 2021 - was yet again so successful that a repeat booking was made for December 2024. The Hartley Wintney concert - also a new venue for the Band in 2021 - was again very well-received.

On the contest stage, Friary's results were somewhat disappointing, though not altogether surprising given the amount of change over the twelve months, both in terms of players and the appointment of a new Musical Director. A complete programme of new music, along the theme of The Shipping Forecast (celebrating its centenary), was premiered at Brass in Concert. Second place in the Regional Championships in March 2024 earned a return to the Royal Albert Hall in October 2024.

Friary was ranked 31<sup>st</sup> in the world as at 31st March 2024 (2023: 26<sup>th</sup>) according to [www.4barsrest.com](http://www.4barsrest.com), and remains the highest ranked band in London & Southern Counties region by some margin. The [www.brassstats.com](http://www.brassstats.com) table ranks the Band at 28<sup>th</sup> as at 31<sup>st</sup> March (2023: 33<sup>rd</sup>)

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

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

<p>The charity's main purpose is to provide support and advice to people who are experiencing mental health problems. This is done through a range of services, including a helpline, a website, and a network of local support groups. The charity also provides training and support to mental health professionals.</p> <p>The charity's main achievements during the year have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the number of people who use our services.</li> <li>Improving the quality of our services.</li> <li>Developing new services.</li> <li>Increasing our financial resources.</li> </ul>	<p>The charity's main purpose is to provide support and advice to people who are experiencing mental health problems. This is done through a range of services, including a helpline, a website, and a network of local support groups. The charity also provides training and support to mental health professionals.</p> <p>The charity's main achievements during the year have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the number of people who use our services.</li> <li>Improving the quality of our services.</li> <li>Developing new services.</li> <li>Increasing our financial resources.</li> </ul>
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## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Band's Reserves Policy was revised in January 2022 and is still considered to be appropriate. 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.

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.

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.

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 three years to the extent of some £12,000 in total, so a close watch is being maintained on finances which are fully discussed at each monthly management team/trustees' meeting.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- 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.

With GiftAid fully back on stream following the disruption caused by the pandemic, there was only a deficit of some £2,500 between income and expenditure for the year. The Band's reserves were adequate to make good the shortfall.

Other principal sources of income were derived from members' subscriptions, donations of members' travel expenses, and engagement fees.

The major items of expenditure were for the Band's Musical Director's fees (these are at a higher rate for the new MD appointed in mid 2023); fees for guest players; rehearsal hall hire; equipment hire and maintenance; music and instrument purchases; and members' travel expenses (which are donated back to the Band and GiftAided). A higher than usual level of expenditure was made on music, mostly on new commissions for the Brass in Concert contest. Revenue from these should be gained in subsequent years.

A new rehearsal venue at Chertsey Hall, Chertsey was identified in late 2023 and the Band moved in at the start of 2024. Costs are higher, but the venue is superior to the previous one and is also suitable for concerts.

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.

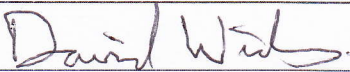
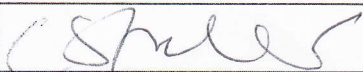
## Section F

## Other optional information

**Section G Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	David Wicks	Lauren Straker
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	Secretary

Date 29/9/2024 2024



# FRIARY BRASS BAND

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/03/2024

### RECEIPTS

INTEREST			470.52
SUBSCRIPTIONS			7,355.00
ENGAGEMENTS	Full Band	6,250.00	
	Sole/Ensemble	150.00	6,400.00
CONTEST PRIZES			275.00
CONTEST TRAVEL SUPPLEMENT			541.00
CONTEST HOTEL (Deposit paid 22/23)			548.74
CONCERT INCOME			862.31

### FUNDRAISING/DONATIONS

	Amazon Comm	39.79	
	Collections	35.82	
	Donations	700.00	775.61
CHARITY A/C DISBURSEMENT			478.02
From CHARITY A/C - KSS Air Ambulance			478.01
TRAVEL EXPENSES DONATIONS			93,257.67
GIFT AID			19,171.82
CD SALES			114.00

**130,727.70**

Balances brought forward 2022/2023

Lloyds A/c No 1	696.81	
less cheques outstanding		
None		
Lloyds A/c No 1	696.81	
Lloyds A/c No 2	200.00	
Deposit A/c	44,000.00	<b>44896.81</b>
Supporters' Account	0.00	

**175,624.51**

Treasurer : J Challiss

*J Challiss*

### PAYMENTS

CONDUCTORS	General	10,101.00	
	Contest/Concert	4,447.49	14,548.49
GUEST PLAYERS	Contests	4,475.86	
	Concerts	487.80	4,963.66
CONTEST ADMIN			1,158.10
CONTEST ENTRY FEES			1,004.00
INSURANCE			706.84
CONCERT ADMIN			307.84
ADMINISTRATION			1657.18
HALL HIRE (inc Contest extra rehearsals £539.00)			4615.00
UNIFORMS			962.32
EQUIPMENT/ACCESSORIES Purchases			
INSTRUMENT PURCHASES			3,258.75
EQUIPMENT/ACCESSORIES Hire/Servicing			463.00
VAN & COACH HIRE			1321.71
GIFTS			133.99
MUSIC (inc arrangements for BiC	£4092.40)		4689.12
DONATIONS - KSS Air Ambulance			478.01
TRAVEL EXPENSES			93,257.67
GIFT AID TO CHARITY A/C			32.39

**133,558.07**

Balances carried forward 2024/2025

Lloyds A/c No 1	241.10	
less cheques outstanding		
None		
Lloyds A/c No 1	241.10	
Lloyds A/c No 2	225.34	
Deposit A/c	41,600.00	<b>42066.44</b>
Supporters' Account	0.00	

**175,624.51**

Independent Examiner :

*NPK et*  
FCA  
7673048



## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/03/2024

## PAYMENTS

Treasurer : J Challiss

Independent Examiner :

Thaler

UK at  
FCA  
7673048

# FRIARY BRASS BAND

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/03/2024

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INTEREST			470.52
SUBSCRIPTIONS			7,355.00
ENGAGEMENTS	Full Band	6,250.00	
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Balances brought forward 2022/2023

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Lloyds A/c No 2	200.00	
Deposit A/c	44,000.00	<b>44896.81</b>
Supporters' Account	0.00	

**175,624.51**

Treasurer : J Challiss

*J Challiss*

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DONATIONS - KSS Air Ambulance			478.01
TRAVEL EXPENSES			93,257.67
GIFT AID TO CHARITY A/C			32.39

**133,558.07**

Balances carried forward 2024/2025

Lloyds A/c No 1	241.10	
less cheques outstanding		
None		
Lloyds A/c No 1	241.10	
Lloyds A/c No 2	225.34	
Deposit A/c	41,600.00	<b>42066.44</b>
Supporters' Account	0.00	

**175,624.51**

Independent Examiner :

*NPK et*  
FCA  
7673048



# FRIARY BRASS BAND - Charity Account

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/03/2024

## RECEIPTS

Collection - The Meadows - Dec 23 388.68  
Gift Aid (St Sebastians via main A/c) 32.39

421.07

Balances brought forward 2022/2023

696.91

1,117.98

## PAYMENTS

Disbursement to Main Band funds 478.02  
Tfr to main a/c -  
Paid to KSS Air Ambulance 478.01  
Donation to St Sebastians 161.95

1,117.98

Balances carried forward 2024/2025

0.00

1,117.98

Treasurer : J Challiss

*J Challiss*

Independent Examiner :

*WKR at*  
FCA  
7673048