



For Period

From

Period start date		
1	Oct	2022

To

Period end date		
30	Sept	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name **Buxton Well Dressing Festival**

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) **1156707**

Charity's principal address **17 Lansdowne Road**

Buxton

Postcode

SK17 6RR

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	Richard Lower	Chair		
2	Kathryn Gilson	Member		
3	Christine Gould	Well Dressing Secretary		
4	John Moss	Vice-President		
5	Martin Gilson	Treasurer		
6	Helen Barker	Minutes Secretary		
7				
8				
9				

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
none	

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members

Management Committee: Richard Lower, Martin Gilson, Christine Gould, Maureen Kitchen, Claire Wood, Charles Kitchen, Helen Barker, Claire Morrell, Graeme Kitchen, Colin Phillips, Linda Grooby, Aneta Mosley, Mark Stout

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution: last amended at Extraordinary General Meeting on 4 th April 2014
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	A Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected at a General Meeting and re-appointed annually at the AGM held in November or December

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.

Buxton Well Dressing Festival is a Registered Charity (Charity Number 1156707)

The Buxton Well Dressing Festival is managed by a committee of members that includes trustees.

All trustees, committee members and members give their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

To promote the arts and advance education for the benefit of the public in Buxton, Derbyshire and the surrounding area, in particular but not exclusively by:

- (1) preserving and promoting the historical tradition of a Well Dressing Festival and
- (2) advancing education in the historical tradition and craft of well dressing, particularly but not exclusively, through the provision of workshops, exhibitions and demonstrations.

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 focus of our activities remains the Well Dressing Festival which takes place in Buxton every July.

This includes the preservation of the historical tradition of a Well Dressing Festival in Buxton which began in 1840.

The festival includes:

- The annual dressing of the floral boards. This includes the engagement with students from Buxton Community School who design and dress their own floral boards.
- The blessing ceremony, where local dignitaries, clergy and town's people process through the town blessing each well dressing and giving thanks for the provision of water.
- The selection and crowning of a Well Dressing Queen and Retinue. The Well Dressing Queen and Retinue represent Buxton at events in Buxton and the surrounding region.
- A carnival parade around the streets of Buxton, creating a day of celebration in the town supported and enjoyed by many organisations, individuals and businesses.
- A fun fair on Buxton Market Place for the entertainment of the people of Buxton and the surrounding area.
- Other events and competitions.

Details and information can be found on our website:
www.buxtonwelldressing.co.uk

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.

A great contribution is made by member volunteers and other volunteers from Buxton.

We are grateful for the many hours volunteers have spent working to make the Buxton Well Dressing Festival a success. Without this valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise we would not have been able to maintain our traditional festival.

We are also grateful for the financial contribution made by donation, sponsorship and grants that allows the costs of staging the festival events to be met.

Thank you to everyone.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

During 2023 we have organised the full range events of the Buxton Well Dressing Festival.

- The Well Dressings celebrated the flora and fauna of the Derbyshire Peak District and Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.
- A dressing was also prepared for the lion-head fountain in the Pump Room, and the Children's Well was again designed a dressed by pupils from Buxton Community School.
- The Buxton Well Dressing Festival Queen and Rosebud were crowned by Netta Christie founder of Discover Buxton and support of local businesses.
- Our Queen and Retinue have won many awards whilst representing Buxton in neighbouring carnivals and events.
- The carnival this year included a group from the Thai Embassy national costume promoting the tourism and culture (kindly arranged by Simply Thai restaurant) and again steam traction engines. These complemented the tremendous floats, puppets and costumes of the many local participants.

Thank you to everyone their hard work.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We endeavour to hold reserves to cover one year's expenses of running the Buxton Well Dressing Festival

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

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.

Our principal sources of funding remain:

- Public collections made during the carnival and at the well dressings
- Sponsorship and grants
- Advertising revenue for our programme
- Fund raising events

We thank everyone for their generous support.

Details of income and expenditure will be reported in detail at our AGM on 28th November 2023.

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)

Richard Lower

Full name(s)

Richard Lower

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Date

25th March 2024

Buxton Well Dressing Festival

Receipts and Payments for the year ending 30th September 2023

Receipts		Payments
Opening Balances 1st October 2022		
Nat West Current Account	£13,810.22	
Nat West Business Reserve Account	£6,132.09	
CC Bank 120 Day Notice Account	£61,089.94	
Cash at hand	£0.00	
	£81,032.25	
Closing Balances 30th September 2023		
Interest Nat West Business Reserve Account	£61.39	£14,248.38
Interest CC Bank 120 Day Notice Account	£2,005.89	£6,193.48
Well Dressing Festival - Receipts (List 1)	£16,197.05	£63,095.83
		£0.00
		£(131.59)
		£83,406.10

Statement of assets and liabilities at 30th September 2023

Bank balances and cash at hand	£83,274.51
Debtors	£0.00
Liabilities	£131.59

Total Receipts	£18,264.33
Total Payments	£15,890.48
Profit / (Loss) for year ending 30th September 2023	£2,373.85

I have confirmed the bank balances with the supporting bank statements:

Trustees:

Treasurer

Chairman

Scrutineer

Signed:

Date:

Alba

Richard Lover

D. Barnett

10th October 2023

10th October 2023

5 November 2023