



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st January 2024 Period start date To 31st December 2024 Period end date

Charity name: Isle of Wight Literary Festival

Charity registration number: 116481

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the CIO are: a) to promote the arts for the public benefit, and in particular the art of literature, by the establishment and maintenance of an annual arts festival b) to advance the education of the public by promoting and providing opportunities for the appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of literature.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The festival featured over 40 speakers presenting sessions on a variety of topics from fiction, history, politics, archaeology, and current events. The wide range of subjects encourages a more diverse audience who are then able to take advantage of expanding their horizons by attending sessions that they might not have otherwise. The Charity supports a Schools' Programme. In 2024 we delivered 78 author led workshops over the course of two days to 5000+ school children. Eighteen authors took part delivering multiple assemblies and author led workshops. Twenty-two schools and six secondary schools benefited from the free programme. LitFeast, now in its second year, featured cooking demonstrations and cookery writers. LitFeast attracted an audience that might not otherwise attend a literary festival. To support the local writing community, a new section, Write on Wight, was added to the festival. An area was set aside for local authors to sell their books. Author! Author! allowed local authors the opportunity to "pitch" their

		books. A panel of local authors discussed how to turn inspiration to publication. We continued to film talks for our YouTube channel in order to extend the appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the festival beyond four days. Our YouTube channel attracts a worldwide audience.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees declare that they have had regard to the guidance from the Charity Commission in running the festival for the benefit of the public.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The festival is run entirely by volunteers. A core of volunteers curates the programme, markets the event, secures funding by seeking sponsorship, grants and holds an annual literary lunch featuring a raffle and auction. More than 50 volunteers undertake the activities necessary to manage the four-day festival.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The festival exposes people to new ideas, and encourages people to learn more about a subject. It brings people of different social, economic and ethnicity together. The festival provides a platform for first time as well as established authors. Our schools' programme sparks creativity and enthuses pupils to expand their horizons. It is not unusual for pupils to realise that they can be an author, a poet or a storyteller. Volunteering is an important aspect of the festival. It gives the volunteers a sense of achievement and an opportunity to learn new skills. Volunteers often form new friendships. Many sectors of the island economy depend upon tourism. Held in October, the festival extends the season by giving tourists a reason to visit the island.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	31.12.2024	The Charity secured funds sufficient to enable it to meet its financial obligations until fundraising for the next event
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held		The Charity aims to end its financial year with sufficient reserves to initiate the commencement of the following year's festival.
Amount of reserves held	£26,403	Cash Reserves at 31.12.2024
Reasons for holding zero reserves	n/a	
Details of fund materially in deficit	n/a	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern		While ticket sales fund the majority of the festival's cost, the festival depends on donations, sponsorship and grants to cover the cost of the festival.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Foundation model constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are selected for their skillset and through recommendations by respected individuals associated with the festival. Trustees may also be chosen because of contributions they have made by serving on a committee.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Isle of Wight Literary Festival
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	116481
Charity's principal address	Northwood House Ward Avenue Cowes Isle of Wight PO31 8AZ

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	Margaret Edwina Ankers	Chair		
2	Victoria Mary Guesdon Orr-Ewing	President		
3	Janet Lee Allan			
4	Graham Barnetson	Treasurer		
5	Robin Vandeleur Courage			
6	Julia Dams			
7	Vanessa Elizabeth Hounsfield			
8	Gioia Minghella-Giddens			
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)**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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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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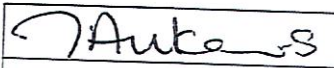
Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Margaret Edwina Ankers	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	01/05/2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Isle of Wight Literary Festival

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1164814

Set out on pages

1 to 3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

23/10/2025

Name:

David Stevens

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ACA

Address:

BRIGHT BROWN LIMITED, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, EXCHANGE
HOUSE, ST CROSS LANE, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT PO30 5BZ

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32. Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Isle of Wight Literary Festival

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from 1st January 2024 To 1st December 2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Tickets	86,096	-	-	86,096	50,950
Donations	34,277	-	-	34,277	9,660
Book sales	-	-	-	-	-
Cowes Town Council	-	-	-	-	2,500
Gift aid	775	-	-	775	429
Benefactors	4,835	-	-	4,835	8,707
Advertising	-	-	-	-	-
Red Funnel Limited	-	-	-	-	-
Literary Lunch	6,453	-	-	6,453	7,006
Medina publishing	-	-	-	-	1,745
Schools	-	-	-	-	12,000
Merchandise sales	360	-	-	360	542
Car park	1,321	-	-	1,321	1,237
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	134,117	-	-	134,117	94,776
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	134,117	-	-	134,117	94,776
A3 Payments					
Project management	15,436	-	-	15,436	12,707
Website	2,494	-	-	2,494	2,262
Advertising, Marketing and media, programme printing	5,332	-	-	5,332	5,604
Author's fees, accommodation and transport	17,823	-	-	17,823	16,698
Book cost	-	-	-	-	-
Venues and audio visual	36,942	-	-	36,942	34,962
Musicians	420	-	-	420	1,650
Professional fees	880	-	-	880	573
Volunteer expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	1,306	-	-	1,306	1,329
Sundry	7,473	-	-	7,473	958
Literary lunch	-	-	-	-	-
Office rent and rates etc.	4,246	-	-	4,246	4,837
Bank charges	6,947	-	-	6,947	1,168
Schools programme	18,082	-	-	18,082	8,114
Sub total	117,380	-	-	117,380	90,862
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	117,380	-	-	117,380	90,862
Net of receipts/(payments)	16,737	-	-	16,737	3,914
A5 Transfers between funds	9,052	- 9,052	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	614	9,052	-	9,666	5,752
Cash funds this year end	26,403	-	-	26,403	9,666

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank current account	26,403		-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	26,403	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Computer equipment	Unrestricted	3,000	100
	Desks	Unrestricted	-	300
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Graham Barnetson	23.10.2025