

BRISTOL SAMBA

England & Wales · Charity number 1165208

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2016-01-19

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Trinity Community Arts Ltd
The Trinity Centre
Trinity Road
Bristol
BS2 0NW

Phone 01179351200

Email admin@bristolsamba.co.uk

Website www.bristolsamba.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN, AND APPRECIATION OF, THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC IN ALL ITS ASPECTS BY ANY MEANS THE TRUSTEES SEE FIT, INCLUDING THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC CONCERTS AND RECITALS;

Activities: To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Bath And North East Somerset
- Bristol City
- North Somerset
- South Gloucestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£28,664	£28,138	-	-
2024-08-31	£28,718	£29,635	-	-
2023-08-31	£29,315	£29,772	-	-
2022-08-31	£24,094	£23,631	-	-
2021-08-31	£9,754	£7,179	-	-
2020-08-31	£13,704	£15,977	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Michael Gleed	Chair	2024-12-02
Carrie Derrick		2024-12-02
Celia Hunt		2025-12-08
Claudia Spoto		2021-11-29
Dr Tracy Whale		2019-11-11
Jonathan Walford		2022-11-28
Lois Cox		2019-11-11
Maria Paessler		2023-11-27
SOPHIE AXFORD		2017-10-23
Sally Hare		2023-12-12
Sandra Badman		2021-11-29
Tim Young		2025-12-08
Traceydawn White		2019-11-11

BRISTOL SAMBA

England & Wales - Charity number 1165208

Accounts



Bristol Samba
Charity Number: 1165208

Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements
for the Period
1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025

December 2025

Bristol Samba

Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements
for the Financial Period from 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025
Reference & Administration Details

Charity Details:

Name: Bristol Samba

Number: 1165208

Address: The Trinity Centre, Trinity Road, Old Market, Bristol BS20 0NW

Names of the Charity Trustees who Manage the Charity:

Name	Role	Dates
Mike Glead	Chair	
Carrie Derrick	Treasurer	
Maria Paessler	Secretary	
Sally Hare	Bulletin Coordinator	
Lois Cox	Bookings Coordinator	
Tracy Whale	New Members' Coordinator	
Claudia Spoto	Social Media Coordinator	
Liz Elliott	Web Coordinator	
Jackie East	Dancers' Representative	
Sophie Axford	Merchandise Coordinator	
Traceydawn White	Transport Coordinator	
Sandie Badman	Instruments Coordinator	
Jonathan Walford	Vice Chair	
Celia Hunt	Non-portfolio	Co-opted
Michelle Chandler	Beginners' Representative	Co-opted

With thanks to the following non-Trustees who have helped the Committee over the period: Tom Hinton (IT), Kate Ticehurst and Ellie Williams (Social Secretaries).

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of the Charity's Trusts

Type of Governing Document

Constitution.

How the Charity is Constituted

Unincorporated Association.

Trustee Selection Methods

Trustees are elected or reappointed by the members during the Annual General Meeting (AGM). In accordance with the Constitution, Trustees are appointed or re-appointed for a term of three years. Trustees may be co-opted in accordance with our Constitution.

Recruiting New Trustees

Vacant Trustee posts are advertised to existing Bristol Samba (BS) members prior to an AGM via the weekly email bulletin. Advertisements include a person specification and listed desirable qualities for each role. Those interested are invited to talk to existing Trustees, or postholders, to find out further information.

How New Trustees are Inducted and Trained

When a BS member is elected to be a Trustee, they are given various documents detailing their responsibilities, including the Charity Commission's document *Becoming a Trustee*. They are given access to the BS shared Google Drive, which contains all previous documentation relating to BS. New Trustees are given a thorough handover to enable them to complete their role.

Trustees' Meetings

The Trustees had seven meetings during the financial year, with an average level of attendance of over 70%.

Objects and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in our governing document:

'... to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the Trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.'

Statutory Declaration on Public Benefit

The Trustees of Bristol Samba declare that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Executive Summary

Trustees were mindful of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when considering both the development of our members and the performance bookings that we accepted as Bristol Samba.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

In accordance with our Constitution, we welcome anyone (18+) to become a member of Bristol Samba regardless of faith, gender, disability, background or personal circumstances.

Bristol Samba engages friendly, knowledgeable, talented, enthusiastic and experienced tutors to teach, inform, encourage and develop the various groups of Bristol Samba through their passion for music and dance, as well as being part of Bristol Samba.

The beginners' drumming teacher nurtures and develops confidence; the later drumming group's teacher (and Musical Director) develops and challenges the players to push themselves to excel; the dance teacher encourages and develops those involved to become confident and expressive dancers. Their quality teaching and commitment to Bristol Samba enables us to advance and to achieve what we are today: a distinctive and well-loved samba band.

During this financial year we offered four distinct taught classes per week – two sessions for drummers and two for dancers, for beginners and performers respectively.

Our beginner drumming class starts each January. It develops the participants' musical knowledge as well as advancing their practical skills in Brazilian percussion. Beginner drummers spend a year learning about Brazilian styles of music before advancing to the later class, which develops the participants' ability and confidence to enable them to perform, should they wish. Drummers graduate to the performing band with a celebration and public performance around the end of each year (see *Members* below).

Dancers begin their journey in the beginners' class throughout the year, moving to the established performance group, which practises alongside the drummers, when appropriate. We have seen a number of dancers start their Bristol Samba journey at our free dance workshops, so we are looking to continue with these to maintain a steady intake of beginners.

Members

We celebrated the class of 2024 beginner drummers' graduation to the performance group in December, with a debut performance to family and friends – the audience were enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed being part of the celebration.

Dom, in his role as Musical Director, lead the teaching of the performance group with enthusiasm, developing their skills to play together and consolidate their learning. He was also supported by gig directors Sam Baum, who took a break from the band during the year, and Sam Malloy. This year members were invited to try out to be trained as gig directors, and Max Malpas and Sally Hare were selected from the eight candidates. They followed a

course of training over the period, with Sally directing her first gigs in August and Max ready to start directing soon.

A new cohort of drummers started in January 2025, with Silas teaching – from a gentle introduction to samba, sounding out rhythms, to selecting a preferred drum, the group gradually came together. Their first ‘crossover’, where the group played with the performing drummers, created an immense sound, where many of the early group felt part of the bigger BS family for the first time. Members of the later drumming group regularly attended the crossover sessions, held more frequently towards the end of the year, to play alongside the beginners’ class.

Drummers from the class of 2024 have continued to develop along with the other players in the performance group. Former members have also returned to the band, as well as experienced new drummer Fenn Elliott joining us to expand our ‘back line’. We are proud to see our established players helping and supporting both the beginners, and those who have recently graduated, to become confident players.

Our cohort of established, enthusiastic dancers remain at the heart of our performances, with Evie teaching, assisted by Kylie Nott. Our dance performance group has maintained its numbers over the past year or so, and it was great to see so many dancers performing at our larger gigs over the summer such as Pride and St Werburgh’s Farm Fair. The dedication and commitment shown by the newer members of the performance group has been amazing, and it was great to be able to share the experience of performing over the summer to large crowds in and around Bristol.

Performances

Every public performance by Bristol Samba is a celebration of our members’ achievements in developing their skills, whether by playing or dancing.

September 2024 to August 2025 has seen some fantastic performance opportunities for Bristol Samba. We have brought our carnival vibe to the streets of Bristol and beyond, whatever the weather. We saw the return of many of our favourite events as well as new opportunities to share our love of samba:

- In September 2024 we played Party in the Park in Horfield, parading around the sports field and performing a static set at the end to an enthusiastic crowd.
- In October we played with the hula hoopers at SWHoop, starting the after party around midnight, and playing to enthusiastic revellers at our home venue of The Trinity Centre.
- In November we played in support of the Uley Lantern Parade in the Cotswolds, processing along the route with the incredible lanterns following, and culminating in a static set at the marquee.

- In January 2025, we played once more in support of our friends at the Bedminster Winter Lantern Parade. We processed through large crowds for around a mile to East Street and played a static set to finish off.
- In March we played for our member Alice's wedding celebration at the amazing Mount Without in Bristol, dressed in sparkly costumes, with Alice joining us for the finale.
- May featured a blizzard of bookings, starting with our band playing the Welsh Encontro (from the Portuguese meaning *samba meeting*) on the scenic coastline of Barry in Wales over two days, with other samba bands. Then we played at the Bristol Half Marathon on the Cumberland Basin in support of the runners, for our longest set of over four hours (our marathon also!) and then in support of Henleaze School at their annual summer fair.
- June was our busiest month, starting with VolksFest at Long Ashton, dressed as Mexicans and processing through a summer downpour, to perform a static set in front of the crowd. St Werburgh's Fair came next, where we celebrated by playing and dancing through the streets to a large audience and our finale in the long tunnel, with a huge band of drummers and dancers. This was followed by a well-attended busk on Durdham Downs to celebrate the summer weather and lighter evenings. Next was Party in the Ponds at Vassalls Park in Fishponds, where we opened the free community festival with a lively static set to warm up the festivalgoers, and also to celebrate the summer solstice.
- July saw the band perform at Pride in support of the LGBTQ+ community, processing through the city centre with thousands of people marching to our music, in sweltering temperatures, which also included two static sets. We also supported ITV's *Britain's Got Talent* show by providing drummers and dancers for the filming of their regional program opening shots.
- August saw the band back at the Mount Without on St. Michaels Hill, for another members' wedding: Bex. This time, the band gave a surprise performance to the guests outside the venue.
- August Bank Holiday saw a new development for the band, when a clash of two regular gigs necessitated a two-way split of available performers. One section played Shambala Festival in Northamptonshire, and the other played Forwards Festival on Durdham Downs in Bristol. This proves our resilience and flexibility as a group of performers, to maximise our booking availability and therefore public exposure.
- At the end of August, we played in support of the Naked Bike Ride, on Castle Park, with the cyclists pausing their journey to dance to our sounds. We received very positive feedback from the organisers, who appreciated our efforts to make them feel comfortable.

Our members really enjoy getting involved in such an eclectic mix of events, drumming, dancing, waving, smiling and shouting and we love them all, big and small.

Contribution by volunteers

The Trustees remain hugely grateful for the contribution made by our member volunteers who perform with incredible enthusiasm, promoting Bristol Samba to and for the general public benefit.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to members who volunteer to organise gigs and drive the van, without whom we wouldn't be able to perform.

Our superb team of directors lead us when we perform for public enjoyment. Without their willingness and commitment to learn to direct and lead, Bristol Samba simply would not be able to perform as often as we do, and in different spheres/arenas/to different audiences. We continue to train gigging directors to maintain our capacity for public performance.

Trustees would like to thank each and every one of our members who have been part of this journey, through either playing or dancing, and who are still with us – being part of the Bristol Samba family. We are so proud to say that we are Bristol Samba – the longest-established samba band in Bristol.

Social Media

The band maintains an active profile on social media. This helps raise awareness of the band and foster good relationships with our supporters.

Instagram: Numbers growing steadily (+3.3% in last three months to November 2025), with 1,066 followers.

Facebook: we have 1,231 followers as of November 2025.

Financial Review

State of the Charity's finances

Bristol Samba's income in 2024-25 was £28,657.97, which was a slight decrease from the previous year. The total expenditure was £26,837.05, giving an overall gain of £1,820.92. Our accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

The principal source of income for the charity comes from members' subscriptions (£20,984.37), which enable members to access tuition as well as to perform with the band at festivals, carnivals and other events. Our overall income from membership subscriptions has increased this year, mainly due to a high rate of retention of graduating drummers as well as an increase in subs in January 2025. The remainder of our income came from bookings for performances (£5,595). Also listed as sources of income are sale of merchandise and Shambala festival tickets to members, which are sold at cost.

The main costs to the charity are the payment of tutors and directors (£15,075), hire of our rehearsal space and storage of equipment (£6,176), equipment purchase and maintenance (£291.37), the maintenance of our van (£2,331.18), and ad hoc expenses such as our insurance and other sundry items (£1,068.60).

Our expenditure supports the key objectives of the charity: paying for the tutors, the hire of rehearsal space, along with purchasing new equipment to ensure that our sound is suitable for performance standards.

Statement of the Charity's policy on reserves

We do not yet have a policy for the charity's reserves.

We hold cash at the bank of around £10,000, all of which is unrestricted funds. These funds are held in order to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur, for example vehicle repair or to account for a fluctuation in the membership numbers, or for purchasing new equipment.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

The Trustees declare that the charity had no funds which were materially in deficit at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

Restricted funds

We have no restricted funds.

Designated funds

We have no designated funds.

Particulars of any outstanding guarantee given by the Charity

The Trustees declare that the charity has given no guarantee where potential liability is outstanding at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

Particulars of any outstanding debt

The Trustees declare that the charity has no outstanding debts which are secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the charity at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the above report and authorised that it be signed on their behalf.

Signatures		
Full names	Michael Robert Gleed	Carrie Derrick
Position	Chair	Treasurer
Date	11/11/25	6/11/25

Bristol Samba Charity No: 1165208							
Receipts and payments accounts							
From	Period start date:			To	Period end date:		
	Day 1st	Month September	Year 2024		Day 31 st	Month August	Year 2025

	Unrestricted funds 2024 – 25	Restricted funds/ Endowment funds	Total funds for 2022 - 23	Total Funds for 2023-24	Total Funds for 2024-25
A1 Receipts					
Subs early group	£3536.00	-	£4,419.00	£1,940.00	£3536.00
Subs later groups	£13,686.08	-	£13,168.00	£14,603.00	£13,686.08

Subs dancers	£3762.29	-	£2,780.00	£2,739.42	£3762.29
Gigs	£5595.00	-	£5,050.00	£4,230.00	£5595.00
T shirts, kneepads, earplugs	£518.00	-	£316.00	£862.00	£518.00
Shambala contributions	£1560.00	-	£3,582.00	£4,344.00	£1560.00
Sub total	£28,657.97	-	£29,315.00	£28,718.42	£28,657.97
A2 asset and investment sales		-		-	
Total receipts	£28,657.97	-	£29,315.00	£28,718.42	£28,657.97
		-		-	-
		-			

A3 Payments	2024-25	Restricted/ endowment	Total funds for 2022 - 23	Total Funds for 2023-24	Total Funds for 2024-25
Teaching and Directors fees	£15,075.00	-	£12,557.00	£14,072.50	£15,075.00
Trinity Hire & storage	£6176.00	-	£6,667.00	£5,549.60	£6176.00
General Expenses	£1068.60	-	£1,578.00	£1,551.72	£1068.60
Van Expenses	£2331.18	-	£1,514.00	£2,830.70	£2331.18
Equipment	£291.37	-	£1,179.00	£188.89	£291.37
Merchandise	£0		£729.00	-	£0
Shambala Contributions	£1554.90	-	£3,581.00	£4,335.00	£1554.90
Gig Drivers and Organisers	£340				£340
Sub total	£26, 837.05		£27,805.00	£28,528.41	£26, 837.05
A2 asset and investment purchases (instruments**)	-	-	£1,967.00	£1106.47	-

Total payments	£26,837.05	-	£29,772.00	£29,634.88	£26,837.05
Net of receipts(payments)	+1729.92			-£916.46	

Section B: Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period				
		2022-23	2023-24	2024 – 25
B1 Cash funds	Cash at the bank	£10,055.00	£9,118.27	£10,847.49
B4 Assets retained for the charities own use	Samba Van	£3,200.00	£3,100.00	£3000.00
	Instruments	£10,500.00	£10,500.00	£10,500.00
	Stock	£1,648.50	£862.00	£720
B5 Liabilities	None	None	None	None

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bristol Samba

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bristol Samba for the period 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Bristol Samba, 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 Bristol Samba accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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. There was a slight discrepancy in the final figures presented of minus £91. I discovered this to be due to a couple of mistypes of values which, when corrected, brought the records in full accordance with the bank statements. I am, therefore, happy to confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed: *A Butler*

Name: Arabella Butler

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): AAT

Address: 101 Cottenham Park Road, London SW20 ODS

Date: 07/12/2025

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bristol Samba

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bristol Samba for the period 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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Independent examiner's statement

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Signed: *A Butler*

Name: Arabella Butler

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): AAT

Address: 101 Cottenham Park Road, London SW20 ODS

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BRISTOL SAMBA

England & Wales - Charity number 1165208

Accounts



Bristol Samba
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Bristol Samba

**Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements
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Reference & Administration Details**

Charity Details:

Name : Bristol Samba

Number: 1165208

Address: The Trinity Centre, Trinity Road, Old Market, Bristol BS20 0NW.

Names of the Charity Trustees who Manage the Charity

Name	Role	Dates
Jan Davies	Chair/Safeguarding Officer	
Elizabeth Elliott	Treasurer	
Charlotte Allen	Secretary	27/11/23 - 11/12/23
Maria Paessler	Bulletin Coordinator	Co-opted 12/12//23
	Secretary	29/2/24 to present
Lois Cox	Bookings Coordinator	
Tracy Whale	New Members' Coordinator	
Claudia Spoto	Social Media Coordinator	
Laura Chapman	Dancers' Representative	
Sophie Axford	Merchandise Coordinator	
Traceydawn White	Transport Coordinator	
Jon Mills	Vice Chair	27/11/23 - 14/9/24
Sandie Badman	Equipment Coordinator	
Jonathan Walford	Non- portfolio	
Charlotte Allen	Non- portfolio	12/12/23 to present
Sally Hare	Bulletin Coordinator	Co-opted 29/2/24 to present
Mike Gleed	Vice Chair	Co-opted 30/9/24

With thanks to the following non-Trustees who have helped the Committee over the period: Tom Hinton (IT).

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of the Charity's Trusts

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How the Charity is Constituted

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Trustees' Meetings

The Trustees had 6 meetings during the financial year, with an average level of attendance of 76 %.

Objects and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in our governing document:

'... to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the Trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.'

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Activities, Achievements and Performance

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Bristol Samba engages friendly, knowledgeable, talented, enthusiastic and experienced tutors to teach, inform, encourage and develop the various groups of Bristol Samba through their passion for music and dance, as well as being part of Bristol Samba.

Each tutor has superb individual qualities that they bring to their classes: the beginners' teacher nurtures and develops confidence; the later group's teacher develops and challenges the players to push themselves to excel; the dance teacher encourages and develops those involved to become confident and expressive dancers. Their quality teaching and commitment to Bristol Samba enables us to advance and to achieve what we are today: a distinctive and well-loved samba band.

During this financial year we offered four taught classes – two sessions for drummers and two for dancers, for beginners and performers respectively.

Our beginner drumming class usually starts in September each year. It develops the participants' musical knowledge as well as advancing their practical skills in Brazilian percussion. Beginner drummers spend a year learning about Brazilian styles of music before advancing to the later class, which develops the participants' ability and confidence to enable them to perform, should they wish. This year we delayed the start of the new group until January '24 and slimmed it down from 30 to 20 members to compensate for the large number of members in the main group. Our last session in December will see our current beginners group graduate, ready to join our main band in January '25.

Dancers begin their journey in the beginners' class throughout the year, moving to the established performance group, which practises alongside the drummers when appropriate. We have seen a number of dancers start their Bristol Samba journey at our free dance workshops, so we are looking to continue with these to keep recruiting beginners

Members

On 25th of September 2023, we celebrated the class of 2022-23 beginner drummers' graduation to the later group with a debut performance to family and friends – the audience were enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed being part of the celebration.

The trustees decided to delay the start of a new beginner's group. We wanted the now large group of later group drummers to settle in. We were also aware that we only had enough instruments for the number of drummers that were currently playing with the inclusion of the new graduates. Dom in his role of acting Music Director lead the teaching of this large group, with enthusiasm, developing their skills to play together and consolidate their learning. He was supported by Sam B, who helped teach such a large group of drummers.

In December, Silas made a welcome return to teaching, leading a couple of master classes to the later group, refining their playing.

A new cohort of drummers started in January – this was only a small group of 20 drummers compared to the usual 30 that we usually recruit.

From a gentle introduction to samba, tapping on the floor with sticks, sounding out rhythms, to selecting a preferred drum, the group gradually came together under the expert tutelage of Silas, supported by Sam during the initial settling in phase. Their first 'crossover', where the group played with the performing drummers, created an immense sound where many of the early group felt part of the bigger BS 'Sambafam' for the first time. Members of the later drumming group regularly attended the sessions to play alongside the beginner's class

Our directors settled into their new roles as the year progressed. Dom developed the introduction to samba reggae and Sam introduced a brilliant new drum and bass rhythm to develop our repertoire. In September Dom was officially made our Music Director.

Retention of the drummers from the class of 2022-23 has been good, and they have continued to develop along with the other players in the later group, on their learning journey. Former members have returned to the band, swelling our numbers even more. We are proud to see our established players helping and supporting both the beginners and those who have recently graduated to become confident players.

In June we surveyed our members on various aspects of BS. The response was overwhelmingly positive. We asked for suggestions on how we could improve things and many of these were implemented and have been really successful. Examples include an online suggestion box and moving the time of the break in rehearsals to half-way through the session.

Our cohort of established, enthusiastic dancers remain at the heart of our performances. Our dance performance group has grown slowly in number over the past year or so and it was great to see so many dancers performing at our larger gigs over the summer such as Pride and St Werburghs Farm Fair. The dedication and commitment shown by the newer members of the performance group has been amazing, and it was great to be able to share the experience of performing over the summer to large crowds in and around Bristol.

Performances

Every public **performance** by Bristol Samba is a celebration of our members' achievements in developing their skills, whether by playing or dancing.

This year has seen some fantastic gigs for Bristol Samba and we have played our rhythms and got people's feet moving on the streets of Bristol and beyond. The band and dancers have continued to play and perform come rain or shine. We saw the return of many of our favourite events as well as a few new ones:

- In October we celebrated with the hula hooping community at SWHoop, playing late into the night and entertaining crowds who hooped and boogied in their incredible costumes. Such excellent fun!
- We paraded with the lanterns at Uley lantern festival in November and lit up our drums (and bodies!) to join them.
- In April we celebrated samba and drumming, playing with bands from Bristol and beyond at Tambor. We were lucky to be selected to play and it is an event showcasing talent and celebrating each other, from our 'home' at Trinity.
- We came together to celebrate the birthday of one of our long standing dancers Jackie, and had an absolute blast in Wales, everyone let their hair down and had a fantastic time.
- Once again, we had a great time playing for the runners of the Bristol 10k and half marathon – including some players from Bristol Samba – a long gig, but so worth the looks on the runners' faces as they sped past us. We enjoyed breakfast sandwiches supplied by our drummer Celia and the early start was definitely worth it!
- We had our biggest band yet for St Werburgh's and returned this year to entertain the streets surrounding the farm fair. We loved this gig, as always, and feel so lucky to be asked time and time again to light up St Werburghs with our rhythms.
- Bristol Pride was another highlight, as always. We once again collaborated with NatWest and Pride to accompany the parade in colourful costumes. Our efforts are always appreciated and celebrated and there is plenty of dancing and huge smiles. This event is an incredible celebration of diversity within the LGBTQ+ community, the atmosphere made drumming and dancing in the blazing sun feel almost easy.
- We played two festivals in late summer: Shambala and Forwards. We had nearly every weather type between the two and we played through it all, rain, wind and blazing sun! We had the usual challenge of having limited tickets to these events and worked hard to ensure that selection was fair and equitable across the band. It was great to see dancers step up to lead the dancers at these events in particular. Gigs at both of these events were adored by audiences – even in the pouring rain at Forwards, we also enjoyed playing 'how many band members can we shelter in our van!
- We enjoyed other local community events, school summer fairs, fundraising events throughout the year, these events keep our calendar rolling and are all great fun with fantastic audiences. We also took part in various items of filming, including for ITV out by the Bristol suspension bridge. Our members enjoy getting involved in such

an eclectic mix of events, drumming, dancing, waving, smiling and shouting and we love them all.

Contribution by volunteers

The Trustees remain hugely grateful for the **contribution made by our member volunteers** who perform with incredible enthusiasm, promoting Bristol Samba to and for the general public benefit.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the gig organisers and volunteer van drivers, without whom we wouldn't be able to perform.

Our superb team of directors lead us when we perform for public enjoyment. Without their willingness and commitment to learn to direct and lead, Bristol Samba simply would not be able to perform as often as we do and in different spheres/arenas/to different audiences. We continue to train gigging directors to maintain our capacity for public performance.

Thank you to each and every one of you who has been part of this journey, through either playing or dancing, and who are still with us – being part of the Bristol Samba family. We are so proud to say that we are Bristol Samba – the longest-established samba band in Bristol.

Financial Review

State of the Charity's finances

Bristol Samba's income in 2023-24 was £28,718.42 which was a decrease from the previous year. The total expenditure was £29,634.88, giving an overall loss of £916.46. Our accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

The principal source of income for the charity comes from members' subscriptions (£19,282.42), which enable members to access tuition as well as to perform with the band at festivals, carnivals and other events. Our overall income from membership subscriptions have decreased this year, mainly due to a smaller than usual group of beginner drummers who started the course in January 2024 rather than September 2023. This meant we did not receive income from beginner drummers between September 2023 and January 2024. This was partially offset by lower rehearsal venue rental costs during that period. We have not raised the individual subscriptions rates this year, though we have changed the system of members subscriptions payments from 8-week blocks to monthly payments. The remainder of our income came from bookings for performances (£4,230.00). Also listed as sources of income are sale of merchandise and Shambala festival tickets to members, which are sold at cost.

The main costs to the charity are the payment of tutors and directors (£14,072.50), hire of our rehearsal space and storage of equipment (£5,549.60), equipment purchase and maintenance (£1,295.36), the maintenance of our van (£2,830.70), and ad hoc expenses such as our insurance and other sundry items (£1,511.72). In 2023-24 we invested in

maintenance of our existing instruments, which was seen as essential due to the number of members we now have.

Our expenditure supports the key objectives of the charity: paying for the tutors, the hire of rehearsal space, along with purchasing new equipment to ensure that our sound is suitable for performance standards.

Statement of the Charity's policy on reserves

We do not yet have a policy for the charity's reserves.

We hold cash at the bank of around £9,000, all of which is unrestricted funds. These funds are held in order to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur, for example vehicle repair or to account for a fluctuation in the membership numbers, or for purchasing new equipment.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

The Trustees declare that the charity had no funds which were materially in deficit at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

Restricted funds

We have no restricted funds.

Designated funds

We have no designated funds.

Particulars of any outstanding guarantee given by the Charity

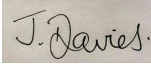
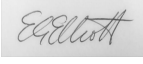
The Trustees declare that the charity has given no guarantee where potential liability is outstanding at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

Particulars of any outstanding debt

The Trustees declare that the charity has no outstanding debts which are secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the charity at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the above report and authorised that it be signed on their behalf.

Signatures		
Full names	Janice Pauline Davies	Elizabeth Elliott
Position	Chair	Treasurer
Date	13/11/24	13/11/24

Bristol Samba Charity No: 1165208
Receipts and payments accounts

From	Period start date:			To	Period end date:		
	Day 1st	Month September	Year 2023		Day 31 st	Month August	Year 2024

	Unrestricted funds 2023 – 24	Restricted funds/ Endowment funds	Total funds for 2021 - 22	Total Funds for 2022-23	Total Funds for 2023-24
A1 Receipts					
Subs early group	£1,940.00	-	£4,982.50	£4,419.00	£1,940.00
Subs later groups	£14,603.00	-	£8,161.25	£13,168.00	£14,603.00
Subs dancers	£2,739.42	-	£2,500.00	£2,780.00	£2,739.42
New beginners 2022-23		-	£1,495.00	-	-
Gigs	£4,230.00	-	£3,875.00	£5,050.00	£4,230.00
T shirts, kneepads, earplugs	£862.00	-	£758.00	£316.00	£862.00
Shambala contributions	£4,344.00	-	£2,322.00	£3,582.00	£4,344.00
Sub total	£28,718.42	-	£24,093.75	£29,315.00	£28,718.42
A2 asset and investment sales		-			-
Total receipts	£28,718.42	-	£24,093.75	£29,315.00	£28,718.42
		-		-	-
		-			

A3 Payments	2023.24	Restricted/ endowment	Total funds for 2021 - 22	Total Funds for 2022-23	Total Funds for 2023-24
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Teaching and Directors fees	£14,072.50	-	£12,775.38	£12,557.00	£14,072.50
Trinity Hire & storage	£5,549.60	-	£4,494.00	£6,667.00	£5,549.60
General Expenses	£1,551.72	-	£368.15	£1,578.00	£1,551.72
Van Expenses	£2,830.70	-	£1381.00	£1,514.00	£2,830.70
Equipment	£188.89	-	-	£1,179.00	£188.89
Merchandise			£1,207.67	£729.00	-
Shambala Contributions	£4,335.00	-	£2,365.20	£3,581.00	£4,335.00
Sub total	£28,528.41		£22,591.40	£27,805.00	£28,528.41
A2 asset and investment purchases (instruments**)	£1,106.47	-	£1,039.94	£1,967.00	£1106.47
Total payments	£29,634.88	-	£23,631.34	£29,772.00	£29,634.88
Net of receipts(payments)					-£916.46

Section B: Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period				
		2021-22	2022-23	2023 – 24
B1 Cash funds	Cash at the bank	£10,512.16	£10,055.00	£9,118.27
B4 Assets retained for the charities own use	Samba Van	£5,750.00	£3,200.00	£3,100.00
	Instruments	£9,000.00	£10,500.00	£10,500.00
	Stock	£1,236.00	£1,648.50	£862.00
B5 Liabilities	None	None	None	None

BRISTOL SAMBA

England & Wales - Charity number 1165208

Accounts



Bristol Samba
Charity Number: 1165208

Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements
for the Period
1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023

November 2023

Bristol Samba

Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements for the Financial Period from 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023

Reference & Administration Details

Charity Details:

Name : Bristol Samba

Number: 1165208

Address: The Trinity Centre, Trinity Road, Old Market, Bristol BS20 0NW.

Names of the Charity Trustees who Manage the Charity

Name	Role
Jan Davies	Chair/Safeguarding Officer
Elizabeth Elliott	Treasurer
Traceydawn White	Secretary
Lois Cox	Bookings Coordinator
Sally Hare	Bulletin Coordinator
Tracy Whale	New Members' Coordinator
Claudia Spoto	Social Media Coordinator
Laura Chapman	Dancers' Representative
Sophie Axford	Merchandise Coordinator
Jon Mills	Vice Chair
Christine Little	Equipment Coordinator
Marcus Kielly	Web Coordinator
Sandie Badman	Non- portfolio
Jonathan Walford	Beginners' Representative

With thanks to the following non-Trustees who have helped the Committee over the period: Tom Hinton (IT).

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of the Charity's Trusts

Type of Governing Document

Constitution.

How the Charity is Constituted

Unincorporated Association.

Trustee Selection Methods

Trustees are elected or reappointed by the members during the Annual General Meeting (AGM). In accordance with the Constitution, Trustees are appointed or re-appointed for a term of three years. Trustees may be co-opted in accordance with our Constitution.

Recruiting New Trustees

Vacant Trustee posts are advertised to existing Bristol Samba (BS) members prior to an AGM via the weekly email bulletin. Advertisements include a person specification and listed desirable qualities for each role. Those interested are invited to talk to existing Trustees, or postholders, to find out further information.

How New Trustees are Inducted and Trained

When a BS member is elected to be a Trustee, they are given various documents detailing their responsibilities including the Charity Commission's document *Becoming a Trustee*. They are given access to the BS shared Google Drive, which contains all previous documentation relating to BS. New Trustees are given a thorough handover to enable them to complete their role.

Trustees' Meetings

The Trustees had six meetings during the financial year, with an average level of attendance of 72%.

Objects and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in our governing document:

'... to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the Trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.'

Statutory Declaration on Public Benefit

The Trustees of Bristol Samba declare that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Executive Summary

We were mindful of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when considering both the development of our members and the performance bookings that we accepted as Bristol Samba.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

In accordance with our Constitution we welcome anyone (18+) to become a member of Bristol Samba regardless of faith, gender, disability, background or personal circumstances.

Bristol Samba engages friendly, knowledgeable, talented, enthusiastic and experienced tutors to teach, inform, encourage and develop the various groups of Bristol Samba through their passion for music and dance, as well as being part of Bristol Samba.

Each tutor has superb individual qualities that they bring to their classes: the beginners' teacher nurtures and develops confidence; the later group's teacher develops and challenges the players to push themselves to excel; the dance teacher encourages and develops those involved to become confident and expressive dancers. Their quality teaching and commitment to Bristol Samba enables us to advance and to achieve what we are today: a distinctive and well-loved samba band.

During this financial year we offered four taught classes – two sessions for drummers and two for dancers, for beginners and performers respectively.

Our beginner drumming class usually starts in September each year. It develops the participants' musical knowledge as well as advancing their practical skills in Brazilian percussion. Beginner drummers spend a year learning about Brazilian styles of music before advancing to the later class, which develops the participants' ability and confidence to enable them to perform, should they wish. Dancers begin their journey in the beginners' class throughout the year, moving to the established performance group, which practices alongside the drummers when appropriate.

In March our Musical Director, Silas Mosbacher, stepped away from teaching any form of percussion due to an acute problem with his hearing. This meant that he could no longer teach the later group or be part of the development of the early drumming group. Silas sought medical advice and, while it was ascertained that his problems were not due to exposure to our drums, he was recommended to avoid any noisy environments until the problem had been identified and could be addressed. To fill the void that was suddenly thrust upon us, Sam Baum stepped in to teach the later group. Sam, one of our gigging directors, was encouraged and supported to teach and develop the talents of the later group drummers. In July, the Trustees asked Dom Kelly to take over the teaching of the later group and Sam the teaching of the beginners' group. They both accepted the challenge and have continued to develop the talents of both playing groups as well as developing the rhythms that we perform. Through this period, Silas has kept in contact, sharing the progress of his hearing issues, but has sadly still not returned to teaching. Silas has been our Musical Director for many years, and prior to that was our beginners' teacher. He has been an essential part of BS, shaping the rhythms that we play, and has taught an

incredible amount of drummers over the years. He has high expectations of the players and encourages us all to be the best that we can be. Silas has not stepped away completely, he is still very much a part of BS, albeit in the background at the moment, supporting Dom and Sam, giving advice from his years and experience as a teacher of BS.

In late August we appointed Dom as Acting Musical Director of BS - being a teacher for several years as well as a gigging director, the Trustees thought that he was the perfect person to step up while the future of Silas's involvement remains undecided.

What a year! We have so much to be thankful for and so much to celebrate.

Members

On 17th of October 2022 we celebrated the class of 2021-22 beginner drummers' graduation to the later group with a debut performance to family and friends – the audience were enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed being part of the celebration.

A new beginners group started the following week. From a gentle introduction to samba, tapping on the floor with sticks, sounding out rhythms, to selecting a preferred drum, the group gradually came together under the expert tutelage of Dom and occasionally Silas. Their first 'crossover' at Christmas, where the group played with the performing drummers, created an immense sound where many of the early group felt part of the bigger BS 'Sambafam' for the first time. Members of the later drumming group regularly attended the sessions to play alongside the beginners class. Several of the group helped out at gigs which developed their skills and awareness of performing.

Retention of the learner drummers from the class of 21-22 has been good, and they have continued to develop their skills, along with the other players in the later group, on their learning journey. This is due in large part to the patience and skill of both the Beginners' Tutor and the Musical Director/Later Group Tutor and shows how well they work together to develop the talents of those in both drumming groups, making sessions fun and accessible. Former members have returned to the band, swelling our numbers even more. We are proud to see our established players helping and supporting both the beginners and those who have recently graduated to become confident players.

Our cohort of established, enthusiastic **dancers** remain at the heart of our performances. Our dance performance group has grown in numbers over the past year or so and it was great to see so many dancers performing at our larger gigs over the summer such as Pride and St Paul's Carnival. The dedication and commitment shown by the newer members of the performance group has been amazing, and it was great to be able to share the experience of performing over the summer to large crowds in and around Bristol. We have seen a number of dancers start their Bristol Samba journey at our free dance workshops, so we are looking to continue with these to keep recruiting beginners. Our dancers learnt the International Samba Day routine, this was recorded ready for submitting to be part of the International Samba Day video for 2023.

Performances

Every public **performance** by Bristol Samba is a celebration of our members' achievements in developing their skills, whether by playing or dancing.

Bristol Samba has been out gigging in force this year, having one of the busiest years yet. The band has played some fantastic events and has performed come rain or shine. We saw the return of many of our favourite events as well as a few new ones:

- In October we celebrated with the hula hooping community at SWHoop, playing late into the night and entertaining crowds who hooped and boogied in their incredible costumes.
- We helped to celebrate a couple of big birthdays within the band this year: our Chair, Jan, then later our drummer, Sandie. Though very different events, the band helped both members celebrate in style.
- Huge crowds lined the streets at Bedminster Lantern Parade, as we headed the parade of incredible illuminated lanterns, made and carried by local children.
- Another favourite was the ever-growing Bristol Irish Society's St Patrick's Day Parade, running from the band's home at Trinity Centre to a celebration in the centre of town, with 'St Patrick' making his usual appearance alongside local dignitaries and diverse members of the West of England Irish community.
- Summer saw the return of St Paul's Carnival after an absence of three years, and Bristol Samba was honoured to be one of only a few bands selected to take part. The streets pounded with rhythms accompanied by incredible costumes celebrating Afro-Caribbean life and culture. This was the largest carnival to be held for some years and the crowds came out in force.
- Bristol Pride was another highlight. We collaborated with NatWest and Pride to ensure safety, then accompanied the parade in colourful costumes to encourage a party atmosphere along the route. Our efforts are always appreciated and celebrated and it's an incredible celebration of diversity within the LGBTQ+ community.
- Members started early to entertain participants of the Great Run and Bristol 10k. It was a long morning but this was hugely appreciated by the runners; some said it was their favourite part of the route. This event introduced director Sam's new piece influenced by Drum'n' Bass rhythms.
- We played two festivals in late summer: Shambala and Forwards. While having their own very different ambience, both were hugely enjoyable. A large number of members signed up to attend both events, but we were limited to the number of performers that we could take. This presented a challenge, and decisions were made with a view to taking a well-balanced, knowledgeable cohort. Unfortunately some performers had to be disappointed, and the Trustees and directors were grateful for their understanding.
- We topped off our gig year with the return of St Werburgh's Farm Fair, a great favourite of BS which had not been held since before lockdown. Initially planned for its usual weekend in early June, it was postponed to September but definitely worth the wait. A huge amount of drummers and dancers performed, and we loved the

return of the 'Big Boom': hearing our music reverberate off the walls as we played in the huge low railway tunnel at the heart of the area.

- Smaller events also included a local refugee festival, and we have also attended several other local public events and private functions during the period.
- One unusual event this year was when ITV Local Evening News included one of our rehearsals in their broadcast. Member Sally, Chair Jan and Acting Musical Director Dom spoke to the presenter about the band, and BS played live to celebrate the start of summer.

Contribution by volunteers

The Trustees remain hugely grateful for the **contribution made by our member volunteers** who perform with incredible enthusiasm, promoting Bristol Samba to and for the general public benefit.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the volunteer van drivers and gig organisers without whom we wouldn't be able to perform.

Our superb team of directors lead us when we perform for public enjoyment. Without their willingness and commitment to learn to direct and lead, Bristol Samba simply would not be able to perform as often as we do and in different spheres/arenas/to different audiences. We continue to train gigging directors to maintain our capacity for public performance.

Thank you to each and every one of you who has been part of this journey, through either playing or dancing, and who are still with us – being part of the Bristol Samba family. We are so proud to say that we are Bristol Samba – the longest-established samba band in Bristol.

Financial Review

State of the Charity's finances

Bristol Samba's income in 2022-23 was £29,315, which was an increase from the previous year. The total expenditure was £29,772, giving an overall loss of £457. Our accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

The principal source of income for the charity comes from members' subscriptions, which enable members to access tuition as well as to perform with the band at festivals, carnivals and other events. Our overall income from membership subscriptions have increased this year, mainly due to the retention of a large group of performing drummers as well as a large cohort of beginner drummers. We have not raised the individual subscriptions rates this year. The remainder of our income (£5,050) came from bookings for performances. Also listed as sources of income are sale of merchandise and Shambala festival tickets to members, which are sold at cost.

The main costs to the charity are the payment of tutors and directors (£12,557), hire of our rehearsal space and storage of equipment (£6,667), equipment purchase and maintenance (£3,146), the maintenance of our van (£1,514), and ad hoc expenses such as our insurance and other sundry items (£1,578). In 2022-23 we invested heavily in new instruments, which

was seen as essential due to the number of members we now have. Rising costs have also meant that we began to pay a higher fee for our rehearsal venue in April 2023.

Our expenditure supports the key objectives of the charity: paying for the tutors, the hire of rehearsal space, along with purchasing new equipment to ensure that our sound is suitable for performance standards.

Statement of the Charity's policy on reserves

We do not yet have a policy for the charity's reserves.

We hold cash at the bank of around £10,000, all of which is unrestricted funds. These funds are held in order to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur, for example vehicle repair or to account for a fluctuation in the membership numbers, or for purchasing new equipment.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

The Trustees declare that the charity had no funds which were materially in deficit at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

Restricted funds

We have no restricted funds.

Designated funds

We have no designated funds.

Particulars of any outstanding guarantee given by the Charity

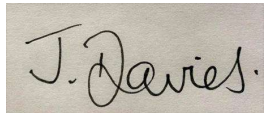

The Trustees declare that the charity has given no guarantee where potential liability is outstanding at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

Particulars of any outstanding debt

The Trustees declare that the charity has no outstanding debts which are secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the charity at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the above report and authorised that it be signed on their behalf.

Signatures		
Full names	Janice Pauline Davies	Elizabeth Elliott
Position	Chair	Treasurer

Date	19/10/23	19/10/23
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Bristol Samba Charity No: 1165208 Receipts and payments accounts							
From	Period start date:			To	Period end date:		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	1st	September	2022		31 st	August	2023

	Unrestricted funds 2022 – 23	Restricted funds/ Endowment funds	Total funds for 2020 - 21	Total Funds for 2021-22	Total Funds for 2022-23
A1 Receipts					
Subs early group	£4,419	-	£2,181.25	£4,982.50	£4,419
Subs later groups	£13,168	-	£2,892.75	£8,161.25	£13,168
Subs dancers	£2,780	-	£2,010.00	£2,500.00	£2,780
New beginners 2022-23		-	-	£1,495.00	
New Beginners 2021-22	-		£1,695.00		-
Gigs	£5,050	-	£2,560.00	£3,875.00	£5,050
T shirts, kneepads, earplugs	£316	-	£231.90	£758.00	£316
Shambala contributions	£3,582	-		£2,322.00	£3,582
Donations	-				-
Sub total	£29,315	-	£9,054.00	£24,093.75	£29,315
A2 asset and investment sales	-	-		-	-
Total receipts	£29,315	-	£9,054.00	£24,093.75	£29,315

A3 Payments					
Teaching and Directors fees	£12,557	-	£4,350.82	£12,775.38	£12,557

Trinity Hire & storage	£6,667	-	£1,408.00	£4,494.00	£6,667
General Expenses	£1,578	-	£421.39	£368.15	£1,578
Van Expenses	£1,514	-	£956.66	£1381.00	£1,514
Equipment	£1,179.00	-	£41.95		£1,179.00
Merchandise	£729		-	£1,207.67	£729
Shambala Contributions	£3,581	-	-	£2,365.20	£3,581
Sub total	£27,805		£7,178.82	£22,591.40	£27,805
A2 asset and investment purchases (instruments**)	£1,967	-		£1,039.94	£1,967
Total payments	£29,772	-	£7,178.82	£23,631.34	£29,772
Net of receipts (payments)			£1,875.18	£462.41	

Section B: Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period				
		2020-21	2021-22	2022 - 23
B1 Cash funds	Cash at the bank	£10,049.75	£10,512.16	£10,055
B4 Assets retained for the charities own use	Samba van	£6,000.00	£5,750.00	£3,200.00
	Instruments	£8,000.00	£9,000.00	£10,500.00
	Stock (Tshirts/Hoodies)	£136.00	£1,236.00	£1,648.50
B5 Liabilities	None	None	None	None

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Bristol Samba

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bristol Samba for the period 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Bristol Samba, 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 Bristol Samba accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed: *A Butler*

Name: Arabella Butler

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): AAT

Address: 33 Lawrence Avenue, Bristol BS5 0LD

Date: 19/11/2023