



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 August 2022 Period start date To 31 July 2023 Period end date

Charity name: Hastings Storytelling Festival

Charity registration number: 1168229

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	For the public benefit to promote the arts and advance education in the arts in East Sussex particularly but not exclusively by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebrating and promoting the art of the spoken word;• Advancing and encouraging literacy through storytelling – especially for young people;• Hosting storytelling events in diverse venues and by engaging new audiences; and• Organising and delivering an annual storytelling festival.
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	2022 Festival was the first with our new Patron Lauren Child who generously donated a cover design with her recognisable children's character Clarice Bean. The programme was a mix of new commissions, local shows and touring shows. The festival programme ran across nine days with an additional schools' outreach programme. Lauren invited author guests who included Cressida Cowell (How to Train your Dragon) and Emma Carroll (The Little Match Girl Strikes Back). Lemn Sissay had a large audience sharing his experiences of growing up in care. Dr Catherine Kelly spoke about wellbeing and Blue Spaces. Bother responded to the general theme of 'Escape into...'. Geophonic to the Hastings seafront as an outdoor activity by Gobbledgook Theatre to explore the geological processes using performance. An outdoor digital commission visited four estates where audiences are not used to accessing events with Zeroh's 'Curiosity'. An adult evening for 'Women who gave no f***s' was sell out. Childrens events were popular too; Garlic Theatre's Oldilocks story and the popular Childrens Day welcomed schools' involvement.

		The schools work reached fourteen schools with artists in residence, storytellers in residence (Bali Rai – Mohabir's War) and a Anusha Subramaniam visited local nurseries (reaching a new audience).
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	All trustees are aware of the guidance and have taken it into account when making a decision to which the guidance is relevant.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The festival continued to seek government support at both national and local level. This was bolstered through local initiatives such as the support from the Hastings' Big Local and the Shared Prosperity Fund.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Three patrons supported the festival: Lauren Child, Inua Ellams, and Thomas Taylor. Sir Quentin Blake was retained as a founding Patron. The Trustees meet all year round in a voluntary capacity. Trustees and subgroups invest valuable additional time between meetings. A network of up to ten teachers also meet three times a year to plan how to best support the festival within local schools. Children's Day recruited valuable support from ten additional local volunteers.
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	<p>The charity delivered fourteen schools sessions, culminating in Children's Day with free storytelling, activities, and children's parade.</p> <p>Choogh Choogh reached nursery aged children for the first time.</p> <p>The schools programme reached approximately 600 children. Improving children's literacy by reaching children in schools remains at the heart of the Charity's aims. Zeroh's moving digital installation toured four local housing association estates to reach children and families who otherwise would not attend the festival.</p>
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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	Para 1.21	<p><u>HSF – Financial Review 01.08.2022 - 31.07.2023</u></p> <p>The total charitable income relating to the accounting period was £67,286 and is made up of the following:</p> <p>Public Funding: £56,322</p> <p>This year's festival, and associated events within the year, received the following public grants: £49,892 from Arts Council England</p>
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		<p>with the balance being made up of small grants from Hastings Borough Council (£1,250) plus a grant of £5,180 from the Foreshore Trust. These grants covered the artists' costs (£30,810) plus key overheads including advertising & marketing and the festival development/production.</p> <p>Charitable Grants/Donations: £7,166</p> <p>We received a grant of £2,100 from the Isabel Blackman Foundation towards general expenses and £1,300 from the St Leonards Festival towards the fee of Lemn Sissay. In addition, we received £2,500 from the Magdalen & Lasher Charity towards the schools performances of Choogh Choogh. We also received a Big Local grant of £1,066. The National Literacy Trust also gave a small grant of £200 towards the fees of Xanthe Gresham-Knight.</p> <p>Income generation: £3,580</p> <p>This amount comprises of ticket sales from the various ticketed events.</p> <p>Donations: £218</p> <p>Received in addition to tickets sales via Eventbrite as well as on Children's Day book stall.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We do not have reserves as such. End of year balance is funds left over to be put towards the development & production of next year's festival.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	We have a bank balance of £6,229 at year-end
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

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	

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Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
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	At AGM and/or by invitation

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	Hastings Storytelling Festival
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1168229

Charity's principal address	31 Station Road Bexhill-on-Sea East Sussex TN40 1RG

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	Lorna Crabbe		n/a	
2	Sandra Garner	Chair	n/a	
3	Emma Hughes		n/a	
4	Kate Francis		n/a	
5	Hilary Lissenden		n/a	
6	Rounaq Uddin		n/a	
7	Richard Street	From June 2023	n/a	
8				
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	n/a	

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
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	n/a	
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Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

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

n/a

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)

<i>Kate Francis</i>	
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Full name(s)

Kate Francis	
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Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Secretary	
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Date

18/03/2024

The Charity Registration Number is :- 1168229

Hastings Storytelling Festival

Report and Accounts

31 July 2023

Hastings Storytelling Festival

Report and accounts for the year ended 31 July 2023

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Hastings Storytelling Festival Independent Examiner's Report 31 July 2023

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st July 2023, which are set out on pages 4 and 5.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention."

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiners Report

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Yvonne O'Connor
Director, FCCA
Frampton & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
37 Station Road
Bexhill
East Sussex
TN40 1RG

Hastings Storytelling Festival - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 July 2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 July 2023

	SORP Ref	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2023 £	Current year Total Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Income & Endowments from:						
Donations & Legacies	A1	-	218	-	218	500
Charitable activities	A2	-	3,580	-	3,580	4,231
Grant Income	A4	-	63,488	-	63,488	49,972
Total income	A	-	67,286	-	67,286	54,703
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	B1	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	B2	-	67,005	-	67,005	64,143
Total expenditure	B	-	67,005	-	67,005	64,143
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		-	281	-	281	(9,440)
Transfers between funds	C	-	-	-	-	-
Net income after transfers	A-B-C	-	281	-	281	(9,440)
Net movement in funds		-	281	-	281	(9,440)
Reconciliation of funds:-						
Total funds brought forward	E		171	-	171	9,611
Total funds carried forward		-	452	-	452	171

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of income set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Balance Sheet.

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 4 to 6 form an integral part of these accounts.

Hastings Storytelling Festival - Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2023

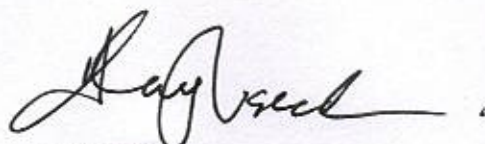
	Notes	SORP Ref	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets		A		
Tangible assets		A2	-	-
Current assets		B		
Debtors		B2	-	390
Cash at bank and in hand		B4	2,238	6,229
Total current assets			<u>2,238</u>	<u>6,619</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2	C1	<u>(1,786)</u>	<u>(6,448)</u>
Net current assets			452	171
The total net assets of the charity			<u>452</u>	<u>171</u>

The total net assets of the charity are funded by the funds of the charity, as follows:-

Restricted funds				
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds		D2	<u>452</u>	<u>171</u>
			452	171
Unrestricted Funds				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds		D3	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
			-	-
Total charity funds			<u>452</u>	<u>171</u>

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of Balance Sheet items as set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the SOFA.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of charity legislation with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.



H Lissenden
Trustee

Approved by the board of trustees on 22 January 2024

The notes attached on pages 4 to 6 form an integral part of these accounts.

Hastings Storytelling Festival

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2023

1 Accounting policies

Policies relating to the production of the accounts.

Basis of preparation and accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) and 'FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015 (as amended by the Bulletin issued in February 2016) published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW), effective January 2016, (The SORP), and in accordance with all applicable law in the charity's jurisdiction of registration.

Going Concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees have reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

Restricted and Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific artistic projects being undertaken by the charity.

Significant judgements, key assumptions and estimates

The preparation of the accounts in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the accounts and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The key estimates and assumptions used in these financial statements are set out in the accounting policies notes included the additional policy notes within these accounts such as for depreciation.

Policies relating income recognition.

Income recognition

Income, whether from exchange or non exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably.

Income subject to terms and conditions which must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources is not recognised until the conditions have been met.

All income is accounted for gross, before deducting any related fees or costs.

Hastings Storytelling Festival

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2023

Accounting for deferred income and income received in advance

Where terms and conditions relating to income have not been met or uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet any terms or conditions otherwise within its control, income is not recognised but is deferred as a liability until it is probable that the terms or conditions imposed can be met.

Any grant that is subject to performance-related conditions received in advance of delivering the goods and services required by that condition, or is subject to unmet conditions wholly outside the control of the recipient charity, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. Deferred income is released to income in the reporting period in which the performance-related or other conditions that limit recognition are met.

When income from a grant or donation has not been recognised due to the conditions applying to the gift not being wholly within the control of the recipient charity, it is disclosed as a contingent asset if receipt of the grant or donation is probable once those conditions are met.

Where time related conditions are imposed or implied by a funder, then the income is apportioned to the time periods concerned, and, where applicable, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. When grants are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them, but there are no specific time related conditions, then the income is not deferred.

Any condition that allows for the recovery by the donor of any unexpended part of a grant does not prevent recognition of the income concerned, but a liability to any repayment is recognised when repayment becomes probable.

Policies relating to expenditure on goods and services provided to the charity.

Recognition of liabilities and expenditure

A liability, and the related expenditure, is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, and when it is more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and when the amount of the obligation can be measured or reliably estimated.

Liabilities arising from future funding commitments and constructive obligations, including performance related grants, where the timing or the amount of the future expenditure required to settle the obligation are uncertain, give rise to a provision in the accounts, which is reviewed at the accounting year end. The provision is increased to reflect any increases in liabilities, and is decreased by the utilisation of any provision within the period, and reversed if any provision is no longer required. These movements are charged or credited to the respective funds and activities to which the provision relates.

Hastings Storytelling Festival

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2023

Financial instruments including cash and bank balances

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instrument Issues' of FRS 102 to all financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets are offset, with the net presented in the accounts when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through income and expenditure, are assessed for the indicators of impairment at each reporting end date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected.

If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

2 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors		
Accruals	720	720
Deferred Income	1,066	5,728
Other creditors	-	-
	1,786	6,448

3 Income and Expenditure account summary

	2023	2022
	£	£
At 1 August 2022	171	9,611
Transfers in for the year	-	-
Surplus/(loss) after tax for the year	281	(9,440)
At 31 July 2023	452	171

Hastings Story Telling Festival
 Company Number : 1168229
 13 Tackleway, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 3DE

Frampton & Co
 37 Station Road
 Bexhill-on-Sea
 East Sussex
 TN40 1RG

YOUR REF : HAS02

OUR REF :

DATE : 22 January 2024

Dear Sirs

MANAGEMENT LETTER

I confirm to the best of my knowledge and belief, and having made the appropriate enquiries of all officials of the company, the following representations given to you in connection with the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023.

- 1 I acknowledge as sole director my responsibilities under the Companies Act 2006 for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view and for making accurate representations to you. All the accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of the preparation of the financial statements and all the transactions undertaken by the company have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records. All other records and related information, including minutes of all management and shareholders' meetings, have been made available to you.
- 2 The company is solvent and has no pending legal or contractual issues which will cause the company to become insolvent in the foreseeable future.
- 3 The directors accounts balance(s) will be repaid in line with company cash flows, no interest is charged thereon and the account has not been overdrawn at any stage during the year.
- 4 The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.
- 5 There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with or deficiencies in financial reporting practices.
- 6 There are no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements.
- 7 There has been no—
 - a. Fraud involving management or employees who have significant roles in internal control.
 - b. Fraud involving others that could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 8 The company has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities.
- 9 The following have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements:
 - a. Related-party transactions, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties.
 - b. Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the company is contingently liable.
- 10 There are no—
 - a. Violations or possible violations of laws or regulations whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency.
 - b. Unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised us are probable of assertion and must be disclosed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statement No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies."
 - c. Other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed.
- 11 The company has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.

- 12** The company has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- 13** To the best of our knowledge and belief, no events have occurred subsequent to the balance-sheet date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

The financial statements, and associated corporation tax return, have been prepared in accordance with information provided to your firm by me and reflect a true and fair view of the company position for the year. I have approved these financial statements by signing them on the Directors Report and Balance Sheet and I have disclosed all pertinent information to your firm during their preparation.

MONEY LAUNDERING LEGISLATION

I confirm that I understand and am up to date with current money laundering regulations. I have disclosed all transactions, cash or otherwise, during the preparation of the company financial statements, and corresponding corporation tax return, for the year ended 31 July 2023.

I understand that I am obliged, under the money laundering regulations, to fully account for and record all financial transactions for which the company is responsible. I understand that for any transaction which involves in excess of £10,000, either received or paid out, I must verify and retain full proof of its origin and destination. I also understand that if I am unsure as to my obligations under the current legislation, I am obliged to contact either Frampton & Co or the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA).

On behalf of the company.

Date: 22 January 2024