

# **Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green**

**Registered Charity Number: 1180939**

## **Annual Accounts**

**for the period**

**1 October 2022 - 30 September 2023**

### **Contents:**

Organisational information  
Trustees' Annual Report  
Receipts & Payments account  
Statement of Assets & Liabilities  
Independent Examiner's report

Hastings Voluntary Action  
Jackson Hall  
Portland Place  
Hastings  
East Sussex  
TN34 1QN

## Organisational information of Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green

The Trustees of Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green presents its organisational information for the year  
Ended 30th September 2023

**Name of charity:** Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green

**Registered charity number:** 1180939

**Legal form:** CIO

**Governing document:** CIO Registration - 30th November 2018

**Address:** 62 Collier Road  
Hastings  
East Sussex  
TN34 3JS

**Trustees:** Keith Ronald Leech MBE - Chair  
Bryony Rudd - Vice Chair  
Fiona Jane Dunbar Lock - Secretary  
Isabel Xuxa Tipler - Treasurer  
Harry Lloyd Wheatcroft - H&S  
Heather Leech  
Mark Richard Bailey  
Rosanna Poppy Betson  
Timothy Betson  
Owain Lewis Boorman

**Non Trustee Committee Members** Duncan De Vries  
Star Griffiths  
Lorna Crabbe  
Michelle Brown  
Stephen Roberts-Pratt

**Bankers:** Lloyds Bank, Hastings Branch  
Nationwide Building Society

**Independent Examiner:** Laura Dawson, Independent Examiner  
HVA, Jackson Hall, Portland Place, Hastings, TN34 1QN

**Objects and Activities:** To Promote, improve and advance education in, and appreciation of, the arts, in particular but not exclusively through the staging of an annual folkarts festival in Hastings including performance and promotion of English traditional dance forms (including Morris dancing and Jack in the Green parade), traditional English folk music and song, folk tales, and their associated seasonal customs. New recruits to Morris Dancing are gained and many more find a new interest in traditional music and dance, thus succeeding in our objectives.

**Objects and Activities Cont'd:** The sunrise ceremony is held on the first of May each year when local Morris sides "dance the sun up" to welcome the summer and invites spectators to dance on Hastings Castle grounds.

The Jack in the Green Festival, a four-day annual event in the seaside resort of Hastings in East Sussex. It is a true British May Day celebration described as "the celebration of Morris dancing and traditional merriment", led by the symbolic figure of Jack in the Green and culminating in a colourful, costumed parade.

The event includes music of all genres from some of the best local and surrounding area's bands and historic and social events. The weekend is topped off by the main event on the May Bank Holiday Monday, with the Jack in the Green Parade. The parade sets off from the Fisherman's Museum in the old Town, and finishes on the West Hill, where there is an opportunity to see traditional folk dancers and music throughout the afternoon. The festival culminates with the symbolic slaying of Jack, to release the spirit of summer.

## **History and Current day formation of the Committee**

May 1st has long been an important part of the annual calendar. It is the start of summer in these latitudes and has always been a day for celebration: the Celts celebrated May Day; the Romans dedicated the day and would go to the woods to cut a tree and decorate it with ribbons and flowers, this is the origin of the May Pole. In the 16th and 17th centuries in England people made garlands of flowers and leaves for the May Day celebration. Works Guilds would try to outdo each other, in the late 18th century this became a matter for competition, milkmaids in London carried garlands on their heads, but the crown had to go to the chimney sweeps. Their garland was so big it covered the entire man. It became known as Jack in the Green

In Hastings there were at least two groups who paraded a Jack in the Green until about 1889. The Custom was revived in Hastings by Mad Jacks Morris Dancers in 1983. The Jack is not the property of a small group of dancers but belongs to us all. Further information about the Jack in the Green in Hastings can be obtained by reading the excellent book "The Hastings Jack in the Green" written by Keith Leech (ISBN 0 9514498 0 X). Keith, a long time member of Mad Jacks Morris (Now named Hastings RX) was instrumental in reviving the tradition in Hastings. A volunteer committee was formed to organise, promote, and perform the festival.

## **Financial Review**

A Copy of our accounts is included with this report and confirms our income and expenditure as well as reserves. Trustees, committee members and volunteers give their time and efforts freely and do not receive remuneration or benefits other than expenses incurred. For several years we have been building reserves to enable us to hold subsequent years' events when grants and funds are not available.

Income: Entertainment, street collections, decorating the town, sale of merchandise, advertising and the craft fair participation and donations have given us the ability to fund our event.

This year's surplus of £7547.81 is a result of the huge generosity of those who attended Hasting Jack In The Green through the sale of merchandise, decorating donations, entertainment ticket sales, programme advertisements and the Craft Fair.

This being our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary really meant that attendance numbers grew and spectators fully supported our event.

We also received restricted funding through 'The National Lottery Heritage Fund' of £10,000 towards outreach, decoration, printing and additional costs for the 40<sup>th</sup> celebration. Which meant we were able to expand our outreach to new parts of the Hastings area community.

The few areas of minimal but necessary expense which will only increase in years moving forward were security, insurance, first aid, stage and sound and accommodation for visiting Morris sides.

Each year the Committee grants two charitable donations to local organisations.

- The historical Hastings Fishermen's Museum, who provides a venue for the start of the procession and is Grade II listed by English Heritage. It is free to visitors to learn the importance of Britain's largest shore-based fishing fleet.
- Hastings Borough Bonfire Society, the largest single bonfire celebration in Sussex and is financed by funding and donations. The Society each year provides many volunteers that are an integral part of the event. The volunteers are marshals and stewards and are highly valued.

Non-Trustee Committee Members who have specific and essential duties for the success of the event:

Ann Bourner - Founder member & floral planner for Jack  
Mark Duncan - Advertising programme editor  
Chris Leech - Mad Jack's/Hastings RX Morris representative  
Stephen Roberts-Pratt - Artwork and design  
Paul & Helen Evans - Organises and manages decorating in the town

Report written by Treasurer, Isabel Tipler, and approved by Trustees.

# Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green

## Receipts & Payment accounts

for the period

01 October 2022 to 30 September 2023

	Current Year		
	Restricted	Non Restricted	Total funds
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>			
Advertising Revenue	-	2,425.00	2,425.00
Grants/Funding	10,000.00	2,000.00	12,000.00
Merchandise cash sales	-	2,652.20	2,652.20
Merchandise card/Bacs sales	-	3,465.14	3,465.14
Ticket Sales	-	6,143.26	6,143.26
WH Stalls	-	2,584.85	2,584.85
Donations - Just Giving	-	680.03	680.03
Donations - Decorations	-	2,090.00	2,090.00
Donations - Other	-	3,639.70	3,639.70
Accommodation - Morris	-	130.00	130.00
Other income	-	1,846.16	1,846.16
Bank Interest	-	205.14	205.14
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>27,861.48</b>	<b>37,861.48</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>			
Just Giving Fees	-	546.00	546.00
Venue Hire	-	200.00	200.00
	-	1,555.62	1,555.62
Sound Engineers/equipment hire	-	502.33	502.33
Accommodation - Bands & visiting Morris	-	20.00	20.00
Training	-	2,202.32	2,202.32
Security	-	-	10,000.00
Heritage Fund	10,000.00	-	10,000.00
Printing - Programmes, posters, flyers	-	1,831.92	1,831.92
Merchandise - Stock cost & Expenses	-	3,218.85	3,218.85
Insurance	-	679.70	679.70
Donations Given	-	2,000.00	2,000.00
Website - Domain	-	73.20	73.20
Decorating	-	418.43	418.43
P/Stationary	-	26.35	26.35
H&S - Road Closures, expenses	-	285.42	285.42
Event Additional - Wrist Bands, Confetti/smoke, maze, stages	-	6,425.50	6,425.50
Misc - FB Boost, 40th Pressies	-	296.29	296.29
Advertising	-	-	-
Refund	-	31.74	31.74
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>20,313.67</b>	<b>30,313.67</b>
<b>Net surplus/-deficit</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,547.81</b>	<b>7,547.81</b>
<b>Movement in funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Fund balances b/f	1/10/22	-	29,769.79
Fund balances c/f	30/9/23	-	37,317.60

## Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green

### Statement of Assets & Liabilities

as at

30 September 2023

2023

#### Current assets

Current Account	@	30/09/23	20,313.81
Deposit Account	@	30/09/23	21,761.66
Cash in hand	@	30/09/23	-
			<u>42,075.47</u>

#### less Current liabilities

Accruals & Prepayments			<u>4,757.87</u>
			<u>37,317.60</u>

#### Represented by:

ACCUMULATED FUND b/f			29,769.79
Surplus/deficit of receipts over payments			7,547.81
			<u>37,317.60</u>

#### Other Assets

An inventory of assets is held by the Treasurer and is available on request.

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which comply with the regulations set out in the Charities Act 1993. The trustees have elected to take advantage of the provisions that apply to small charities and have prepared a Receipts and Payments account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Approved by the Trustees on 25th Sep 2023 and signed on their behalf by

Keith Leech  
K n C

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Committee (Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green)**

I report on the accounts of Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green  
for the twelve month period ended 30th September 2023

### **Respective responsibilities of committee & examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

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

### **Basis of independent examiner's 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 by the charity and a comparison of the supporting documentation presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the 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 examiner's statement**

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 Charities Act
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.



.....  
Laura Dawson  
Finance Manager  
Hastings Voluntary Action  
Jackson Hall, Portland Place, Hastings, TN34 1QN

Dated: 23rd July 2024