

**HASTINGS TRADITIONAL JACK IN GREEN**

**Registered Charity Number: 11080939**

**Annual Accounts**

**for the  
Year ended 30th September 2024**

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**HASTINGS TRADITIONAL JACK IN GREEN**  
**Organisational Structure**  
**Year ended 30th September 2024**

**Registered charity number:** 1180939

**Legal form:**

**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  
Mark Duncan  
Rhiannon Boorman

**Independant Examiner:** Louise Cavill, Independant Examiner  
Cavill & Cruikshank Accountants and Tax Advisors

**Object 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 folk arts 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.



## **Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green**

### **Trustees Annual Report**

**For the Period from 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024**

Registered charity number 1180939

Principal address:

62 Collier Road  
Hastings, East Sussex  
TN34 3JS

- Accepted as Charitable Incorporated Organisation with Constitution on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018.
- The Trustees are members of the existing Committee and are voted in by Committee on a three-year rotating basis. Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the CIO Annual General Meeting held in June.

#### **Charity Trustees:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Office held</b>
Keith Ronald Leech	Trustee - Chairman
Bryony Rudd	Trustee - Vice Chair
Fiona Jane Dunbar Lock	Trustee - Secretary
Isabel Tipler	Trustee - Treasurer
Harry Lloyd Wheatcroft	Trustee - Health & Safety
Heather Leech	Trustee
Mark Richard Bailey	Trustee
Rosanna Poppy Betson	Trustee
Timothy Betson	Trustee
Owain Boorman	Trustee

## **Objectives 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 folk arts 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.

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 the surrounding grounds of Hastings Castle, also known locally as Ladies Parlour.

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 "thee 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 procession. The procession 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 the 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 £23,640.06 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. We faced very difficult unforeseen circumstances during our event, when large sections of Hastings lost access to mains water, due to Southern water infrastructure striking a leak. Due to this, after many emergency contingency plans between the Trustees we (as well as the White Rock Theatre) came to the decision to cancel the Saturday night Ceilidh which brings in a large amount of our revenue. As well as this, we had many participants decide to not attend due to hotels closing and fears of the safety of younger members of performance groups. We received £10,000 from Southern Water as a good will gesture after the event, which accounts for the majority of the surplus income.

We also have now found out that the Council will not be paying for the event when it goes onto the West Hill (Which in previous years it had paid majority of costs) for 2025 so additional costs of; a manager for the West hill, toilets, security, first aid and barriers will now be an addition to our outgoings.

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

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

Ann Bourner - Founder member & floral planner for Jack  
Lorna Crabbe - Artwork and design  
Paul Evans, Helen Evans, Ella French and Alex French - Organises and manages decorating in the town

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

**HASTINGS TRADITIONAL JACK IN GREEN**  
**Receipts and Payments Accounts**  
**Year ended 30th September 2024**

		<b>Current Year</b>		<b>Previous Year</b>
	Restricted	Not Restricted	Total Funds	
Receipts				
Advertising Revenue		1,690.00	1,690.00	2,425.00
Grants and Funding		10,000.00	10,000.00	12,000.00
Mechanise Cash Sales		4,247.79	4,247.79	2,652.20
Merchandise Card Sales		1,567.82	1,567.82	3,465.14
Ticket Sales		2,016.02	2,016.02	6,143.26
WH Stalls		2,365.00	2,365.00	2,584.85
Donations - Just Giving		3,139.05	3,139.05	680.03
Donations - Decorations		3,185.00	3,185.00	2,090.00
Donations - Other		8,170.58	8,170.58	3,639.70
Accommodation - Morris		260.00	260.00	130.00
Other Income		2,041.95	2,041.95	1,846.16
Reversal of 2023 Accruals		4,758.00	4,758.00	-
Bank Interest		520.11	520.11	205.14
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>43,961.32</b>	<b>43,961.32</b>	<b>37,861.48</b>

Expenditure				
Just Giving Fees		216.00	216.00	546.00
Venue Hire		654.99	654.99	200.00
Sound Engineers and Equipment Hire		2,143.60	2,143.60	1,555.62
Entertainment, Bands and Groups		2,998.29	2,998.29	-
Staging		2,397.79	2,397.79	-
Accommodation - Bands and Visiting		-	-	502.33
Training		14.20	14.20	20.00
Security		1,784.10	1,784.10	2,202.32
Heritage Fund			-	10,000.00
Printing Programmes and Flyers		1,650.80	1,650.80	1,831.92
Merchandise		4,006.41	4,006.41	3,218.85
Insurance		1,114.37	1,114.37	679.70
Donations Given		250.00	250.00	2,000.00
Website Domain		280.99	280.99	73.20
Decorating		447.82	447.82	418.43
Post and Stationary		41.08	41.08	26.35
Health and Safety		75.00	75.00	285.42
Confetti, Smoke etc		2,155.82	2,155.82	6,425.50
Subscriptions		90.00	90.00	296.29
Miscellaneous Expenses		-	-	31.74
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,321.26</b>	<b>20,321.26</b>	<b>30,313.67</b>

Net Surplus/(Deficit)		23,640.06	23,640.06	7,547.81
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Fund Balances B/F	10/1/2023	37,317.60	37,317.60	29,769.79
Fund Balances C/F	9/30/2024	60,957.66	60,957.66	37,317.60

**HASTINGS TRADITIONAL JACK IN GREEN**  
**Statements of Assets and Liabilities**  
**Year ended 30th September 2024**

			<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Current Account	@	30/09/24	38,676	20,314
Deposit Accounts	@	30/09/24	22,282	21,762
Cash in hand	@	30/09/24	<u>60,958</u>	<u>42,075</u>
<b>Less Current Liabilities</b>				
Accruals			<u>-</u>	<u>4,758</u>
			<u>60,958</u>	<u>37,318</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>				
Accumulated Fund B/F			37,318	29,770
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year			<u>23,640</u>	<u>7,548</u>
			<u>60,958</u>	<u>37,318</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

and signed on behalf by

\_\_\_\_\_ Isabel Tipler

\_\_\_\_\_ Rosanna Betson

\_\_\_\_\_ Mark Bailey

## **HASTINGS TRADITIONAL JACK IN GREEN**

**Year ended 30th September 2024**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Committee of 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 2024

#### **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.

Louise Cavill FCCA ACA  
Chartered Accountant  
Cavill & Cruikshank Accountants and Tax Advisors  
7 Henderson Close  
Hastings  
TN34 2DU

Dated: 25th July 2025