

**Charity Registration No. 1078952**

**DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL (1188959)  
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 AUGUST 2024**

# ***DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL***

## ***LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION***

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**Trustees:**

Mr V McNamara  
Mrs J Edwards  
Mrs C Goodwin-Figes  
Mr G Batten  
Ms G Neil  
Mrs P Morgan  
Mr J Bradford  
Mrs D Junghanns  
Mrs L Holmshaw  
Ms M Jackson  
Mrs K Campbell  
Mr A Woodison

**Secretary:**

Mrs C Goodwin-Figes

**Charity number:**

1188959

# **DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

*For The Year Ended 31 August 2024*

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The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", issued in March 2005.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity was established by a charitable trust deed on 14 January 2000. The trustees who served during the year were:

Mr V McNamara	Ms G Neil	Mrs L Holmshaw
Mrs J Edwards	Mrs P Morgan	Ms M Jackson
Mrs C Goodwin-Figes	Mr J Bradford	Mrs K Campbell
Mr G Batten	Mrs D Junghanns	Mr A Woodison

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees review the level of reserves to ensure the continuation of the festival in the future. A target level has been set equivalent to a minimum of the total anticipated annual cost of the festival, and a maximum of two years anticipated costs.

### **Trustees' responsibility for the accounts**

Charity law requires the trustees of the festival to prepare statements of account for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the festival and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

-to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities and to state whether or not the accounts have been prepared in accordance with that statement and applicable accounting standards;

-prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the festival will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which are sufficient to show and explain the Festival's transactions, and to disclose with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the Festival, and to enable them to ensure that any statements of account comply with the requirements of the

# *DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL*

## *TRUSTEES' REPORT*

*For the Year Ended 31 August 2024*

Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the festival and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### **Objectives and activities**

The charity's objects are to advance the education of the public in the arts and in particular, but not exclusively, by the organising of an annual arts festival in Devizes and the surrounding area.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

### **2024 Review**

In every conceivable important respect, DAF 2024 proved to be a tremendous success, with each and every event being well-received by our audiences, and smoothly run by our volunteers, and everyone else involved. While overall ticket sales could have been better, I am very pleased to report that the quality of the festival, the caliber of our guests, and the enthusiastic responses from attendees were as good as ever.

Lets look at a few Festival Highlights:

Comedian Lucy Porter was one of my highlights with a night of friendly laughter and charming wit.

Geneticist Adam Rutherford captivated the intellectually curious with his detailed discussion on genetics, making a complex subject accessible and engaging. Impressive coming from an academic at UCL, which is, let's face it, the third ranked college in London. If you want to know where that comment is coming from, you need to see the message he wrote for me when he signed my copy of his book.

Doctor Phil Hammond, brought a unique blend of medicine, rustic rural Aussie recollections, and highbrow comedy - informative, educational, entertaining - he should be on the BBC.

Poet Hollie McNish was really an unexpected standout success. She sold out not once but twice. Her words clearly resonated with the audience, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. She brought poetry to life in a way that connected deeply with attendees. If only we could get someone like her every year.

We were treated to a wonderful play about Kerry's finest son, Tom Crean, which was so well-received we could have sold it out twice over if we'd thought of it in time. This powerful production brought history to the stage, leaving the audience in awe of Crean's incredible life story.

The Slambovian Circus of Dreams closed the festival on a high note, delivering what many have called "the best gig of the year." When I say "many", I heard at least two people say that, and one of them wasn't me. Anyone who was there that night will testify - their laid-back energy and musical talent was unforgettable.

# *DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL*

## *TRUSTEES' REPORT*

*For the Year Ended 31 August 2024*

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On a personal note, and one I'm sure is shared with my co-chair, we were delighted with the performance of our committee and co-volunteers, many of whom were doing it all for the first time. You guys have not just our thanks but our admiration. Obviously there's no room for favourites but if I did have one, she'd be a demon Welsh talent scout with a 100% strike rate yet again. So no pressure for next year.

Big thanks to lots of supporters who make it happen. Ian, Stewie and co at the town council. Jo and everyone at Devizes Books. Everyone connected with all the venues and sponsors, especially the team at the Wharf Theatre. Danny at Serenity Audio. Thanks to Jackie Wiltshire for running our Friends organisation once again. Thanks to Colin who ran the numbers so well. Big shout out to Andy and Darren at Devizine and to Ida McConnell for all our design work.

And this year, unusually, we do have a couple of pantomime villains. The Gazette and Herald for running a front page headline "Devizes Festival Cancelled", two weeks before our festival started. You had to look in the small print to see it was one of the DOCA events. Shame on you G&H.

However the villain of the year award undoubtedly goes to the Fun Police at Wiltshire Council. They threatened us with legal action and outrageous fines if we didn't dismantle all our billboards. Talk about a buzzkill! But fear not, for every villain, there's a superhero and ours is called Mr George Batten. Trust me, you don't want to cross this guy. His keyboard has been classified as a lethal weapon in seven states. Armed with nothing but wit, sarcasm, the mighty righteous power of the law, a good google search and a keyboard that could level a county, he saved the day. Hurrah for George.

So back to the serious stuff - just as last year, we did lose money overall, which we put down to the state of the economy. Once again, we made a conscious effort to keep ticket prices as low as possible, and to have as many events as possible priced at £10 or lower, and it's something I believe we need to continue to do next year.

One final note - I do hope to see each and every one of you at our Comedy Night on November 8th. We know you have a choice of comedy nights this autumn and I'm sure the other ones will be fine, but remember DAF is the original and still the best.

Let's look forward to more of the same in 2025.



Vincent McNamara  
Devizes Arts Festival co-Chair  
23 October 2024

# **DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL**

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

### **TO THE TRUSTEES OF DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024 which are set out on pages 7 to 14.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) 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
- (iii) 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 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 examiner's statement**

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

- (a) That gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - (i) To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - (ii) To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;

have not been met; or

- (b) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached.

Richard Hopkins  
61 Avon Road  
Devizes  
SN10 1PS

Signature.....

*R. Hopkins*

Date.....

*24.09.24*



***DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL***  
***STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES***  
***INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT***  
***For Year Ended 31 August 2024***

		2024 £	2023 £
	Notes		
<b><u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u></b>			
Donations/Grants	2	7,038	7,157
Activities for generating funds	3	10,350	12,600
Investment Income	4	0	0
		<u>17,388</u>	<u>19,757</u>
Incoming resources from charitable activities	5	36,041	46,864
Total incoming resources		<u>53,429</u>	<u>66,621</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Festival costs	7	60,191	70,129
Governance costs	8	1,575	1,236
Other Expenditure	9	0	0
Total resources expended		<u>61,766</u>	<u>71,365</u>
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds (a)		<u>-8,337</u>	<u>-4,744</u>
Fund balances at 1 September 2023		124,857	129,551
Audit Over accrued		0	50
Prior Year Adjustment		-150	<u>50</u>
Adjusted Retained Earnings (b)		124,707	<u>129,601</u>
Fund balances at 31 August 2023(a+b)		<u>116,370</u>	<u>124,857</u>

# DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

## BALANCE SHEET

As At 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Investments</b>	<b>13</b>		
Low Risk MPS Defensive Portfolio		£87,833	80,443
Investment Revaluation Reserve		-£17,833	-10,443
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	<b>14</b>		
		Gross	Accm Dep <sup>n</sup>
		£	£
		<u>7,984</u>	<u>7,984</u>
		Net	Net
		£	£
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Current assets</b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>15</b>	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand: HSBC		47,786	56,197
Debtors		0	340
Prepayments		<u>1,181</u>	<u>702</u>
		<b>48,967</b>	<b><u>57,239</u></b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b><u>118,967</u></b>	<b><u>127,239</u></b>



# DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

## BALANCE SHEET (CONT)

As At 31 August 2024

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		2024	2023
		£	£
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	0	0
Income In Advance	17	2,098	2,183
Accruals	18	<u>499</u>	<u>200</u>
Current Liabilities		2,597	2,383
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>116,370</u>	<u>124,857</u>
Unrestricted funds		<u>116,370</u>	<u>124,857</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 23 October 2024



Vincent McNamara  
Devizes Arts Festival co-Chair



Jean Edwards  
Devizes Arts Festival co-Chair



Tony Woodison  
Devizes Arts Festival Treasurer

# ***DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL***

## ***NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS***

***For The Year Ended 31 August 2024***

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### **1 Accounting policies**

#### **Basis of preparation**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 and the Charities Act 2011.

### **2 Donations**

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	£
Friends subscriptions (1 Sept 2023 to 31 Aug 2024)	<b>2,963</b>	3,008
Donations	<b>158</b>	132
Grants receivable	<b><u>3,918</u></b>	<u>4,017</u>
	<b><u>7,038</u></b>	<u>7,157</u>

#### **Donations and gifts**

Unrestricted funds:

Friends' subscriptions	<b>2,963</b>	3,008
Donations	<b>158</b>	<u>132</u>
	<b><u>3,121</u></b>	<u>3,140</u>

#### **Grants receivable for core activities**

Unrestricted funds:

Devizes Town Council Benefit	<b>3,918</b>	4,017
	<b><u>3,918</u></b>	<u>4,017</u>

Local Authority Grants

Devizes Town Council allows the Festival use of Town Council venues for performances, free of charge during the festival and at reduced rates at other times.

These amounts have been quantified with the benefit shown under Grants receivable and the expense under the relevant headings.

# DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued) For The Year Ended 31 August 2024

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<b>3</b>	<b>Activities for generating funds</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	Event sponsors	<b>10,350</b>	12,600
		<b><u>10,350</u></b>	<b><u>12,600</u></b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Investment income</b>		
	Bank Interest	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities</b>		
	Festival ticket sales	<b><u>36,041</u></b>	<b><u>46,864</u></b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>Charitable activities</b>		
	Festival costs:		
	Activities undertaken directly (Note 7)	<b>60,191</b>	70,129
	Depreciation (Note 9)	<b>0</b>	0
	<b>Governance costs (Note 8)</b>	<b>1,575</b>	1,236
		<b><u>61,766</u></b>	<b><u>71,365</u></b>

# DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued) For The Year Ended 31 August 2024

7	Activities undertaken directly	2024	2023
		£	£
	Artists Fees and Costs	36,136	43,826
	Sound and lighting	10,694	12,490
	Venues	4,168	4,172
	Security	381	703
	Event Other Costs	324.01	270
	Liability Insurance	1,431	1,427
	Programme brochure	995	970
	Friends' Event	361	291
	Publicity and Advertising	5,651	5,960
	Box Office and Telephone costs	51	20
		<u>60,191</u>	<u>70,129</u>
8	Governance costs	2024	2023
		£	£
	Governance costs comprise:		
	Independent Examiner	200	200
	Admin Expenses	379	306
	Licences	226	200
	Purchases	225	0
	Credit Card Cost	234	250
	Bank & PayPal Charges	159	162
	AGM Costs	152	119
		<u>1,575</u>	<u>1,236</u>
9	Other Expenditure	2024	2023
		£	£
	In-Year Depreciation	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
10	Fruitless Payments (Expenditure with no Return or Benefit)		
	There were no Fruitless payments.		
11	Trustees		
	None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year.		

# DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued) For The Year Ended 31 August 2024

### 12 Employees

There were no employees during the year.

### 13 Investments

£70,000 was invested on 14 July 2014 in a low risk investment portfolio with Investec Wealth. Movements in valuation, as at 31 August each year, are not realized through the Income and Expenditure Account but are taken to the Investment Reserve on the Balance Sheet.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance as at 1 September	80,443	82,852
Additions	0	0
Appreciation / - Depreciation	<u>7,389</u>	<u>-2,409</u>
Balance as at 31 August	<u>87,833</u>	<u>80,443</u>

### 14 Fixed Assets (Depreciated over 5 years)

	Gross	Accum <sup>d</sup> Dep	NBV 2024	NBV 2023
	£	£	£	£
All Fixed Assets have been depreciated and accounted for through the Income & Expenditure Account.	7,984	7,984	0	0
	<u>7,984</u>	<u>7,984</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

# DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued) For The Year Ended 31 August 2024

<b>15</b>	<b>Current Assets:</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>Cash at bank &amp; In-Hand</b>		
	HSBC	<b>47,686</b>	56,197
	Cash	<b><u>100</u></b>	<u>0</u>
		<b>47,786</b>	56,197
	<b>Trade Debtors</b>	<b>0</b>	340
	<b>Prepaid Expenditure</b>		
	Bank & Credit Card Costs	<b>13</b>	11
	Insurance Sept/Oct 2024	<b>240</b>	230
	Comedy Night Costs	<b>715</b>	325
	Postage	<b>136</b>	136
	Advertising	<b><u>77</u></b>	<u>0</u>
		<b><u>1,181</u></b>	<u>702</u>
<b>16</b>	<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	Other creditors	<b>0</b>	0
<b>17</b>	<b>Income In Advance</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	50% Friends Subs carried forward	<b>1410</b>	1,553
	Friends' Subscriptions	<b>30</b>	30
	Comedy Night Tickets	<b><u>658</u></b>	600
		<b><u>2,098</u></b>	<u>2,183</u>
<b>18</b>	<b>Accruals</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	Independent Examiner	<b>200</b>	200
	Hire of Venues	<b>250</b>	0
	Artists' Refreshments	<b>31</b>	0
	Bank Charge for August	<b>13</b>	0
	Postage	<b>5</b>	0
	<b>Total Accruals</b>	<b><u>499</u></b>	<u>200</u>