

Charity Registration No. 1188959

**DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL (1188959)
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2025**

DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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 M A McQuiad
Mr A Woodison

Secretary:

Mrs C Goodwin-Figes

Charity number:

1188959

DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

For The Year Ended 31 August 2025

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025

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 M A McQuaid
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 2025

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.

2025 Review

Let's start with a look back at this summer's festival. In short, it went very well. To expand slightly, it went very well indeed. To expand a bit more... it went so well that for almost a fortnight nobody mentioned the words "health and safety", "budget shortfall", or "who's stolen all the tea bags this time?" — which must be some sort of record. Even our ongoing skirmish with Wiltshire Council over roadside signs didn't manage to derail things. We made full use of the concessions valiantly won last year by local hero George Batten, though we still had to scale back our presence around town. That particular saga continues, so if anyone here happens to know a councillor, do feel free to mention it — politely, of course.

A few highlights stand out. Keith Brymer Jones filled the Corn Exchange and charmed everyone in the process - giving a passionate and heartfelt talk about pottery, creativity, and family. True to form, there were a few tears (his not ours), which only made the evening more genuine and memorable. Dame Maggie Aderin-Pocock took us on a whistle-stop tour of the universe, managing to make astrophysics both understandable and fun — even if she didn't hang around afterwards. Kiki and Carmelo showed us once again that real musicianship doesn't need backing tracks or gimmicks, and the Sherlock Holmes play was such a hit that several audience members suggested we put it on again next year. (We probably won't, but it's nice to be asked.)

Beyond those headline events, the programme delivered on our goal of offering something for everyone — from comedy with Mark Watson, to music from the Julian Costello Quartet and Bath Male Choir, to walks and the ever-popular Free Fringe. We tried something new - some saw it as a bit of a risk for an Arts Festival to sponsor a series of artistic workshops but they were all awesome. So that's something we plan to do more of going forward. Likewise, for the first time in many years our festival got involved with an actual art exhibition but thanks to Bryony and White Chalk, that went really well too. It was good to see new faces alongside old favourites, and we even spotted the odd young person at some events.

As always, Jean and I owe a huge debt of thanks to our trusty volunteers — or is it voluntary trustees — who kept everything running smoothly and cheerfully. Particular thanks to Danny and his sound team, who seem able to make even the trickiest venues behave. Also to Ida and Dave McConnell - with a massive amount of their time and support, we re-launched our website this year with a new design and style. Do let us know what you thought of it. Thanks also to our sponsors, especially Wiltshire Wealth Management, and not forgetting Devizes Town Council, Devizes Books, White Chalk Gallery, The Wharf Theatre, and all those local businesses who continue to support us.

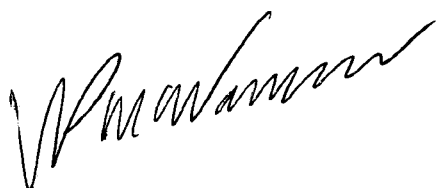
DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

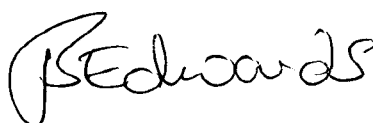
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Financially, we more or less held our own. We kept to our policy of keeping ticket prices as low as possible, which continues to make the accounts look excitingly unpredictable. It's still the right thing to do.

So — a good year, a strong programme, and a reminder that the arts are alive and well in Devizes. My thanks to the committee, the Friends, and everyone who helped or attended. Let's do it all again next June. But before that, let's do it all again next month. Hope to see you all at our autumn comedy night — Simon Evans. Sharp suit. Sharper tongue. Buy early, before the committee takes all the tickets.



Vincent McNamara
Devizes Arts Festival co-Chair
21 October 2025



Jean Edwards
Devizes Arts Festival co-Chair
21 October 2025

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 2025 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.....*19.9.25*.....

DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
For Year Ended 31 August 2025

		2025 £	2024 £
	Notes		
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>			
Donations/Grants	2	12,361	7,038
Sponsorship	3	7,350	10,350
Investment Income	4	0	0
		<u>19,711</u>	<u>17,388</u>
Incoming resources from charitable activities	5	53,254	36,041
Total incoming resources		<u>72,965</u>	<u>53,429</u>
Resources expended			
Charitable activities			
Festival costs	7	69,906	60,191
Governance costs	8	2,079	1,575
Other Expenditure	9	0	0
Total resources expended		<u>71,985</u>	<u>61,766</u>
Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds (a)		<u>980</u>	<u>-8,337</u>
Fund balances at 1 September 2024		116,370	124,857
Audit Over accrued			0
Prior Year Adjustment		250	-150
Adjusted Retained Earnings (b)		116,620	124,707
Fund balances at 31 August 2024(a+b)		<u>117,600</u>	<u>116,370</u>

DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

BALANCE SHEET

As At 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Investments	13		
Low Risk MPS Defensive Portfolio		92,801	£87,833
Investment Revaluation Reserve		-22,801	-£17,833
Fixed Assets	14		
		Gross	Accm Dep ⁿ
		£	£
		Net	Net
		£	2024 £
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Current assets		2025	2024
	15	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand: HSBC		47,334	47,786
Debtors		0	0
Prepayments		<u>3,626</u>	<u>1,181</u>
		50,960	48,967
Total Assets		<u>120,960</u>	<u>118,967</u>

DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

BALANCE SHEET (CONT)

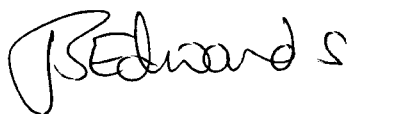
As At 31 August 2025

		2025	2024
		£	£
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	0	0
Income In Advance	17	3,160	2,098
Accruals	18	<u>200</u>	<u>499</u>
Current Liabilities		3,360	2,597
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>117,600</u>	<u>116,370</u>
Unrestricted funds		<u>117,600</u>	<u>116,370</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 21 October 2025



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 2025

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Friends subscriptions (1 Sept 2024 to 31 Aug 2025)	3,315	2,963
Donations	5,240	158
Grants receivable	3,806	<u>3,918</u>
	<u>12,361</u>	<u>7,038</u>

Friends of the Festival

As at 31 August 2025, the number of subscribed friends stood at 254, 66 more than the previous year. The actual value of subscriptions received at that date amounted to £3,810. However, as the festival (Summer and Autumn) falls across two financial years, 50% of 2024/25 subscriptions are carried forward to the following year and 50% brought forward from 2023/24.

Grants receivable for core activities

Unrestricted funds:

Devizes Town Council Benefit	3,806	3,918
	<u>3,806</u>	<u>3,918</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 2025***

3	Activities for generating funds	2025	2024
		£	£
	Event sponsors	7,350	10,350
		<u>7,350</u>	<u>10,350</u>
4	Investment income		
	Bank Interest	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
5	Incoming resources from charitable activities		
	Festival ticket sales	<u>53,254</u>	<u>36,041</u>
6	Total resources expended	2025	2024
		£	£
	Charitable activities		
	Festival costs:		
	Activities undertaken directly (Note 7)	69,906	60,191
	Depreciation (Note 9)	0	0
	Governance costs (Note 8)	2,079	1,575
		<u>71,985</u>	<u>61,766</u>

DEVIZES ARTS FESTIVAL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued) For The Year Ended 31 August 2025

7	Activities undertaken directly	2025	2024
		£	£
	Artists Fees and Costs	44,493	36,136
	Sound and lighting	9,145	10,694
	Venues	4,406	4,168
	Security	983	381
	Event Other Costs	1,040	324.01
	Liability Insurance	1,483	1,431
	Launch Party	713	361
	Programme & Website Design	4,104	2,420
	Programme Brochure Printing	390	995
	Publicity and Advertising	3,129	3,231
	Box Office and Telephone costs	20	51
		<u>69,906</u>	<u>60,191</u>

8	Governance costs	2025	2024
		£	£
	Governance costs comprise:		
	Independent Examiner	200	200
	Admin Expenses	499	379
	Licences	266	226
	Purchases	432	225
	Credit Card Cost	362	234
	Bank & PayPal Charges	167	159
	AGM Costs	153	152
		<u>2,079</u>	<u>1,575</u>

9	Other Expenditure	2025	2024
		£	£
	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 2025

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.

	2025 £	2024 £
Balance as at 1 September	87,833	80,443
Additions	0	0
Appreciation / - Depreciation	4,968	<u>7,389</u>
Balance as at 31 August	<u>92,801</u>	<u>87,833</u>

14 Fixed Assets (Depreciated over 5 years)

	Gross £	Accum ^d Dep £	NBV 2025 £	NBV 2024 £
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>