

WHIDDON AUTUMN FESTIVAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1195063

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2021-07-06

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Hazelwood
Gidleigh
Chagford
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ13 8HP

Phone 07909 742573

Email hello@whiddonautumnfestival.co.uk

Website www.whiddonautumnfestival.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE APPRECIATION, ENJOYMENT, PARTICIPATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF MUSIC AND THE ARTS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, THROUGH THE PROVISION OF MUSICAL EVENTS AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY IN CENTRAL DEVON AS PART OF AN ANNUAL ARTS FESTIVAL AND AT OTHER TIMES OF THE YEAR.

Activities: To promote the appreciation, enjoyment, participation and understanding of music and the arts for the public benefit, through the provision of musical events and educational activities, particularly but not exclusively in central Devon as part of an annual Arts Festival and at other times of the year

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£67,951	£63,105	-	-
2024-12-31	£60,186	£57,443	-	-
2023-12-31	£44,285	£43,916	-	-
2022-12-31	£52,435	£46,725	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JOHN CHRISTOPHER CROWLEY	Chair	2021-05-10
Alison Barbara Routh		2021-05-10
Claire O'Donnell		2024-12-10
Frances Nicolette Everson		2026-05-26
Frederick Harry Cosmo Crowley		2021-05-10
MICHAEL ROBERT BALL		2021-06-21
Neil Andrew Loden		2021-05-10

WHIDDON AUTUMN FESTIVAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1195063

Accounts



WHIDDON AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Charity No: 1195063

ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees' Annual Report (incl. Chairman's Report)

Statement of Income & Expenditure

Balance Sheet

Independent Examiner's Report

2025

Trustees' Annual Report for the Period 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

Charity Name: Whiddon Autumn Festival

Registered Charity No: 1195063

Principal Address: 56 The Square, Chagford, Devon TQ13 8AE
(changed Feb 2026 to: Hazelwood, Gidleigh, Chagford, Devon TQ13 8HP)

Trustees: Michael Ball
Freddie Crowley (Festival & Artistic Director)
John Crowley (Chairman)
Neil Loden
Claire O'Donnell (appointed 10 December 2024)
Alison Routh

Apart from the initial Trustees, every Trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. The initial Trustees have all now been re-appointed under a rolling schedule for further periods of three years.

In selecting individuals for appointment as a Trustee, the Trustees will have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

Independent Examiner: Alexander Elkie

Chairman's Report:

This Annual Report of the Whiddon Autumn Festival reports on the charity's year of 2025, covering the annual Festival.

The fifth Whiddon Autumn Festival ("WAF") once again took place over five days in September 2025 and this year covered a total of 15 events. As previously, the principal Festival venues were the five wonderful parish churches in the Chagford area, while other venues included Chagford's Jubilee Hall (for the regular Jazz Night), the Long Room at the Drewe Arms, Drewsteignton's community-owned historic pub (for a show 'blurring the boundaries between folk, jazz and contemporary songwriting' with a related Songwriting Workshop) and Chagford's historic Endecott House (for the now well-established events of the informal Coffee Morning, the Come & Sing Workshop and the Family Concert, as well as the Open Rehearsal – a new event in 2025).

WAF has always prided itself on its broad musical appeal (from the familiar to the challenging, the classical to the cutting-edge contemporary, the ancient to new commissions), its community involvement and its artist collaboration. These defining themes were even more to the fore in 2025, with four world-premiere performances, an extensive schools-based Learning & Engagement programme and a large Come-&-Sing choir of local amateur singers. Most of the 15 events involved collaborations between the various artists, the busiest being members of Corvus Consort, who appeared in eight events, the Festival String Quartet in six and Harry Baker, also in six. The collaborations extended to the school children participants in the L&E programme and the Come-&-Sing choir both performing in concert alongside the professional of Corvus Consort.

Corvus Consort, under their director Freddie Crowley, WAF's Festival and Artistic Director, has firmly established itself as WAF's 'Ensemble-in-Residence', while this year's guest artists were the Delphine Trio. Also guesting was the Kathleen Ferrier Award-winning Scottish tenor Matthew McKinney, whose recital included Schumann's *Dichterliebe*, while Matthew also co-curated the Festival's Scottish-themed closing concert, '*Caledonia*'.

A further guest artist this year was the singer-songwriter Jamie Doe, who appears under the moniker 'The Magic Lantern' and who performed in the Long Room, as well as running a popular songwriting workshop.

This year's sold-out Festival Jazz Night saw the very popular return of Harry Baker and his Trio, though as usual Harry appeared in various guises across the Festival, as he has done every year since the Festival's inception.

Other concerts performed to capacity audiences included the Festival String Quartet's now-traditional Friday morning concert in the beautiful Throwleigh church, Corvus Consort's candlelit concert in Drewsteignton church (*The Song of Songs*) and The Magic Lantern in the Long Room.

Generally, audience numbers showed a marked increase like-for-like on the previous year, despite the reluctant but necessary increase in ticket prices this year. Also, very gratifyingly in these times of increasing competition for external funding, grant support also increased

impressively from last year. This all resulted in a financially successful year for WAF, which enables our modest financial cushion to creep a little further towards the target of our stated reserves policy.

More details of the 2025 Festival, including a gallery of photos of the individual events and information on past Festivals, can be found in the Archive section of the Whiddon Autumn Festival website.

WAF remains ever-grateful to all its Supporters: the grant-making organisations and local sponsors who helped to fund WAF 2025; the WAF Friends and Patrons, whose support makes the Festival possible and helps WAF to build its reserves to ensure its sustainability for the future; the kind hosts in Chagford who accommodate our musicians; our trustees and administrative team members; all the wonderful volunteers who assist our team in making each Festival run smoothly and successfully; and finally our concert and event audiences, whose numbers continue to grow year by year and without whose generosity and support the Festival could not happen.

Charity's status:

The Charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under a CIO Foundation Model Constitution approved and adopted by the Trustees on 10 May 2021.

The Charity's organisational structure:

WAF's activities are organised and managed by the Festival Director, who is also the Artistic Director and a Trustee. A small team assists the Festival Director with roles including Administration, Fundraising, Publicity and Learning & Engagement. Also, a team of local volunteers (recruited by the Festival Director) provides accommodation, transport, concert and venue administration, etc, during the period of the Festival.

Apart from the Festival Director, the other Trustees are entirely voluntary and provide high level advice and oversight to ensure good management and governance practice, in support of the Festival Director. The Trustees also provide assistance, in various roles, as required, in the smooth running of the Festival.

Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them:

The Trustees maintain a Risk Management Schedule, which (a) covers all aspects of the charity's activities (b) identifies and quantifies the risks facing WAF and (c) specifies the measures taken to eliminate or mitigate those risks. The Trustees review the Risk Management Schedule regularly, and at least annually, and are satisfied that all reasonable measures are being taken to reduce risks to an acceptable level.

Objects of the charity as set out in its governing document:

To promote the appreciation, enjoyment, participation and understanding of music and the arts for the public benefit, through the provision of musical events and educational activities, particularly but not exclusively in central Devon as part of an annual Arts Festival and at other times of the year.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these Objects:

WAF has four core aims:

- to present world-class live music in a part of the country that so infrequently sees professional classical music performances;
- to provide a platform for some of the UK's most talented young musicians in the early stages of their professional careers;
- to deliver an inspiring Learning & Engagement programme for local children, encouraging enjoyment and participation in music from an early age and promoting values of teamwork and collectivity through group singing;
- to engage and involve the community by holding participatory events which offer local residents the opportunity to join with our professional artists in a collective performance.

The main activities to achieve these aims are the concerts and other events forming the Whiddon Autumn Festival, held each September in and around the small town of Chagford on the north-east edge of Dartmoor in central Devon.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during its first five years:

WAF has now established itself as a regular feature of the Devon cultural scene. Since the initial three-day Festival in September 2021, the Festival has continued to grow and WAF 2025 saw 15 events over five days. WAF brings world-class young professional musicians to a corner of Dartmoor that rarely sees such a level of performance and increasingly draws audiences from further afield. It draws in people from across the local parish communities - not just audience members but also school children through WAF's inspirational outreach programme, volunteers to ensure the smooth running of the Festival, keen and 'have-a-go' singers for the Come-&Sing day, hosts to accommodate the musicians, etc.

An effective administration team has been assembled by the Festival Director, with individuals assisting him in covering most of the main tasks: general administration; learning and engagement; fund-raising; marketing and publicity; Friends and Patrons coordination.

Brief Statement of the charity's policy on reserves:

The Trustees believe that the main purpose of the charity's reserves is to cover any unexpected shortfall in funding and income.

The Trustees consider that a prudent level of reserves would be a minimum of 50% of the previous year's total expenditure.

To achieve and then maintain this level of reserves, the Trustees intend in each financial year to budget for the charity to make a surplus, taking into account the financial outcome of the annual Festival itself and regular annual subscriptions from Friends and Patrons.

Public Benefit:

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in planning all WAF's events. The Trustees consider that they have satisfied the criteria of 'public benefit' in the following ways:

- The Festival benefits the communities in the Chagford area, as well as the wider region, by the provision of musical performance and learning and engagement programmes by high quality professional artists in an area that normally sees little of either.
- Members of the community have the opportunity to perform alongside the Festival's professional artists in a collaborative performance. They also volunteer to provide hosting and administrative services to help to ensure the smooth running over the five days of the Festival. Also, the learning and engagement programmes bring the experience of classical music and its live performance to local schoolchildren, including the opportunity for public performance as part of the Festival.
- The Festival places high importance on the encouragement of attendance at, and where possible participation in, the Festival from people from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds. The ticket pricing for the Festival's events, and especially the provision of free access for children and young people, ensures that they and their families, as well as those on lower incomes, have a reasonable opportunity of attending concerts and events in the Festival.

Payments to Trustees:

WAF's Founder, Festival Director and Artistic Director is Freddie Crowley, who is also a Trustee. This presents potential conflicts, especially with regard to his remuneration, for him and for John Crowley, who is a connected person as his father and is also a Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The intention is for the Festival & Artistic Director to be retained on a rolling annual contract for services. The performance of the Festival & Artistic Director is reviewed annually by the Trustees. Any discussion and decision about the retention and, if so, future remuneration for the Festival & Artistic Director is made solely by the independent Trustees, with no input from the Festival & Artistic Director (should he/she remain a Trustee and whether or not in future that position is held by Freddie Crowley) nor from any connected person of the Festival & Artistic Director among the Trustees.

In 2025, Freddie Crowley received the following remuneration from the Charity:

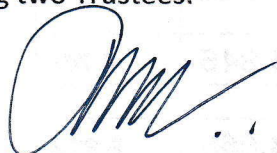
Festival & Artistic Director's fee:	£11,802
Performer's fees:	£1,700

The total fee due to the Festival & Artistic Director for 2025 was £8,603. In addition, a balancing sum of £3,199 in respect of the fee for 2024 was paid in the 2025 accounting year. In setting and agreeing these fees (which is done solely by the independent Trustees), the Trustees are satisfied that they are in line with the normal rates in the sector and for comparable events.

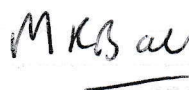
In addition, Freddie Crowley received £148 in reimbursement for travel expenses.

DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that, at a meeting held on 6 May 2026, they approved the Trustees' Annual Report above, they accepted and acknowledged the Independent Examiner's Report below and they authorised the signature of the Report on the Trustees' behalf by the following two Trustees:



.....
John Crowley
Chairman & Trustee



.....
Michael Ball
Trustee

Whiddon Autumn Festival

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Income & Expenditure Statement	2025	2024
RECEIPTS		
Ticket Sales	15,561	16,741
Other event-specific income (donations, programmes, drinks, etc)	3,058	4,103
Other donations	1,272	383
Gift Aid	1,970	996
Friends & Patrons Subscriptions	8,875	5,875
Grants, etc	32,800	27,550
Sponsorships & Programme Adverts	3,525	4,000
Miscellaneous	890	538
TOTAL RECEIPTS	67,951	60,186
PAYMENTS		
Artists Fees	25,128	27,180
Artists Travel & Subsistence	2,998	4,153
Other concert expenses (Lighting, sound, photography, etc)	4,062	3,466
Venue Hire	1,492	1,653
IT, Website, etc	924	787
Publicity, Marketing, Printing, etc	4,468	3,810
Other Travel	1,760	1,919
Catering, etc	1,440	603
Admin Team Fees (incl. Artistic Director fee)	19,997	12,425
General Admin	836	1,447
TOTAL PAYMENTS	63,105	57,443
Surplus for Year	4,846	2,743
Cash Funds at Year End	13,668	8,822

NOTES

1. The Income & Expenditure Statement is prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.
2. All figures rounded to the nearest £.
3. Receipts are in unrestricted funds, except a total of £15,300 of the Grant funding, which was to be applied for specific purposes, mainly for the Composer-in-Residence and the Learning & Engagement programme. All those funds were fully applied for the specified purposes.

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2025

	31.12.25	31.12.24
Cash Funds	13,668	8,822
Net Assets	13,668	8,822

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Whiddon Autumn Festival

I report on the accounts of the company for the period 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025, which are set out above on page 8 and which are consistent with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner:

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, 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 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:

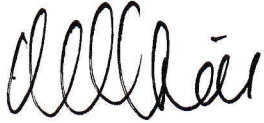
- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and comply with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexander Elkies', written in a cursive style.

Alexander Elkies
Little Berrydown
Gidleigh
Newton Abbot
Devon TQ13 8HS

Date: 6 May 2026

WHIDDON AUTUMN FESTIVAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1195063

Accounts



WHIDDON AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Charity No: 1195063

ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees' Annual Report (incl. Chairman's Report)

Statement of Income & Expenditure

Balance Sheet

Independent Examiner's Report

2024

Trustees' Annual Report for the Period 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

Charity Name: Whiddon Autumn Festival

Registered Charity No: 1195063

Principal Address: 56 The Square, Chagford, Devon TQ13 8AE

Trustees: Michael Ball
Freddie Crowley (Festival & Artistic Director)
John Crowley (Chairman)
Neil Loden
Claire O'Donnell (appointed 10 December 2024)
Alison Routh

Apart from the initial Trustees, every Trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as a Trustee, the Trustees will have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

Independent Examiner: Michael Knight

Chairman's Report:

This Annual Report of the Whiddon Autumn Festival reports on the charity's year of 2024, covering the fourth Festival in September 2024.

Following the success of the first three Festivals, the fourth Whiddon Autumn Festival ("WAF") once again took place over 5 days and covered a total of 13 events. While most of the events, as previously, were in five parish churches in the Chagford area, other venues this year included Chagford's Jubilee Hall, the Long Room at Drewsteignton's newly-reopened and now-community-owned historic pub, the Drewe Arms and, once again, an informal 'Meet-the-Artists' event in Chagford's wonderful bookshop, Astor's.

As in previous years, Corvus Consort was 'Ensemble-in-Residence' under their director Freddie Crowley, WAF's Festival and Artistic Director, while this year's guest artists were the Solem Quartet. In the Long Room, this rising young string quartet gave mesmerising performances of Steve Reich's *Different Trains* and their own arrangements of

Kate Bush songs, while being joined the next day in Moretonhampstead Church by the Festival's own String Quartet for a memorable performance of Mendelssohn's *Octet*.

This year's Festival Jazz Night saw the UK first performance of the German jazz pianist-composer Lukas DeRungs' *KOSMOS Suite*, an extended work for jazz ensemble and chamber choir, involving Lukas' Quintet, the vocalist Immy Churchill and Corvus Consort.

A defining feature of the Festival each year is the opportunity for the artists to make music together in various combinations over the period of the Festival. The Festival String Quartet appeared in the first event, with the Kathleen Ferrier Award-winning tenor, Matthew McKinney, and in five other events, including a popular and varied programme in Throwleigh Church with Harry Baker; Harry, the Festival's stalwart and wonderfully versatile pianist and accompanist, appeared in six events; Corvus Consort also appeared in six events, including their hugely popular concert of 'Renaissance Gems'.

The 2024 Composer-in-Residence was Sun Keting, the China-born, London-based composer who focuses on blending Eastern cultural elements with performing arts in her compositions. Four of the events in the Festival received world-premiere performances of newly-commissioned works by Keting, including a piece written especially for the WAF Children's Choir.

WAF's 'learning and engagement' programme involves increasing numbers of local schools, this year providing a larger-than-ever group of schoolchildren with the exciting experience of inspirational outreach sessions leading to a concert performance alongside professional musicians. The 'Come-&-Sing' day again proved very popular, bringing together 27 local amateur singers for a day of improvised music-making and rehearsal, culminating in a performance alongside Corvus Consort in the Festival's final concert – 'The Magic of Folk Song'.

More details of the 2024 Festival, including a gallery of photos of the individual events, and information on past Festivals can be found in the Archive section of the Whiddon Autumn Festival website.

A very special 'bonus' Festival event was held in November, with the 'global superstar cellist' Sheku Kanneh-Mason and his pianist duo partner, WAF's very own Harry Baker. Their programme 'Bach & Beyond' was performed in two hour-long sittings to packed and hugely appreciative audiences in Chagford Church.

WAF remains ever-grateful to all its Supporters: the grant-making organisations and local sponsors who helped to fund WAF 2024; the WAF Friends and Patrons, whose support makes the Festival possible and helps WAF to build its reserves to ensure its sustainability for the future; the kind hosts in Chagford who accommodate our musicians; our trustees and administrative team members; all the wonderful volunteers who assist our team in making each Festival run smoothly and successfully; and finally our concert and event audiences, whose numbers continue to grow year by year and without whose generosity and support the Festival could not happen.

Charity's status:

The Charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under a CIO Foundation Model Constitution approved and adopted by the Trustees on 10 May 2021.

The Charity's organisational structure:

WAF's activities are organised and managed by the Festival Director, who is also the Artistic Director and a Trustee. Following the 2022 Festival, a small team was appointed to assist the Festival Director with roles including Administration, Fundraising, Publicity and Learning & Engagement. Also, a team of volunteers (recruited by the Festival Director) provides accommodation, transport, concert and venue administration, etc, during the period of the Festival.

Apart from the Festival Director, the other Trustees are entirely voluntary and provide high level management and oversight to ensure good management and governance practice, in support of the Festival Director. The Trustees also provide assistance, as required, in the smooth running of the Festival.

Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them:

The Trustees maintain a Risk Management Schedule, which (a) covers all aspects of the charity's activities (b) identifies and quantifies the risks facing WAF and (c) specifies the measures taken to eliminate or mitigate those risks. The Trustees review the Risk Management Schedule regularly, and at least annually, and are satisfied that all reasonable measures are being taken to reduce risks to an acceptable level.

Objects of the charity as set out in its governing document:

To promote the appreciation, enjoyment, participation and understanding of music and the arts for the public benefit, through the provision of musical events and educational activities, particularly but not exclusively in central Devon as part of an annual Arts Festival and at other times of the year.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these Objects:

WAF has four core aims:

- to present world-class live music in a part of the country that so infrequently sees professional classical music performances;
- to provide a platform for young musicians in the early stages of their professional careers, particularly at this very difficult time for freelance artists;

- to deliver education workshops for local children, encouraging enjoyment & participation in music from an early age and promoting values of teamwork & collectivity through group singing;
- to engage and involve the community by holding participatory events which offer local residents the opportunity to join with our professional artists in a collective performance.

The main activities to achieve these aims are the concerts and other events forming the Whiddon Autumn Festival, held each September in and around the small town of Chagford on the north-east edge of Dartmoor in central Devon.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during its first four years:

Since the initial three-day Festival of four events over three days in September 2021, WAF 2024 saw thirteen events over five days. WAF brings world-class young professional musicians to a corner of Dartmoor that rarely sees such a level of performance and increasingly draws audiences from further afield. It draws in people from across the local parish communities - not just audience members but also school children through WAF's inspirational outreach programme, volunteers to ensure the smooth running of the Festival, keen and 'have-a-go' singers for the Come-&Sing day, hosts to accommodate the musicians, etc.

An effective administration team has been assembled by the Festival Director, with individuals assisting him in covering most of the main tasks: general administration; learning and engagement; fund-raising; marketing and publicity; Friends coordination.

WAF is establishing itself as a regular feature of the Devon cultural scene. As well as the regular return of Corvus Consort and the Festival String Quartet, plans for 2025 include the singer/guitarist Jamie Doe, a Jazz Night with Harry Baker and his Trio, the exploration of further new venues and a further-extended learning and engagement programme.

Brief Statement of the charity's policy on reserves:

The Trustees believe that the main purpose of the charity's reserves is to cover any unexpected shortfall in funding and income.

The Trustees consider that a prudent level of reserves would be a minimum of 50% of the previous year's total expenditure.

To achieve and then maintain this level of reserves, the Trustees intend in each financial year to budget for the charity to make a surplus, taking into account the financial outcome of the annual Festival itself and regular annual subscriptions from Friends and Patrons.

Public Benefit:

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit in planning all WAF’s events. The Trustees consider that they have satisfied the criteria of ‘public benefit’ in the following ways:

- The Festival benefits the communities in the Chagford area, as well as the wider region, by the provision of musical performance and learning and engagement programmes by high quality professional artists in an area that normally sees little of either.
- Members of the community have the opportunity to perform alongside the Festival's professional artists in a collaborative performance. Also, the learning and engagement programmes bring the experience of classical music and its live performance to local schoolchildren, including the opportunity for public performance as part of the Festival.
- The Festival places high importance on the encouragement of attendance at, and where possible participation in, the Festival from people from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds. The ticket pricing for the Festival’s events, and especially the provision of free access for children and young people, ensures that they and their families, as well as those on lower incomes, have a reasonable opportunity of attending concerts and events in the Festival.

Payments to Trustees:

WAF’s Founder, Festival Director and Artistic Director is Freddie Crowley, who is also a Trustee. This presents potential conflicts, especially with regard to his remuneration, for him and for John Crowley, who is a connected person as his father and is also a Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The intention is for the Festival & Artistic Director to be retained on a rolling annual contract for services. The performance of the Festival & Artistic Director is reviewed annually by the Trustees. Any discussion and decision about the retention and, if so, future remuneration for the Festival & Artistic Director is made solely by the independent Trustees, with no input from the Festival & Artistic Director (should he/she remain a Trustee and whether or not in future that position is held by Freddie Crowley) nor from any connected person of the Festival & Artistic Director among the Trustees.

In 2023, Freddie Crowley received the following remuneration from the Charity:

Festival & Artistic Director’s fee:	£3,935
Performer’s fees:	£1,625

The total fee due to the Festival & Artistic Director for 2024 was £7,134. The balancing sum of £3,199 was paid after the year end.

A further £3,199 was agreed and approved by the (independent) Trustees in respect of Freddie Crowley's Festival & Artistic Director fee for 2024. This was paid after the year end and will therefore fall into the 2025 accounting year.

In setting and agreeing these fees, the Trustees are satisfied that they are in line with the normal rates in the sector and for comparable events.

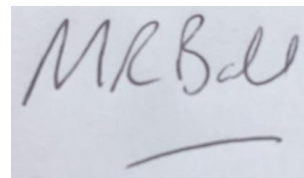
In addition, Freddie Crowley received £85 in reimbursement for travel expenses.

DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that, at a meeting held on 21 May 2025, they approved the Trustees' Annual Report above, they accepted and acknowledged the Independent Examiner's Report below and they authorised the signature of the Report on the Trustees' behalf by the following two Trustees:



.....
John Crowley
Chairman & Trustee



.....
Michael Ball
Trustee

Whiddon Autumn Festival

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Income & Expenditure Statement	<i>2024</i>	<i>2023</i>
RECEIPTS		
Ticket Sales	16,741	10,272
Other event-specific income (donations, programmes, drinks, etc)	4,103	581
Other donations	383	1,727
Gift Aid	996	1,021
Friends & Patrons Subscriptions	5,875	3,850
Grants, etc	27,550	23,540
Sponsorships & Programme Adverts	4,000	2,420
Miscellaneous	538	875
TOTAL RECEIPTS	60,186	44,285
PAYMENTS		
Artists Fees	27,180	19,122
Artists Travel & Subsistence	4,153	
Other concert expenses (Lighting, sound, photography, etc)	3,466	3,793
Venue Hire	1,653	
IT, Website, etc	787	1,050
Publicity, Marketing, Printing, etc	3,810	3,077
Other Travel	1,919	1,878
Catering, etc	603	1,691
Admin Team Fees (incl. Artistic Director fee)	12,425	11,415
General Admin	1,447	1,891
TOTAL PAYMENTS	57,443	43,916
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	2,743	369
Cash Funds at Year End	8,822	6,079

NOTES

1. The Income & Expenditure Statement is prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.
2. All figures rounded to the nearest £.
3. All receipts are in unrestricted funds.
4. In 2023, Artists Travel was included in 'Artists Fees' and Artists subsistence was included in 'Catering'.
5. Further payments totalling £3,574, due in respect of 2024, were paid after the year end.

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2024

	<i>31.12.24</i>	<i>31.12.23</i>
Cash Funds	8,822	6,079
Liabilities	0	0
Net Assets	8,822	6,079

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Whiddon Autumn Festival

I report on the accounts of the company for the period 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024, which are set out above on page 8 and which are consistent with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner:

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, 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 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:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and comply with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MK', is written over a horizontal dotted line. The signature is slightly slanted and has a small flourish at the end.

Michael Knight MA, ACA

Apple Tree Barn, 2 Manor Close, Sparkford, Somerset, BA22 7JZ

Date: 21 May 2025

WHIDDON AUTUMN FESTIVAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1195063

Accounts



WHIDDON AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Charity No: 1195063

ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees' Annual Report (incl. Chairman's Report)

Statement of Income & Expenditure

Balance Sheet

Independent Examiner's Report

2023

Trustees' Annual Report for the Period 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023

Charity Name: Whiddon Autumn Festival

Registered Charity No: 1195063

Principal Address: 56 The Square, Chagford, Devon TQ13 8AE

Trustees: Michael Ball
Freddie Crowley (Festival & Artistic Director)
John Crowley (Chairman)
Neil Loden
Alison Routh

Apart from the initial Trustees, every Trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as a Trustee, the Trustees will have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

Independent Examiner: Michael Knight

Chairman's Report:

This second Annual Report of the Whiddon Autumn Festival reports on the charity's year of 2023 and covering the third Festival in September 2023.

Following the success of the first two Festivals, the third Whiddon Autumn Festival ("WAF") was expanded to cover 13 events over 5 days. As usual, new venues were explored beyond the main parish churches, such as Chagford's wonderful bookshop and the gloriously-sited and remote Methodist chapel at Providence.

Once again, Corvus Consort returned as Ensemble-in-Residence under their director Freddie Crowley, WAF's Festival and Artistic Director. Harpist Louise Thomson appeared as special guest artist, featuring in five of the Festival's events, while the Festival String Quartet again appeared in several events throughout the Festival. The 2023 Composer-in-Residence was award-winning music creator Nathan James Dearden, whose newly-commissioned works were premiered at the festival by Corvus Consort, the Festival String Quartet and the WAF Children's Choir.

An expanded 'learning and engagement' programme in the lead up to the Festival prepared a larger-than-ever group of schoolchildren for the exciting experience of performing alongside professional musicians in a piece specially-created by Nathan James Deardon.

The 'Come-&-Sing' day brought together 27 local amateur singers for a day of improvised music-making and rehearsal, culminating in a performance alongside Corvus Consort in the Festival's final concert – 'Bach – Then & Now'.

More details, as well as a gallery of photos of the individual events of the 2023 Festival, can be found in the Archive section of the Whiddon Autumn Festival website.

WAF remains ever-grateful to all its Supporters: the grant-making organisations and local sponsors who helped to fund WAF 2023; the WAF Friends and Patrons whose support makes the Festival possible; the hosts who accommodated our musicians; our trustees and team members; all the wonderful volunteers who assisted our team in making the Festival run smoothly and successfully.

Charity's status:

The Charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under a CIO Foundation Model Constitution approved and adopted by the Trustees on 10 May 2021.

The Charity's organisational structure:

WAF's activities are organised and managed by the Festival Director, who is also the Artistic Director and a Trustee. Following the 2022 Festival, a small team was appointed to assist the Festival Director with roles including Administration, Fundraising, Publicity and Learning & Engagement. Also, a team of volunteers (recruited by the Festival Director) provides accommodation, transport, concert and venue administration, etc, during the period of the Festival.

Apart from the Festival Director, the other Trustees are entirely voluntary and provide high level management and oversight to ensure good management and governance practice, in support of the Festival Director. The Trustees also provide assistance, as required, in the smooth running of the Festival.

Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them:

The Trustees maintain a Risk Management Schedule, which (a) covers all aspects of the charity's activities (b) identifies and quantifies the risks facing WAF and (c) the measures taken to eliminate or mitigate those risks. The Trustees review the Risk Management Schedule regularly, and at least annually, and are satisfied that all reasonable measures are being taken to reduce risks to an acceptable level.

Objects of the charity as set out in its governing document:

To promote the appreciation, enjoyment, participation and understanding of music and the arts for the public benefit, through the provision of musical events and educational activities, particularly but not exclusively in central Devon as part of an annual Arts Festival and at other times of the year.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects:

WAF has four core aims:

- to present world-class live music in a part of the country that so infrequently sees professional classical music performances;
- to provide a platform for young musicians in the early stages of their professional careers, particularly at this very difficult time for freelance artists;
- to deliver education workshops for local children, encouraging enjoyment & participation in music from an early age, and promoting values of teamwork & collectivity through group singing;
- to engage and involve the community by holding participatory events which offer local residents the opportunity to join with our professional artists in a collective performance.

The main activities to achieve these aims are the concerts and other events forming the Whiddon Autumn Festival, held each September in and around the small town of Chagford on the north-east edge of Dartmoor in central Devon.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during its first three years:

Since the initial three-day Festival of four events over three days in September 2021, WAF 2023 saw thirteen events over five days. WAF brings world-class young professional musicians to a corner of Dartmoor that rarely sees such a level of performance and increasingly draws audiences from further afield. It draws in people from across the local parish communities - not just audience members but also school children through WAF's inspirational outreach programme, volunteers to ensure the smooth running of the Festival, keen and 'have-a-go' singers for the Come-&Sing day, hosts to accommodate the musicians, etc.

An effective admin team has been assembled by the Festival Director, with individuals assisting him in covering most of the main tasks: general administration; learning and engagement; fund-raising; marketing and publicity; Friends coordination.

WAF is establishing itself as a regular feature of the Devon cultural scene. Plans for 2024 include a guest string quartet alongside WAF's own Festival String Quartet, exploration of further new venues, new commissions and a further-extended learning and engagement programme.

Brief Statement of the charity's policy on reserves:

The Charity principal activity is concentrated on the annual Whiddon Autumn Festival, so the aim is for each year's Festival to at least break even, but ideally to make a small profit so as to build up a solid financial reserve to ensure its continuing success.

Both the 2022 and 2023 Festivals exceeded their budgets and produced small surpluses. This meant that WAF's reserves, while still modest, continue to grow.

The Trustees' aim is to continue to budget for the annual Festival to make a surplus so that the Charity's reserves can grow and achieve the longer-term aim for the Charity to maintain financial reserves of approximately 50% of the previous year's total expenditure.

Public Benefit:

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in planning all WAF's events. The Trustees consider that they have satisfied the criteria of 'public benefit' in the following ways:

- The Festival benefits the communities in the Chagford area, as well as the wider region, by the provision of musical performance and learning and engagement programmes by high quality professional artists in an area that normally sees little of either.
- Members of the community have the opportunity to perform alongside the Festival's professional artists in a collaborative performance. Also, the learning and engagement programmes bring the experience of classical music and its live performance to local schoolchildren, including the opportunity for public performance as part of the Festival.
- The Festival places high importance on the encouragement of attendance at, and where possible participation in, the Festival from people from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds. The ticket pricing for the Festival's events, and especially the provision of free access for children and young people, ensures that they and their families, as well as those on lower incomes, have a reasonable opportunity of attending concerts and events in the Festival.

Payments to Trustees:

WAF's Founder, Festival Director and Artistic Director is Freddie Crowley, who is also a Trustee. This presents potential conflicts, especially with regard to his remuneration, for him and for John Crowley, who is a connected person as his father and is also a Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The intention is for the Festival & Artistic Director to be retained on a rolling annual contract for services. The performance of the Festival & Artistic Director is reviewed annually by the Trustees. Any discussion and decision about the retention and, if so, future remuneration for the Festival & Artistic Director is made solely by the independent Trustees, with no input from the Festival & Artistic Director (should he/she remain a Trustee and whether or not in future that position is held by Freddie Crowley) nor from any connected person of the Festival & Artistic Director among the Trustees.

In 2023, Freddie Crowley received the following remuneration from the Charity:

Festival & Artistic Director's fee:	£4,966
Performer's fees:	£1,050

In setting and agreeing these fees, the Trustees are satisfied that they are in line with the normal rates in the sector and for comparable events.

In addition, Freddie Crowley received £274 in reimbursement for travel expenses.

DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that, by way of a virtual meeting held on 30th June 2024, they approved the Trustees' Annual Report above, that they accepted and acknowledged the Independent Examiner's Report below and that they authorised the signature of the Report on the Trustees' behalf by the following two Trustees:



.....
John Crowley
Chairman & Trustee



.....
Michael Ball
Trustee

Whiddon Autumn Festival

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Income & Expenditure Statement		£
RECEIPTS		
Ticket Sales		10,272
Programme donations		581
Other donations		1,727
Gift Aid		1,021
Friends & Patrons Subs		3,850
Grants etc		23,540
Sponsorships & Programme Adverts		2,420
Miscellaneous		875
TOTAL RECEIPTS		44,285
PAYMENTS		
Artists Fees		19,122
Venue & Equipment Hire		3,793
IT, website, etc		1,050
Publicity, Marketing, etc		3,077
Travel		1,878
Catering etc		1,691
Admin Team Fees		11,415
General Admin		1,891
TOTAL PAYMENTS		43,916
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year		369

NOTES

1. All receipts are in unrestricted funds
2. All figures rounded to the nearest £

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2023

Cash Funds	6,079	
Liabilities	0	
Net Assets		6,079

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Whiddon Autumn Festival

I report on the accounts of the company for the period 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023, which are set out above on page 7 and which are consistent with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner:

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, 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 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:


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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and comply with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.

Signed:


.....

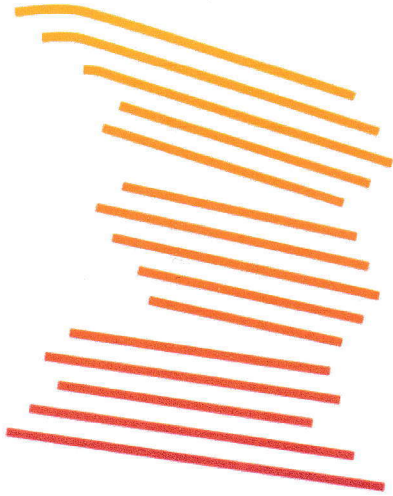
Michael Knight MA, ACA
The Green, New Street, Chulmleigh, Devon, EX18 7DA

Date: 25 June 2024

WHIDDON AUTUMN FESTIVAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1195063

Accounts



WHIDDON AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Charity No: 1195063

ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees' Annual Report (incl. Chairman's Report)

Statement of Income & Expenditure

Balance Sheet

Independent Examiner's Report

2022

Trustees' Annual Report for the Period 1st May 2021 to 31st December 2022

Charity Name: Whiddon Autumn Festival

Registered Charity No: 1195063

Principal Address: 56 The Square, Chagford, Devon TQ13 8AE

Trustees: John Crowley (Chairman)
Neil Loden
Alison Routh
Freddie Crowley (Festival & Artistic Director)
Michael Ball

Apart from the initial Trustees, every Trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as a Trustee, the Trustees will have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

Independent Examiner: Michael Knight

Chairman's Report:

This first Annual Report of the Whiddon Autumn Festival reports on the charity's partial first year of 2021 and the complete year of 2022. This period covers the inaugural Festival in September 2021 and the second Festival in September 2022.

The uncertainties of the Covid pandemic delayed pushing the button on Freddie Crowley's project for the Whiddon Autumn Festival ("WAF") until late April 2021. In the event, in time for the inaugural Festival on 10th-12th September 2021, a great deal of ground was covered:

- A diverse group of Trustees, with wide experience of business, the professions and professional music-making, was recruited;
- A successful application was made to the Charity Commission to establish WAF as a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation;
- A wonderfully generous and supportive group of 'Founder Patrons' provided initial funding to enable WAF to launch an attractive website and to provide a valuable financial cushion;
- With help from the Festival Manager, Katalin Oldland, some successful applications to grant-making bodies provided a solid foundation of revenue funding, either generally or for specific aspects of the Festival. A good degree of support from local businesses was also obtained, either by way of sponsorship or by taking advertisements in the Festival Programme. Most of these grant-making bodies and

businesses continued their support in 2022, as well as some new ones, including most encouragingly Arts Council England;

- Freddie Crowley, as WAF's Festival & Artistic Director, assembled an exciting programme of concerts and events for the inaugural Festival in 2021, which took place in the Chagford area, in Chagford Parish Church as well as the parish churches of Throwleigh, Drewsteignton and Gidleigh, together with an outreach session in Chagford Primary School. In 2022 the further venue of Moretonhampstead church was added, as well as a very successful Jazz Night in the Jubilee Hall in Chagford.

The 2021 Festival was a great success artistically and administratively, while in financial terms it made a small loss – unsurprisingly, given the short time frame to get everything off the ground and to spread the word among target audiences. However, the generous support of the Founder Patrons means that the WAF entered 2022 with at least something of a financial cushion to take forward to the next Festival.

In 2022, a slightly enlarged Festival continued WAF's artistic success, based on a very sound and efficient administrative platform. This time, the Festival returned a small profit, with strong attendances exceeding expectations for most of the events.

More details of WAF 2021 and 2022 are available in the Festival Archive section of the WAF website at <https://www.whiddonautumnfestival.co.uk/2021-festival-archive>.

Plans for WAF 2023 are well under way, with the Festival expanded to an extra, fifth, day. The 'Friends of WAF' scheme is gradually attracting new members. The longer lead times in 2022 gave a better opportunity for a proper marketing campaign, which helped to grow the audiences for the 2022 Festival, furthering the intended public benefits and helping to establish WAF as a regular feature of the Devon cultural scene. With WAF's further growth in 2023, the intention is to establish the Festival for the foreseeable future as an annual five day event in September.

Charity's status:

The Charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under a CIO Foundation Model Constitution approved and adopted by the Trustees on 10th May 2021.

The Constitution was adopted by the above four first-named Trustees as 'First Trustees' at a Meeting of the Trustees held on 10th May 2021. At the instigation of the Charity Commission, and with the agreement of all five of the Trustees, it was subsequently amended on 5th July 2021 to include Michael Ball as a First Trustee

The Charity's organisational structure:

WAF's activities are organised and managed by the Festival Director, who is also the Artistic Director and a Trustee. Following the 2022 Festival, a small team was appointed to assist the Festival Director with roles including Administration, Fundraising, Publicity and Learning & Engagement. Also, a team of volunteers (recruited by the Festival Director) provide accommodation, transport, concert and venue administration, etc, during the period of the

Festival. The Trustees are entirely voluntary and provide high level management and oversight to ensure good management and governance practice, in support of the Festival Director. The Trustees also provide assistance, as required, in the smooth running of the Festival.

Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them:

The Trustees maintain a Risk Management Schedule, which (a) covers all aspects of the charity's activities (b) identifies and quantifies the risks facing WAF and (c) the measures taken to eliminate or mitigate those risks. The Trustees review the Risk Management Schedule regularly, and at least annually, and are satisfied that all reasonable measures are being taken to reduce risks to an acceptable level.

Objects of the charity as set out in its governing document:

To promote the appreciation, enjoyment, participation and understanding of music and the arts for the public benefit, through the provision of musical events and educational activities, particularly but not exclusively in central Devon as part of an annual Arts Festival and at other times of the year.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects:

WAF has four core aims:

- to present world-class live music in a part of the country that so infrequently sees professional classical music performances.
- to provide a platform for young musicians in the early stages of their professional careers, particularly at this very difficult time for freelance artists.
- to deliver education workshops for local children, encouraging enjoyment & participation in music from an early age, and promoting values of teamwork & collectivity through group singing.
- to engage and involve the community by holding participatory events which offer local residents the opportunity to join with our professional artists in a collective performance.

The main activities to achieve these aims are the concerts and other events forming the Whiddon Autumn Festival, held each September in and around the small town of Chagford on the north-east edge of Dartmoor in central Devon.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during its first two years:

WAF is inspired by the success of concerts given by the Corvus Consort (formerly the New Oxford Consort) to a packed Chagford Church in September 2018 and 2019. These events

showed a great enthusiasm in the local community for this type of musical performance and laid the foundation for a larger Festival to take shape.

2021 saw an initial three-day Festival from Friday 10th to Sunday 12th September, with four concerts (including concerts with the Corvus Consort, a string quartet, solo voices, and a 'Come-&-Sing' community participation event), two church choral services and an outreach session in Chagford Primary School, with the participating children performing in the first concert in the Festival.

The second Festival in September 2022 expanded to nine events, once again involving the Corvus Consort, the Festival String Quartet, a soloists recital (of English song) and a Come-&-Sing session before a concert which included the Come-&-Singers and the Chagford School children who earlier had enjoyed musical workshops, all coming together in a piece specially written for the combined forces by the Composer-in-residence Anna Semple. This year also saw new events, such as an informal coffee morning and a very successful jazz evening in Chagford's Jubilee Hall

The intention in 2023 is further to expand the Festival, to include an extra day of events. In addition, over the next few years, the ambition is to involve more of the local parish communities and to embrace a wider variety of musical genres and styles, as well as to use a variety of venues in addition to the parish churches, with the aim of WAF becoming a cornerstone of Devon's cultural calendar.

Brief Statement of the charity's policy on reserves:

The Charity principal activity is concentrated on the annual Whiddon Autumn Festival, so the aim is for each year's Festival to at least break even, but ideally to make a small profit so as to build up a solid financial reserve to ensure its continuing success.

The first Festival made a small loss, but this was offset by one-off donations from 'Founder Patrons', which established 'seed-funding' to enable the Festival to commission a website and to provide a financial buffer should expenditure on the initial Festival not be covered by income. This proved to be the case and the donations from the Founder Patrons enabled WAF to enter 2022 with a small reserve.

The 2022 Festival exceeded its budget in terms of attendances and produced a small surplus. This meant that WAF's reserves, while still modest, continue to grow.

The Trustees' aim is to continue to budget for the annual Festival to make a surplus so that the Charity's reserves can grow and achieve the longer-term aim for the Charity to maintain financial reserves of approximately 50% of the previous year's total expenditure.

Public Benefit:

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in planning all WAF's events. The Trustees consider that they have satisfied the criteria of 'public benefit' in the following ways:

- The Festival benefits the communities in the Chagford area, as well as the wider region, by the provision of musical performance and learning & engagement programmes by high quality professional artists in an area that normally sees little of either.
- Members of the community have the opportunity to perform alongside the Festival's professional artists in a collaborative performance. Also, the learning & engagement programmes bring the experience of classical music and its live performance to local schoolchildren, including the opportunity for public performance as part of the Festival.
- The Festival places high importance on the encouragement of attendance at, and where possible participation in, the Festival from people from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds. The ticket pricing for the Festival's events, and especially the provision of free access for children and young people, ensures that they and their families, as well as those on lower incomes, have a reasonable opportunity of attending concerts and events in the Festival.

Payments to Trustees:

WAF's Founder, Festival Director and Artistic Director is Freddie Crowley, who is also a Trustee. This presents potential conflicts, especially with regard to his remuneration, for him and for John Crowley, who is a connected person as his father and is also a Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The intention is for Freddie Crowley to be retained on a rolling annual contract for services in his position as Festival & Artistic Director. The performance of the Festival & Artistic Director is reviewed annually by the Trustees. Any discussion and decision about the retention and, if so, future remuneration for the Festival & Artistic Director is made solely by the independent Trustees, with no input from the Festival & Artistic Director (should he/she remain a Trustee and whether or not in future that position is held by Freddie Crowley) nor from any connected person of the Festival & Artistic Director among the Trustees.

In 2021, Freddie Crowley received the following remuneration from the Charity:

Festival & Artistic Director's fee:	£1,000
Performer's fees:	£880

In 2022, Freddie Crowley received the following remuneration from the Charity:

Festival & Artistic Director's fee:	£3,255
Performer's fees:	£740

In setting and agreeing these fees, the Trustees are satisfied that they are in line with the normal rates in the sector and for comparable events.

DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that, by way of a virtual meeting held on 5th April 2023, they approved the Trustees' Annual Report above, that they accepted and acknowledged the Independent Examiner's Report below and that they authorised the signature of the Report on the Trustees' behalf by the following two Trustees:



.....
John Crowley
Chairman & Trustee



.....
Michael Ball
Trustee

Whiddon Autumn Festival

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Period 1st May 2021 to 31st December 2022

RECEIPTS		
Ticket Sales	12,394	
Programme donations	718	
Other donations	2,252	
Gift Aid	1,413	
Founder Patrons Donations	6,800	
Friends Subs	1,050	
Grants etc	23,090	
Sponsorships	2,550	
Programme Adverts	1,200	
Corvus Composer-in-Residence sponsorship	850	
Miscellaneous	119	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		52,435
PAYMENTS		
Artists Fees	23,885	
Venue Hire	1,490	
IT, website, etc	6,203	
Publicity, Marketing, etc	3,353	
Travel	894	
Catering etc	2,513	
General Admin	8,387	
TOTAL PAYMENTS		46,725
Cash Funds at Year End		5,710

NOTES

1. All receipts are in unrestricted funds
2. All figures rounded to the nearest £

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2022

Cash Funds	5,710	
Liabilities	0	
Net Assets		5,710

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Whiddon Autumn Festival

I report on the accounts of the company for the period 1st May 2021 to 31st December 2022, which are set out above on page 8 and which are consistent with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner:

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination, 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 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:


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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and comply with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MK', is written over a horizontal dotted line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Michael Knight MA, ACA
The Green, New Street, Chulmleigh, Devon, EX18 7DA

Date: 3rd April 2023