

Kilkeel Silver Band

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year 2023–2024

Public Benefits

Purpose (a): Promote and educate the public in musical silver band culture.

Direct Benefit: The local area benefits from our musical repertoire and serves as an educational resource for both the public and members while also supporting local culture.

Evidence of Benefit: This can be evidenced through regular invitations to perform and promote musical silver band culture.

Harm/Private Benefit: No harm arises from this purpose and there is no private benefit.

Purpose (b): Enrich the cultural lives of the general public of Kilkeel, Mourne & all of Northern Ireland.

Direct Benefit: The cultural lives of the public are enriched with high-quality musical performances.

Evidence of Benefit: Feedback from the general public and audience members who have listened to our performances.

Harm/Private Benefit: No harm arises from this purpose and there is no private benefit.

Purpose (c): Achieve a high standard of musicianship among members.

Direct Benefit: High standards of musicianship are attained, especially among novice players.

Evidence of Benefit: Regular practice and public performances have led to improved ability and confidence among members.

Harm/Private Benefit: No harm arises from this purpose, but there is some private benefit. Musicians enhance their expertise through regular practice, which furthers this purpose. The private benefit is incidental, desirable, and reasonable, and does not outweigh the public benefit.

Purpose (d): Increase the reputation of Kilkeel & Mourne as an area producing performances of artistic merit.

Direct Benefit: Increased reputation for artistic merit, especially in charitable activities and support of religious events.

Evidence of Benefit: Requests from organisations, churches, and charities nationwide to perform.

Harm/Private Benefit: No harm arises from this purpose and there is no private benefit.

Purpose (e): Enrich the cultural lives of the communities where our members reside and our audience.

Direct Benefit: Enrichment of the cultural lives of communities and audience members.

Evidence of Benefit: Regular participation in events all over Northern Ireland.

Harm/Private Benefit: No harm arises from this purpose and there is no private benefit.

Purpose (f): Foster good relationships with other musical organisations.

Direct Benefit: Good relationships are fostered with other musical organisations.

Evidence of Benefit: Enrichment of cultural lives and continual updating of repertoire.

Harm/Private Benefit: No harm arises from this purpose and there is no private benefit.

Beneficiaries: The general public of Kilkeel, Mourne & all of Northern Ireland, including young adults, children, men, women, and older people.

What Our Organisation Does

Kilkeel Silver Band is a brass band dedicated to concerts, competitions, and activities that further the development of brass band playing and its appreciation by the general public.

Our rehearsals take place weekly and we perform at church services, parades, charitable events, and seasonal events. We provide opportunities for all ages to learn or play brass and percussion instruments, keeping the brass band tradition alive. Volunteers give their time freely to train and support members.

The Charity's Classifications

- The advancement of citizenship or community development
- The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

Who the Charity Helps

- Children (5–13 years)
- Youth (14–25 years)
- Men and women of all ages
- Older people
- General public

How the Charity Works

- Arts
 - Cultural
 - Education/training
 - Youth development
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Financial Report

At the end of the year KSB was in **surplus of £4,081** and the **balance of funds was £13,712 unrestricted funds**.

These funds are being held for **new uniforms which we are hoping to purchase in 2025/6**.

Risk Assessment for Kilkeel Silver Band

Kilkeel Silver Band is currently in a strong financial position with a surplus, which mitigates immediate financial risks. However, like all organisations, the Band faces risks due to external factors such as economic changes, political developments, and global events.

1. Impact of COVID-19

Although restrictions have eased, future disruptions to in-person events remain possible.

Strategy: The Band maintains digital communication and flexible planning to ensure continuity.

2. Brexit and Political Uncertainty

Brexit could affect funding, costs, and cross-border collaboration.

Strategy: Flexible sourcing of materials and strong community links.

3. Cost of Energy and Rising Inflation

Higher costs could impact rehearsals and events.

Strategy: Optimise energy use, review budgets, and allocate surplus to cover increases.

4. Reputation and Membership

Membership and community reputation are crucial for sustainability.

Strategy: Promote a positive image, recruit new members, and support existing ones.

5. Compliance and Governance

As a registered charity, governance and regulation remain vital.

Strategy: Trustees conduct regular reviews to ensure compliance.

Conclusion: The Band remains vigilant to risks but is well positioned to continue serving the community.

Achievements and Performance – 2023–2024

Key Engagements and Events Held:

- Feb – Variety Concert, Rathfriland High School
- May – Parades in Kilkeel
- June – Scarva Bandstand, Glenloughan Parade, District Orange Mission, POB Parade, Silent Valley performance
- July – 11th Afternoon & Evening parades; 12th July Twelfth parades
- July – Funeral for Member
- September – Scarva parade; South Down Bands Parade, Loughbrickland
- October – Ballymageough Concert
- November – Annalong Single Star Concert, Remembrance Services & Parades
- December – Coffee Morning fundraiser, Rathfriland Church Concert, Kilhorne & Annalong Carol Services, FuseFM Carol Service

Community Outreach and Education

- Coffee Morning raised £1,835 for uniforms
- Funeral tributes provided as community service
- Carol singing supported local churches

Notable Collaborations

- Ardarragh Accordion Band (Rathfriland Concert)

- Schomberg Society (11th July, Silent Valley, community events)
 - Local churches and community groups across Mourne
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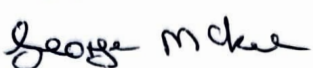




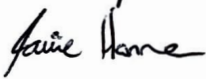
Future Goals and Planned Activities – 2025

- Coffee Morning fundraiser (Feb 2025)
 - UDR Parade, Kilkeel (May 2025)
 - POB Parade (June 2025)
 - 11th/12th July parades (field and processions)
 - MYD Parade (Aug 2025)
 - Scarva Bandstand (Aug 2025)
 - Combined Memorial Service, Kilkeel (Aug 2025)
 - Star of Down 50th Anniversary Massed Band, Newcastle (Aug 2025)
 - South Bands Parade & Church Service, Kilkeel (Sept 2025)
 - Purchase of new uniforms
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Trustees' Declaration

We, the trustees of Kilkeel Silver Band, declare that we have approved this trustees' annual report and accounts.

Trustee Names 10-9-2025

- Mr Neil Davey – Trustee 
- Mr George McKee – Trustee 
- Mrs Sharon Annett – Trustee 
- Mr Martin Cassidy – Trustee 
- Mr Reggie Cullen – Trustee 
- Mr Rodney McKee – Trustee 
- Mr Jamie Hanna – Chairperson 
- Ms Jasmin Cullen – Trustee 