

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CS005361 (Scotland)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: SC051248

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024
for
Annan Town Band

Farries Kirk & McVean
Dumfries Enterprise Park
Heathhall
Dumfries
DUMFRIESSHIRE
DG1 3SJ

Annan Town Band

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for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

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Annan Town Band

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CS005361 (Scotland)

Registered Charity number

SC051248

Registered office

6 Calcutta Road

Eastriggs

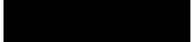
Annan

DG12 6PT

Trustees



Company Secretary

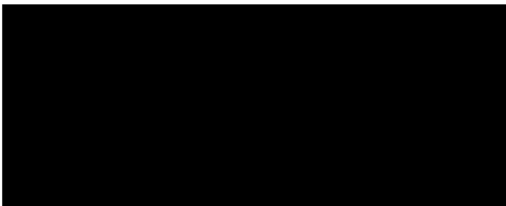


Independent Examiner



Farries Kirk & McVean
Dumfries Enterprise Park
Heathhall
Dumfries
DUMFRIESSHIRE
DG1 3SJ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 21/8/2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Annan Town Band

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 set out on pages three to seven.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under Section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

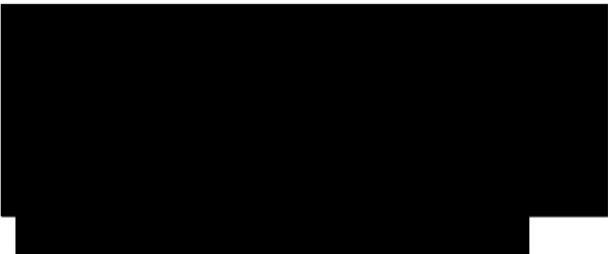
Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

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.



Farries Kirk & McVean
Dumfries Enterprise Park
Heathhall
Dumfries
DUMFRIESSHIRE
DG1 3SJ

Date: 27/08/25

Annan Town Band

Balance Sheet
31st December 2024

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted fund £	2023 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		6,476	3,927
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>6,476</u>	<u>3,927</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>6,476</u>	<u>3,927</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>6,476</u>	<u>3,927</u>
FUNDS	5		
Unrestricted funds		<u>6,476</u>	<u>3,927</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>6,476</u>	<u>3,927</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2024.

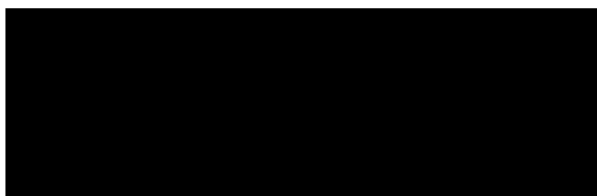
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 21/8/2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Annan Town Band

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted fund £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Charitable activities			
Band activities		12,500	10,119
Other trading activities	2	801	1,874
Total		<u>13,301</u>	<u>11,993</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Band activities		<u>10,752</u>	<u>15,532</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		2,549	(3,539)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		3,927	7,466
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>6,476</u></u>	<u><u>3,927</u></u>

Annan Town Band

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising events	801	1,874

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2024 nor for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2024 nor for the year ended 31st December 2023.

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Charitable activities	
Band activities	10,119
Other trading activities	1,874
Total	11,993
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Band activities	15,532

Annan Town Band

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(3,539)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	7,466
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>3,927</u>

5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	3,927	2,549	6,476
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>3,927</u>	<u>2,549</u>	<u>6,476</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	13,301	(10,752)	2,549
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>13,301</u>	<u>(10,752)</u>	<u>2,549</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	7,466	(3,539)	3,927
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>7,466</u>	<u>(3,539)</u>	<u>3,927</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	11,993	(15,532)	(3,539)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>11,993</u>	<u>(15,532)</u>	<u>(3,539)</u>

Annan Town Band

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

5. **MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	7,466	(990)	6,476
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>7,466</u>	<u>(990)</u>	<u>6,476</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	25,294	(26,284)	(990)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>25,294</u>	<u>(26,284)</u>	<u>(990)</u>

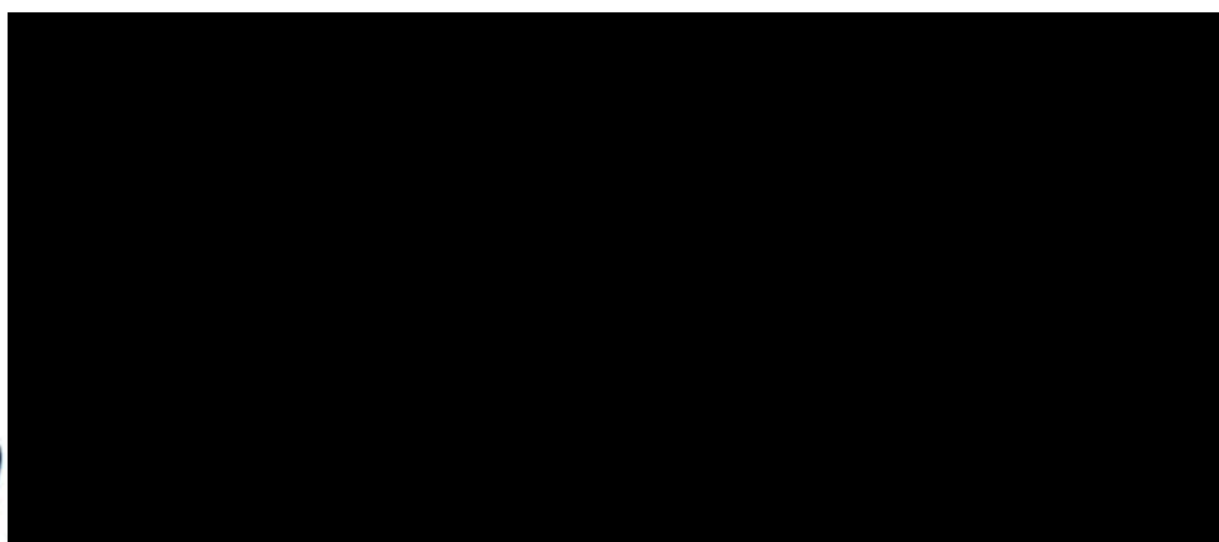
6. **RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Annan Town Band

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	801	1,874
Charitable activities		
Grants & donations	4,837	2,420
Band subscriptions	3,390	3,845
Patronage	730	830
Social events / Travel	369	1,160
Engagements / Fees	3,174	1,864
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12,500	10,119
Total incoming resources	<hr/>	<hr/>
	13,301	11,993
EXPENDITURE		
Support costs		
Management		
Insurance	539	539
Sundries	-	426
Instruments & accessories	-	155
Conductors fees	5,740	6,900
Music	419	470
Borrowed players	630	666
Travelling & band social event	950	5,056
Admin and band members expense	324	-
Entry / Registration fees	705	490
Room Hire	1,445	830
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,752	15,532
Total resources expended	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,752	15,532
Net income/(expenditure)	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,549	(3,539)



Trustees' Annual Report 2023/24

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Contact Information

Annan Town Band

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Eastriggs, Annan
Dumfriesshire, DG12 6PT**

Telephone:

Mobile:

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Facebook: [\(10\) Annan Town Band | Facebook](#)



Board of Trustees

At the band's Annual General Meeting (AGM) in August 2024, [REDACTED] announced his intention to step down as Band Chairperson after almost 30 years in the role. Under his leadership the band has risen through the ranks from a lower section contesting community band to become a championship-winning force, with eight trips to the British Finals and an unprecedented trip to the European Championships during his tenure. We are hugely grateful to [REDACTED] for his many years of service and we are glad that he intends to continue as a playing member of the band for many years to come.

Also at the AGM, [REDACTED] stood down from his position as Band Manager. Over the past six years [REDACTED] has shown great commitment to which members were grateful and his unrivalled list of contacts in the brass band world is invaluable.

[REDACTED] In 2024 after serving a long apprenticeship as Vice Chairperson under [REDACTED] for many years [REDACTED] accepted his nomination to become the band's new Chairperson. [REDACTED] will be supported by long-serving committee member [REDACTED] who steps into the role of Vice Chairperson alongside his work as Scottish Brass Band Association (SBBA) representative.

[REDACTED] agreed to continue as Band Secretary - a role [REDACTED] has been dedicated to for more than three decades - and [REDACTED] remains as Treasurer.

[REDACTED] remain as Committee Members and Trustees, and they are joined by [REDACTED] who will assist in driving forward plans to restart the youth/training band.



Objective and Activities

Annan Town Band, based in Annan in south-west Scotland, is dedicated to promoting brass band music in Dumfries and Galloway and beyond. Our mission is to create and nurture opportunities for playing and performing brass band music, with a special focus on engaging young people.

Brass banding is one of the UK's oldest cultural traditions, originating in the industrial communities of the mid-19th century. For nearly 200 years, these bands have offered invaluable musical, educational, and social opportunities within their communities. After experiencing a decline in the mid-to-late 20th century, brass banding has seen a revival over the last 30 years, with over 100 brass bands now active in Scotland alone. A 2019 study by the University of Sheffield highlighted numerous wellbeing benefits for brass band participants, including improved physical health, stress relief, enhanced cognitive function, stronger support networks, increased social interaction, and boosted self-confidence.

*Annan Town
Band
Photographed
1910*



In 2024, Annan Town Band proudly celebrated 190 years of brass banding in the town. Historical records show that the band, originally known as the Lower Annandale Multitubular Band in 1834, has undergone various name changes before becoming Annan Town Band. History is pivotal, providing the foundation for our objectives and activities.



Objective and Activities

In rural areas like Dumfries and Galloway, brass banding presents unique opportunities and challenges. Unlike bands in larger cities, we draw from a smaller population spread over a wider geographical area. This makes it even more crucial to extend the benefits of banding and attract and retain as many players as possible.

Our band holds weekly rehearsals attended by up to 30 musicians, aged 16 to 82, from across Dumfries and Galloway and northern Cumbria. These rehearsals not only help individuals improve their musical skills but also provide valuable opportunities for social connections.

Thanks to the power of music, the dedication of our players, and the unwavering support from our community, we have emerged stronger than ever after the devastating affects of the Covid pandemic. Yes we do still reflect on this time, not only for the devastation of lives around the world, but the pandemic posed unprecedented challenges for us and every brass banding community across the globe.

The momentum for teaching music in schools was also hit hard, as it is in schools where the next generation of musicians emerges. It has been slow progress, but with patience and determination we are now seeing the youth of today once again learning to play instruments and bringing music into their lives, which helps feed into our longstanding institution. The achievement and long-held goal of becoming a registered charity allows the band to build on this momentum, to ensure we continue to welcome new members and seek opportunities to expand our reach to the future.

University Roadshow
welcoming new members

Annan Town Band
Annan Riding of the
Marches Parade 1950



Achievement and Performance

On the competition stage...

The band started 2023 deep in preparations for the Scottish Brass Band Championships. Rehearsals were progressing well until two weeks before the event, when it became clear that our long-standing musical director [REDACTED] would sadly be unable to lead us at the event due to ongoing ill health. With only four rehearsals left before the competition, the band were facing the very real prospect of withdrawing from the competition, which would have resulted in automatic relegation for the next contesting season. Thankfully, we were able to secure the services of [REDACTED] a rising star of the brass band world who was willing to step in at short notice and rise to the challenge. After such a disrupted build-up, the band were delighted to secure a fourth place finish at the Scottish Championships, missing out on a podium finish by a single point. The result is testament to the resilience and talent of our players, to Andrew for his initial work in preparing the band, and to Lewis for stepping in with so much enthusiasm. We were delighted when [REDACTED] agreed to continue working with the band until [REDACTED] was well enough to return.

Our next step onto the contest stage came in September 2023, when we returned to the newly-refurbished [REDACTED] Theatre in Kirkcaldy for the first time since 2019 for the Fife Charities Contest. This contest allows bands from all sections, from Championship down to Section 4, to compete directly against each other and challenge higher ranked bands. Following a very strong performance on the contest stage, we were delighted to not only win the Second Section, but also finish in fifth place overall, beating several Championship and First Section bands. Our ranking would have indicated a place just inside the overall top 10, so a fifth place finish was beyond even our wildest expectations. This was one of our biggest achievements in competition to date and it was fantastic to see the Annan name up amongst the top bands in Scotland.

To round out the 2023 contest season, we headed to Selkirk in November for the Scottish Borders Brass Band Association (SBBBA) Entertainment Contest. After all 15 bands had performed, we were tied in first place with Jedforest Instrumental Band. Head adjudicator [REDACTED] had the casting vote, and on this occasion, he gave the nod to Jedforest, meaning we brought home the runner up



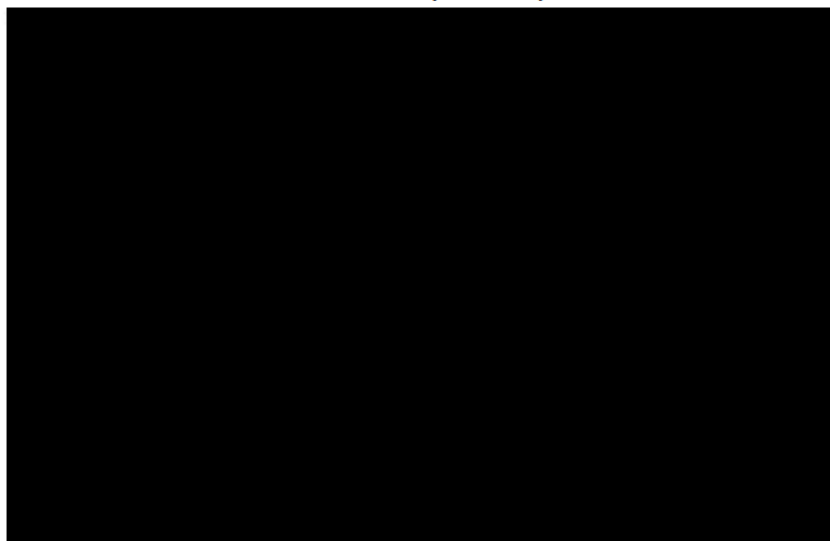
trophy. We also picked up the award for Best Percussion section, and our Principal Cornet player [REDACTED] deservedly picked up the award for Best Solo Cornet player. While it was disappointing to miss out on victory on a tie break, it is still a fantastic result which shows a level of consistency in our contest performances.



Achievement and Performance

On the competition stage...

We entered the new year in traditional style with preparations for our trip to the Scottish Championships 2024. In the space of just eight weeks, we spent almost 40 hours in the rehearsal room together, not including personal practice time: a true showcase of the dedication and commitment of our members. On contest day we were very proud of our performance which the judges praised for "great full band sounds" and "confident soloists". Unfortunately, our overall approach to the music wasn't quite what the adjudicators were looking for and we finished in sixth place, narrowly missing promotion by three points. However, it puts us in a strong position as one of the highest ranked bands in our section, and we came away with constructive feedback to help us improve for the future.



Beamish Museum Contest

Our first opportunity to put this into practice came in June 2024 when we visited Beamish Living History Museum in County Durham for the Brass At Beamish contest. This year the contest was held in the reconstructed colliery welfare hall in the 1950s section of the museum, which was open to the public throughout the competition. It was a great opportunity to introduce brass band music to a whole new audience, and we received several messages on social media after the event from visitors who wanted to know more about the band. The standard of playing was very high, and we were delighted to claim another runner-up trophy finishing two points behind defending champions [REDACTED]. Perhaps more importantly, it was a thoroughly enjoyable day and a chance for the band to socialise amid a more informal contest atmosphere. We look forward to returning to Brass at Beamish in future. We would also like to thank [REDACTED] for all his hard work preparing the band for this and many other events in 2023 and 2024.



Achievement and Performance

On the competition stage...

In September 2024, [REDACTED] returned to the band as Musical Director after an 18-month hiatus due to ill health. After a few weeks settling in, he soon had the band hard at work preparing for the Borders Entertainment Contest, which this year was held in Innerleithen. After missing out on victory on a tie-break the previous year, we were delighted to be crowned overall winners and finish the year with a long-awaited contest victory. We also picked up the award for highest-placing 2nd Section band and Best Bass Section, while our Solo Euphonium player [REDACTED] deservedly brought home the award for Best Instrumentalist. It was the best result we could possibly have hoped for, the perfect way to welcome [REDACTED] back to the band and puts us in an incredibly strong position heading into 2025.

*Borders Entertainment
Contest Champions 2024*



Achievement and Performance

Player achievements...

At our Annual Concert in October 2024 we were honoured to present [REDACTED] with a Scottish Brass Band Association (SBBA) Lifetime Achievements Award in recognition of 70 years service to Scottish banding. The award is the Association's highest honour and recognises individuals who have made an exceptional contribution over their lifetime. While [REDACTED] has been involved with contesting bands for more than 70 years, his love of brass bands actually spans more than 70 years, starting when he began learning trombone aged 11/12 after being inspired by military bands performing in the local park. He is also a lifelong fan of jazz music and wanted to emulate the legendary trombone player and band leader.

He performed with bands at the highest level across Scotland before eventually joining Annan Town Band in 1993. Not only has he given many decades of service as a player, he also steps in for occasional conducting duties and served as the band's Chairman for almost 30 years, only stepping down at the 2024 AGM. His contribution to musical life in Dumfries and Galloway extends beyond brass bands, as he is also an active member of Riverside Jazz Band, the Solway Sinfonia orchestra, and numerous other jazz and big bands.

We are hugely grateful to Andrew for his many years of service and leadership as chairman and delighted that SBBA has recognised his outstanding contribution. We hope he continues as a playing member of the band for many years to come.

023 Award Winners



Achievement and Performance

Player achievements...

Each year the band is proud to present members with awards in recognition of outstanding musicianship, dedicated service and their contribution to banding life. Our award winners for 2023 and 2024 were:

Award	2023 winner	2024 winner
Conductor's Player of the Year	Junior – [REDACTED] Senior – [REDACTED]	Not awarded as conductor had only recently returned
Player's Player of the Year	Junior – [REDACTED] Senior – [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Russell Bain Shield for Bandsperson of the Year	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Cyril Weild Shield for Outstanding Contribution	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2023 Long Service	[REDACTED] – 30 Years Continued Service [REDACTED] – Long Service [REDACTED] 15 Years Continued Service	
2024 Long Service	[REDACTED] – 30 Years Service as Band Secretary [REDACTED] 30 Years Continued Service [REDACTED] – Thank you for service, moving to top section Whitburn Band	



Achievement and Performance

In the community...

While competition results and prizes serve as a tangible marker of the band's success, they are only one small part of the achievements and activities of the band. In 2023 and 2024 we were very proud to continue our associations with organisations and events in our local community which are very close to our heart.

We have continued our partnership with Annan Harbour Action Group in support of their mission to revitalise the town's harbour. We performed at their annual Equinox Walks and Harbour Festivals, which also provided opportunities for us to perform in the historic quayside warehouse - we look forward to returning to this venue when the action group achieve their ambition of turning into a bustling visitors centre.

In 2023 and 2024 we were delighted to see our local galas and common ridings back in full force, unhampered by Covid-19 restrictions for the first time in several years. These events provide some of the best opportunities we have to support our local community and introduce brass band music to new audiences - two of the key principles and aims set out when the charity was established. Our players certainly racked up the miles, participating not just in our own local events in Annan, Dumfries and Langholm, but many further afield too, including Carlisle Gala, Peebles Beltane Festival, Selkirk Common Riding, and Durham Miners Gala.. We also use these events to collaborate with other musical organisations, including other brass bands and our local pipe bands in Annan and Dumfries. With so many musical groups facing similar challenges, we feel it is important that we work together to share best practice and ensure we bring the benefits and joy of music to as many people as possible.



Achievement and Performance

In the community...

Concerts are one of the best ways for the band to raise its profile in the local area and raise much needed funds. Each year the band hosts an Annual Concert and awards evening in the autumn, an opportunity to celebrate success and showcase our work over the previous year. It is also the evening where we welcome our 'Friends of Annan Town Band' patrons, who support the band with donations each year in exchange for a number of benefits, including free entry to the annual concert. Both concerts were very well attended and we welcomed new members to the patronage scheme as a result.

Following the success of our Queens Platinum Jubilee concert in 2022, we decided that a Spring Concert would also become a recurring annual event for the band. The 2023 Spring Concert was timed to coincide with Coronation of King Charles III, while our 2024 Spring Concert was themed around music from the movies. The Spring Concert garnered lots of positive feedback from audience members, many of whom had never attended one of our events before, and will remain a firm fixture in our annual programme.

One of our stated aims for 2023 was to explore new player recruitment strategies. While the band is fully supportive of the wider movement's focus on encouraging young people to get involved with brass bands in the first place, we are aware that many of these young people are likely to leave banding again as they enter adulthood and move away to university or the world of work. To try and combat this, in 2023 we established links with two local university campuses - the University of Cumbria Fusehill campus in Carlisle, and the Crichton University Campus in Dumfries which is home to the University of Glasgow and University of the West of Scotland. Band volunteers manned pop-up stalls on each campus to speak to new and returning students about the band and raise our profile in the local area. We welcomed one new player to the band as a direct result of attending the event and will work to strengthen these connections in future.



Achievement and Performance

In the community...

In 2023 and 2024 we are very proud to continue our links with our local branch of Royal British Legion (Scotland) and Dumfries and Galloway Council in supporting their remembrance events. In addition to the annual services at Annan War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday, we were also invited to participate in Armed Forces Day parades and the region's Remembrance Service at the Crichton Church on Armistice Day. Many band members are veterans or come from military families and it is a huge honour to be asked to participate in such poignant events. We look forward to continuing this partnership into 2025 when we will mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

No brass band year would be complete without the opportunity to spread some Christmas cheer. The band were out and about at events across our community, from Christmas lights switch-ons to carol services and everything in between. A particular highlight were our visits to care homes in Annan, where we were thrilled to bring some festive joy to residents. We also staged several formal Christmas concerts across Dumfriesshire and North Cumbria, including our appearance at Talkin Parish Church in 2023, and concerts at St John's Church in Dumfries, St Andrew's Church in Annan and Brydekirk Village Hall in 2024. The village hall has been the band's primary rehearsal space since rehearsals resumed after lockdown in 2021, and it was fantastic to host village residents for a proper concert rather than the impromptu performance they get during our weekly rehearsals!



Structure, Governance and Management

Annan Town Band's governing document is the "SCIO Annan Town Band Constitution" which was adopted at the Annual General Meeting in May 2021. This governance is accompanied by five appendices which were adopted at that same meeting.

- Appendix I Band Organisation Policy
- Appendix II Annan Town Band Child Protection Policy
- Appendix III Equal Opportunities Policy
- Appendix IV Social Media Policy
- Appendix V Secure Handling Policy

The Constitution or accompanying Appendices can be amended, however any proposals to amend can only be discussed, voted upon and agreed at an Annual General Meeting. All members of Annan Town Band follow the statement, adhere to its structure and the Board of Trustees ensure all comply with its statement.



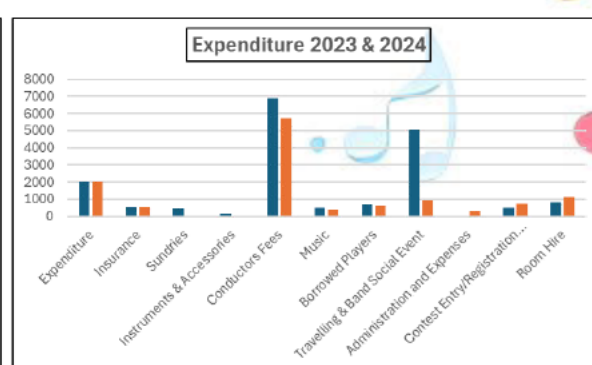
All Trustees, including Office Bearers, are elected annually at an Annual General Meeting by its members and members of the public are also duly invited to attend, nominate and partake in proceedings. The structure of the Board consists of a maximum of eleven Trustees. The Board of Trustees elected at the 2023 and 2024 Annual General Meetings are pictured on page 3 of this report.

Board of Trustees: Chairperson Vice Chairperson
Secretary Treasurer
Band Manager Trustees (up to 6 persons)

Throughout 2023 and 2024 the Board of Trustees were all playing members of Annan Town Band, covering ages from 22 to 82 years. Their backgrounds and vocations are very different which provides a good mix of knowledge, skills and life experiences to give a diverse and objective outlook. The varied election of the Board of Trustees aids the charity's vision, values and aims, and they all continue to work tirelessly in the best interests of Annan Town Band.



Financial Review



During each financial year, Annan Town Band participate in many community events and perform at concerts to raise funds to support running costs. These events do not cover the many financial aspects of supporting a brass band and it is with the fantastic support from grants, fund raising and donors that the band and organisation is able to continue and plan for the future. General costs include conductors fees, rehearsal facility costs, music purchase, instrument purchase and maintenance, and administration fees.

Throughout 2023 the band was still recovering from the pandemic and the financial challenges it brought; no events no funds for almost 2 years was hard hitting. During 2024 community events were very much returning to 'normal' and more concerts were added to the calendar which helped bring more financial security which aided the longevity of the band.

There was sufficient carry forward from 2022 to sustain the finances and support the band into 2023. Between the accounts from 2023 and 2024 there was a marked increase at the year end, due to grant funding and additional concerts. These funds gave financial security into 2025 to ensure there were funds for conductors fees, rehearsal facility costs and the continuing development of players.

Annan Town Band is grateful to [REDACTED] Farries Kirk & McVean (based in Dumfries) for independently examining the band's 2023 and 2024 accounts. [REDACTED] carried out the examination of the accounts to be in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The period of accounts were 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 and 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Income Total	£11,993	£13,301
Expenditure Total	£15,532	£10,752
Deficit	£(3,539)	£ 2,549



Future Plans



Annan Town Band very much has 2025 in their sights with no signs of slowing down or taking a breather! The band and its Trustees have many exciting plans for 2025. Alongside a number of concerts and community events that are already filling up the diary, we hope to continue the run of competition success we have enjoyed in recent years. As part of this we aim to fill the vacant post of Resident Conductor, who will serve alongside the Musical Director to ensure consistent and continued musical development. Let enjoyment and performances commence!

The band will return to Perth for the 2025 Scottish Championships in March to sustain their 2nd Section grading status but with a hope of gaining promotion. The band strive for continued success after winning the Borders Entertainment Contest in November 2024. The 2025 contest calendar aims to give a varied programme of music for players to test themselves as well as enjoying the challenges and experiences they bring. During the Summer, players will have their marching shoes on for community gala days, Common Ridings and Festivals, which form part of many local traditions in Dumfries & Galloway and beyond.

In 2025 we will formally progress plans to re-establish Annan Town Youth Band, a key element of our aim to encourage music-making in Dumfries and Galloway. The youth band was active in the early 2010s and many of its members are still playing with bands across the country today. As the landscape for music in schools becomes increasingly challenging, we hope to provide opportunities for young players to learn and develop their skills. We have recruited new members to the Board of Trustees to support us in this mission. We hope to collaborate with Dumfries & Galloway Music Service to make it a reality. Their Brass Instructor has been busy teaching brass and percussion to children and young people from local primary and secondary schools over the past three years. We hope to capture the enthusiasm of the children and young people who are ready for the next stage in their development —playing in a brass band setting. It is now Annan Town Band's vision to build on these valuable foundations and provide the young musicians with the opportunity and encouragement to keep developing their skill set and provide them more experiences. This opportunity and venture will also support the band's long term future.



Future Plans



Additionally, funding has been secured to help the band refresh its stock of uniforms, especially the iconic band jackets. Braided jackets are synonymous with the brass band movement but unfortunately they are also expensive specialist items which are often made to order. Our existing jackets were purchased almost 25 years ago, and despite our best efforts some have been lost or damaged, while others simply no longer fit our current players. To maximise our available funding, a full inventory of existing stock will be carried out to identify opportunities to repair or redistribute items, before we move to purchase a small number of new jackets. We look forward to showcasing our refreshed uniforms by early 2026.

The band is also considering researching the possibility of permanent bandhall premises through Dumfries & Galloway Council's Community Asset Transfer Scheme. This is when a local community, such as Annan Town Band, requests to take over a council building or piece of land to run it themselves for the benefit of the community—usually a building the council no longer use. Since the Covid pandemic, due to restricted space, the band had to move out of their bandroom situated in the Blue Bell Inn (located in Annan), to where they had rehearsed for 30 years. Brydekirk Village Hall (situated on the outskirts of Annan), kindly offered rehearsal facilities due to restrictions and the difficult situations the pandemic brought. The band is extremely fortunate and grateful to have continued community support but having our own premises would give much more flexibility and opportunities for players, as well as continued development of the band. The

Blue Bell bandroom is only used for small sectional rehearsals but it also remains a base for the vast music library (9 filing cabinets!) and vital instrument storage space the band requires.

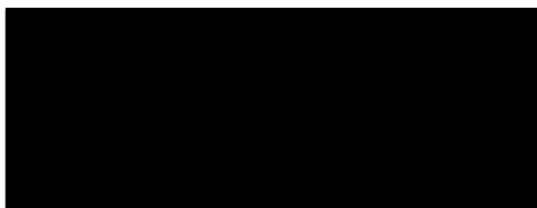
Rest assured 2025 will be eventful!



Declaration

Signed on behalf of Annan Town Band Board of Trustees:

Signed:



Print Name:



Designation: Board of Trustees Secretary

Date: 18/09/25





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