

Shetland Folk Festival Society

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

for the year ended

30 September 2024

Shetland Folk Festival Society

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the year ended 30 September 2024

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements and the independent examiner's report for the year ended 30 September 2024.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION



Independent Examiner
GK Tax and Accounting Limited
Chartered Accountants
Orrs Hall
Church Road
Leith
Scotland
2010

BANKERS
Bank of Scotland
17 Commercial Street
Leith
Shedand
ZE1 0DN

COTISH CHARITY NUMBER
C113445

Shetland Folk Festival Society

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the year ended 30 September 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

CONSTITUTION

Shetland Folk Festival Society was declared as a Charitable Trust under the Law of Scotland by the original Trustees between the dates of 27 May 1987 and 31 August 1987 inclusive.

Charitable Status was granted by HM Revenue and Customs on 31 August 1987.

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are elected on an annual basis by a majority vote of those present and entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting of the members of the society.

Duly elected Trustees also form the Executive Committee of the Society and are empowered with the Secretary to administer the management.

MANAGEMENT

The Committee of the Shetland Folk Festival meet regularly to administer the activities of the Society, with relevant responsibilities delegated to individual members. Where possible, new Trustees receive induction from the outgoing committee member with support from the Chairman and other Trustees as appropriate. All committee members are encouraged to undertake training as appropriate to the Society to keep up to date with relevant policy developments. There is a dedicated committee member responsible for ensuring that the Society's policies are reviewed as appropriate, and our volunteers are kept up to date with any changes. The core Committee of ten members, are now ably supported by several other key volunteers who support the organisation all year round as well as the army of volunteers who support the delivery of the actual 4 day event.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Committee of the Society have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and in particular the operations and finances of the Festival. Venues and Festivals the length and breadth of the community to face unprecedented social and economic challenges with rising outgoings coupled with a decreased spending capacity in audiences due to rising costs of living. As the costs of staging our events increase, a significant risk is that of the availability of core revenue funding which supports the outreach elements of the Festival. We are satisfied that the Festival can meet the increased costs through alternative sources of income and that the systems are in place to mitigate our exposure to all other risks.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The primary purpose of the Society is to organise an annual Shetland Folk Festival, celebrating folk music and culture, with particular focus on Shetland's traditional heritage and influences. Incidental purposes and objectives are set out in the Society's Trust Deed.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The 42nd Shetland Folk Festival was deemed a massive success from audiences, performers, organisers and the wider community and we successfully catered for diverse musical tastes from Celtic, Metal, Jazz, Americana, Soul, Electronic and much more in between.

Like every year, there are challenges in putting on such a large-scale event in Shetland, including having to import production equipment and technicians from mainland Scotland, responding to rising travel costs and the uncertainty in the availability of core revenue funding and business sponsorship. In 2024, a record number of volunteers resurged in some communities being affected. With a 'show must go on spirit', nothing was lost in terms of the presence of some of our artists and volunteers did become stranded on

Shetland Folk Festival Society

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the year ended 30 September 2024

the island of Unst requiring emergency overnight accommodation.

The focus of our 2024 Festival was showcasing Scottish talent with a Scots with a Twist theme running throughout the programming. This included showcasing Shetland's very own musical export of Hjalte Bonhoga, who were celebrating 10 years of performing and providing opportunities at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The Festival provided a platform for the outstanding 'celebrating Sail' band, '2sion' who showcased initially as part of Lerwick's Tall Ships opening event in July 2023. With Snedand fiddling at the heart of the band, Hjalte Bonhoga opened the Saturday Clickimin concert with 60 minutes of music on the stage. This included some young Shetland performers who were provided with a chance to perform an opportunity and were playing with Hjalte Bonhoga for the first time. After just 1-day of the festival, the band also featured backline accompaniment from some of the most profiled Shetland musicians, and had a considerable number of fiddlers who travelled to Shetland specifically to take part - including from as far away as Jersey and Zeeland. It was a collaboration showcase that celebrated Shetland, and the strength of appeal of our indigenous traditional musical locally, nationally and internationally.

There were fifteen other visiting bands and thirty-three Shetland acts that performed over the four days with two hundred musicians gracing our stages.

From Ireland, Scotland and Orkney, the Tenement Jazz Band, Adamson & the Tanagers, Beth Fraser & the Rye Band, Ross Couper Band. The Friel Sisters and Haverin were all booked as part of the Scottish with a Twist theme. With Scottish jazz, folk and Americana all featured, the aim was to help young people see that there is more to the Scottish traditional music scene than just the 'JSD' and 'loose' connection between Shetland and global music more generally.

The festival's focus on community inclusivity in terms of our programming is included in the alcohol free concert options and six concerts in rural locations. All concerts are free of charge making as stand alone events due to small venue size and the inclusion of local transport costs. However, staging concerts in the heart of Shetland has always been a part of our offering.

The festival's approach, as a free ticket for all under 18s in 2024 (while increasing adults by 50p) also offered a subsidised concert for families, including the ever-popular '3 J's Spicing' concert. These were programmed alongside several outreach events for multiple families, including a 'J's Spicing' concert for 16-18 year olds with additional support.

Highlights included:

- School performances to 200 pupils in 10 rural schools (Hamnavoe and Dunrossness) featuring The Friel Sisters and Echo from Canada
- School performances in the Additional Support Unit (ASU) in Bells Brae Primary School with 75 pupils.
- A live performance in Eric Gray Centre with 25 adults with additional support needs taking part and joining to the Friel Sisters from Ireland/Scotland
- An Early Years focused performance by Tenement Jazz Band at Mareel, with 13 different ELC/schools from all throughout Shetland and 300 pupils & staff attending.

Our Festival Club is a membership subscription cost is also driven by being inclusive as possible. We recognise that for many, the rising cost of living and decreased spending capacity can be crippling. Working in partnership with key stakeholders in the local authority; we supported 43 households or individuals to have free access to the Festival Club in a non-stigmatised way.

Shetland Folk Festival Society

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the year ended 30 September 2024

Since returning after the pandemic, the Festival has focused really hard on reshaping the Festival Club to be ari open, relaxed and aifordab,e option for Festival goers to access world class visiting and Shetland mus,\'. F,_stil\al 111embership acts es a "weekender" ticket with 4 packed days of programmed music offered on a first come first serve basis in Room 16 in Islesburgh Community Centre, as well as multiple scheduled sessions and workshops which are open to all abilities. Families have been particularly pmotive about this drav odopmemt on the basis of price and it offering a more relaxed daytime setting to give ,h,c;-ci-, scJ,YIG Jlavours cf tiva music. There were 1639 paid for members of the Festival in 2024, as wdl. as ,rou11d ,.,CO oth.ars "dl,10 rGceive complimentary tickets to the daytime Club in return for vc1...,t0e1,r,g.

.n :JL14, ilc {1,11; tih,th workshops for Festival members included 'Shetland Fiddle', 'Asturian Melodies', 'Scdl,-dl,ns,;sr. Tu,es' E.,u 'iri a:rmirona! Singing' with workshop numbers ranged from 12-35 participants o:r,s-ai,;<0;1. P:z.1rli d;ipents of the :;:1nging wor"shop aven joined the workshop leaders cm stage for a few S'....gr uf.kh was an incre ibly 0rnpoweri. g experience b, then,.

In .-dl,15 of tickEied1 ac'livrties. dlhere were twenty-five events dl on an overall programme of fifty-three sc1- .,;--dlu J.1k,Z.S.;1;12;ntt. Sim::J 2023, . :r:dl have dlicketed the late night Festival Club, which has s::;, :dl-dl :;7*:m:tEoJ.L.:dl1 dha nu.tbers of bdlkeJs ws have zvailabl e c.nd the numbers we sell.

1-r :; 1r, ll,e c:::1)t:T12,1t::y ticks ds that 1;:o to key -1oi1.mteers like our accommodation hosts, the Festival i dl,us dl,r,....,O tickets and wristbands for music programmed in 12 different venues as part of the 2024 Sh;.,dl _ :7::lc< F.;L1i%! Hovc10ver, :;1er""!! 3t'(, dda11ces e,re estimated m be nearer 10,550 when you it::;,--:;:;:dl:1,1;dl1CE;a. davtr,dl;m:igram;-ning in the Glut, school and outreach events as well as the (= _ C-;dl s,jJiea:1-k;sr.ops z;il:J >8:c dbro acth.1ilies,

lr. * , , dlit dl c. b:::L1;Jn Lb> :f'..1 local touris;T, sector, our volunteer Fesiiva! continues to punch well .E., , -t dl: : e;;,l:1: n. ti d::ns ell prcv;a:ng a positive economic boost in the shoulder season. The 2024 event 8H,dl--"dl,c,er t-L Jtcop&, e:: dlisitor dl, r,c'luding 155 from outside of ,he UK These figures exclude the r.,L;dl1,;:i:J1.' c: loative profo2sic.1ai: dlth t /le cot1tra : with, 1.vho of course also contribute to additional spend in the local economy.

i-* dl. dl, S,1etl;_ :C::iit: res:;ivL : dl:ia:ne p:edorri'nant:y an event fo, the communi dl\Nith at least 3200 :;_dl;dl-1_ dl;dl;dl, dl:at: rJ:;lng des(');dl:dl-ent dl.

0 -dl:-g-"t"".. cu dl 1lun dl ee; committ;-; sre increilibly ,xoud of what we delivered in 20'.24. An estimated q dl:-t _dl:dl"!! dl dl.. c:S :zmt 514 volunteers participat<ad to make our event a success, leaving the core co-r;mittea invigora dl ed and inspired to do it all over again neXit year!

\With:::t th, dl incredible vokmteer sweat equity dlhai goes into delivering this event, including volunteers opzming their homes to ari:lstres, the annual Shetland Folk Festival simply could not happen, as our m.,;.. dl:dl' :; wou:dl sim::;, : be too ni dl, 'l. Our i:hanks go to each and evei,Y one of our volunteers, our c0.1 J: dl: s;wsc.;:;:dl."Id C,-eative Sco dl rnd. See yoL i"l 2025!

FUTURE PLANS

Otr 1nt:antion is to carry on pmmoting a . annual Shet dl and Folk Festiv31 during April/May in the coming :;e:r5 cle'leloping new edl.lc3tioMI projects as the opportunity arisas a11d assisting to develop the sa5:ior,al music of Shetland and lis promofon outside of Shetland too. We are planning a Nordic Tone type, educational tune exchange project with Kausiinen in Finland in 2025, and are starting to plan for site, dlbiz inves dl ment into a new website and integrated e-ticketing system.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES POUCY

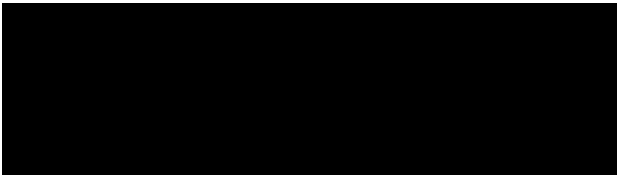
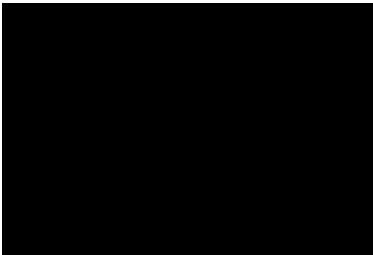
Umier c'tiarity guidelinees, with our income below £250k we elected in 2015 to move from full accrued cic-:"Jt:nis tc. s.implif.ed c2ccounts in the form ,f "Receipts & Payments." This change in accounting style , dl,;, dl'.' dl mv0d by our Grc1c1t Funde;s and OSCR.

Shetland Folk Festival Society
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 30 September 2024

As a result of the surplus of £21,842 for the year the charity held funds of £ 131,979 at the year end.

In addition, in 2025, we are designating £18,000 to the Office and IT upgrade fund.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the committee in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity which have not been designated for any other purpose.



Shetland Folk Festival Society

UNAUDITED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

for the year ended 30 September 2024

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted	2024 Restricted	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary receipts:					
Grants received	2		17,000	17,000	15,070
Sponsorship and donations	3	20,900		20,900	14,417
Reif.fas		13,865		13,865	13,539
Merchandise		6,592		6,592	2,601
(>...11...1i;tion on artists' sales		884		884	676
10...i; frotr; d .aritable activities:					
10...i; frotr; d .aritable activities:		29,570		29,570	21,102
10...i; frotr; d .aritable activities:		115,126		115,126	106,304
10...i; frotr; d .aritable activities:		624		624	
10...i; frotr; d .aritable activities:		911		911	
10...i; frotr; d .aritable activities:		1,249		1,849	2,4-29
TOTAL RECEIPTS		191,321	17,000	208,321	176,138
PAYMENTS					
Cost of fundraising:					
Cost of fundraising:		1,579		1,579	1,674
Cost of fundraising:		6,252		6,252	3,157
Cost of fundraising:					
Cost of fundraising:		44,355	8,640	52,995	59,805
Cost of fundraising:		13,630	4,486	18,116	16,292
Cost of fundraising:		43,679		43,679	40,511
Cost of fundraising:		16,143	1,549	17,692	17,038
Cost of fundraising:		15,569		15,569	15,607
Cost of fundraising:		557	459	1,016	990
Cost of fundraising:		8,854	535	9,389	5,064
Cost of fundraising:		8,802		4,802	4,861
Cost of fundraising:		1,441		1,441	5,280
Cost of fundraising:		3,368		3,368	2,854
Cost of fundraising:		4,192		4,192	3,811
Cost of fundraising:		604	604	2,111	2,005
Cost of fundraising:					960
Cost of fundraising:		3,167	727	3,894	3,600
Cost of fundraising:			678	678	225
TOTAL PAYMENTS		168,501	17,678	186,179	183,734
Surplus (Deficit) FOR THE YEAR		22,820	(678)	21,842	(7,596)

Shetland Folk Festival Society

Charity Registration No, SC013445

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF BALANCES

at 30 September 2024

	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
FUNDS RECONCILIATION				
cash and bank balances at start of year	82,004	28,133	110,137	117,733
Surplus/(Deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	22,520	(678)	21,842	(7,596)
Transfer between funds	(18,000)	18,000		
Cash and bank balances at end of year	86,524	45,455	131,979	110,137
			2024 £	2023 £
BANK AND CASH BALANCES				
Bank current account			131,960	110,118
Cash in hand			19	19
			131,979	110,137
			2024 £	2023 £
OTHER ASSETS (unrestricted funds)				
Intangible fixed assets (at cost):				
Leasehold property			45,478	45,478
Office furniture and equipment			4,536	3,858
Net book value of assets held at 30 September is			50,014	49,336
Grants and donations due to the charity				3,000

The accounts on pages 1 to 9 were approved by the Executive Committee and authorised for issue on 30 September 2024 by the Chair of the Executive Committee.

Shetland Folk Festival Society

Charity Registration No. SC013445

UNAUDITED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS at 30 September 2024

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities (Accounts and Records) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

2. GRANTS	2024 £	2023 £
Restricted - Visit Scotland and VisitScotland - Sustaining Creative Development Programme	17,000	3,150 9,000
Unrestricted - Creative Scotland		2,920
	17,000	15,070

3. SPONSORSHIP & DONATIONS	2024 £	2023 £
Individuals	500	500
Shetland Taxis	500	350
Shetland Strathairn	200	
Arch Henderson	2,500	2,500
Brae Stores	500	
2. Quest	1,500	1,500
ESPL	250	
Shetland	750	1,000
GB & MA Anderson	500	
BTS	500	1,000
Shetland Grocery & Co & Carling	2,000	
Shetland Brewery & Co & Belhaven Brewery		2,000
	750	1,000
Shetland Port Authority	1,500	
Shetland Offshore	4,000	
Shetland Accountancy	500	
Shetland Charity		500
Shetland Sea Farms	500	500
Shetland Seals	1,500	1,500
	50	500
	1,000	
Shetland Charity	950	1,567
	20,900	14,417

Donations in kind were also received during the year from RSM UK Tax and Accounting Limited £2,750 (2023 - £2,750), Serco Northlink Orkney & Shetland Ferries Ltd £6,204 (2023 - £4,816) and Shetland Air Development Agency £2,732 (2023 - £3,012).

Shetland Folk Festival Society

Charity Registration No. SC013445

UNAUDITED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

at 30 September 2024

10. FUND BALANCES

	2023	Incoming Resources £	Expended Resources £	Transfers £	2024 £
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	82,004	191,321	(168,801)	(18,000)	86,524
Restricted funds:					
Youth Programming and Development fund	14,000				14,000
Nordic Tone fund	3,893				3,893
Shetland - Sustaining Creative		11,000	(17,000)		
Office and IT Upgrade fund	3,000		(678)	18,000	20,322
Office - IT Upgrade fund	7,240				7,240
Total funds	110,137	208,321	(186,479)		131,979

11. FUND BALANCES

The Youth Programming and Development Fund has been created to finance future educational projects, including visits, playgroup concerts and potentially supporting some costs of students' music tuition.

The Office and IT Upgrade fund was created to provide funding towards upgrading of the charity's website, developing online sales as well as the maintenance and purchase of items for the office.

The Office - IT Upgrade fund relates to money to be spent on the upkeep of the office building.

The Shetland - Sustaining Creative fund is a restricted fund to be used to finance future educational projects of the Shetland - Sustaining Creative project, staged in 2009.

The Shetland - Sustaining Creative fund is a restricted fund to be used to help showcase the work of the Shetland - Sustaining Creative fund, staged in 2009.

12. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

Trustees received any remuneration in the current or preceding period. No trustee received any expenses in the current or preceding period.

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 (the 2005 Act) and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations).

[illegible]

U-1a, in any material respect the requirements:

- **Accounting Regulations, and**
- **comply with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the**

Glt_{t6}, tcn should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the

