

Trustees' Annual Report for the period



Period start date
1 April 2020

Period end date
31 March 2021

From

To

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

 (for the postal address, see Section F of this report)
 Postcode

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Jeffrey Thomas	Chairperson		
2	Simon Williams	Treasurer		
3	Dean Woods	Band Manager		
4				
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17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution adopted 13 June 2016
How the charity is constituted	Association
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by the management committee at Annual General Meetings

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Trustees will be the appointed officials of the band as agreed and approved through the Annual General Meeting. These positions will be appointed from playing and non-playing members of the band. Individual skills and experience will be considered for these roles and agreed in line with the Constitution of the band. All new Trustees will undertake any development training, which is deemed necessary for the role, and will be supported by the outgoing official for an agreed period of time.

The Management Team elected at an Annual General Meeting in accordance with the bands' Constitution shall comprise the following:

1. Chairman
2. Vice Chair
3. Band Manager
4. Secretary
5. Treasurer
6. Academy Manager
7. Not less than three or more than five members to act as Management Team Members
8. A Musical Director shall be appointed by the Management Team to be responsible for the musical director, conducting and progress of the band.
9. A Resident Conductor shall be appointed by the Management Team to be responsible for the musical direction and process of the Academy
10. At its discretion, the Management Team may recommend to the Annual General Meeting, the appointment of a President and up to five Vice Presidents, who will support the Band in completing its objectives and be available as a resource for consultation and advice.

The trustees consider the main risks to the success in delivering the organisations objectives to be lack of grant funding or fundraising opportunities for future ventures and equipment; falling numbers of young people taking an interest in playing a brass instrument; musical tuition not being funded by Local Authorities in some schools and diminishing audiences. The trustees consider these risk factors in planning day to day activities and overall management of the band. The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The financial balance sheet for this reporting period was communicated to the organisation and the band members on 29/11/2021.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the organisation shall be to promote, improve and develop public education and appreciation of the art and science of music, in particular, brass band playing, by performances at both public and private engagements; and for such other purposes as shall be exclusively charitable as the trustees may from time to time decide.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

The Trustees will:

- strive for continued excellence of performance on the contest and concert stage; and
- increase the activity and focus on the development of children and youth in learning to play a brass instrument.

A Brief History of the Band

Forming in September 2011, Ebbw Valley Brass was born following the merger of Cwm Town Band and Ebbw Vale Town Band.

Both of the former bands experienced low points in recent history following a decline in player numbers and general interest. With the two bands being in close proximity, the Committees openly expressed a desire to work together in order to ensure a sustainable future for brass banding in the Ebbw Valley and ensure that the heritage of music is maintained and developed. Ebbw Valley Brass was born, with a new logo commissioned and designed to reflect the band's new thinking and identity.

Under the leadership of the band's Musical Director, the band has built strong foundations on which to build a robust organisation that caters for everyone. The primary focus is to work with the community and develop these links to deliver a wide range of concerts and increase the image of brass banding.

The band has experienced considerable development in a short space of time. The band won over 35 trophies in its first year of competing and continued the high levels of success with Welsh League Section 2 Champions (2015) and Welsh Regional Section 2 Champions (2015) being added to the list of achievements. The band achieved a historic triple of National Final titles by winning Section 4 in 2013, Section 3 in 2014 and Section 2 in 2015. The band is the first Welsh outfit to complete the triple in progressive sections in consecutive years. In addition to this, the band won the Best Instrumentalist Prize at each of the three finals during the same timescale - an incredible feat for any band.

The Academy

Ebbw Valley is committed to providing accessible, affordable tuition to all. The Academy gives children and young people, along with adult learners the opportunity to learn a brass instrument. In times of austerity, and in relatively deprived areas, the band strives to ensure the future of music making and all the benefits it brings to individuals and the community.

Learning to play a musical instrument has so many benefits – whether it is building your confidence, enhancing your memory, or widening your social circle. There have been many studies that links playing a musical instrument to academic success, health benefits and strengthening memory, coordination and organisational skills.

The discipline, commitment and conduct needed to play a part in any team activity are transferrable skills. Playing a musical instrument as part of a group gives a sense of achievement and pride and builds self-confidence. Einstein once said: “Life without playing music is inconceivable to me. I live my daydreams in music. I see my life in terms of music... I get most joy in life out of music”. At Ebbw Valley, we are sure he was right! We believe our greatest objective is to serve our community. We hold recruitment drives at local schools, attend public events to help other local community groups and charities raise the profile of their own organisations. We aim to make the band as visible as possible. We continue to make strong links within our local community and proudly represent Ebbw Vale on a local and national level.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

The band is grateful as always for its’ many volunteers, both playing and non-playing members who make the organisation what it is today. Without them, the continued success would not be possible.

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**Continued Success**

During 2019/2020, the band continued to progress, attending local and national contests. In November 2019, it achieved the runners-up position at the South East Wales Brass Band Association's Autumn Festival, in the Championship Section, under the direction of guest Conductor, Nigel Seaman. The band then represented Wales at the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain for the second time in the Championship Section. This contest featured a return to the city of Swansea; the venue was staged in the contemporary building of the Great Hall at the university. The activities of the band were thereafter put on-hold until further notice, due to the sudden coronavirus pandemic outbreak and national lockdown which affected all bands throughout the UK. The band has not rehearsed since March 2020, along with most other brass bands located in Great Britain and Ireland. The band gradually returned to playing again in May 2021, albeit restricted to one rehearsal a week, by playing outdoors only. Indoor playing returned in July 2021 by practicing 'social distancing' within large school assembly halls based in Ebbw Vale. Indoor rehearsals at the band room returned in September 2021, again restricted to one rehearsal a week. Twice weekly rehearsals commenced on 25/10/2021.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue. During 2020, the organization applied for grants that were made available to businesses and charities by the Welsh Government to allow for disruptive 'lockdowns' caused by Covid-19. These grants were successfully received, contributing to offset the band's lost income in this reporting period.

The band retains a building maintenance account which is a restricted reserve fund for meeting future eventualities and liabilities to complement its ongoing fundraising and other sources of income.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The bands' principal sources of funding includes monies raised at Christmas time playing carols at various venues, collecting donations. Member contributions and fees for public engagements account for a significant portion of the bands' income.

Section F

Other optional information

The band's postal address is different to the principal address given for the Ebbw Vale Bandhall. (The bandhall has no physical postbox facility). For any postal correspondence, please write to the band's acting Secretary Caren Williams at the following home address:-

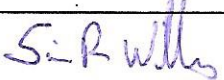

44 Manor Park,
Newbridge,
Gwent,
NP11 4RT

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	SIMON WILLIAMS	JEFFREY THOMAS
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	TREASURER	CHAIRMAN
Date	02/12/21	



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/04/2020	To	31/03/2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
SUBSCRIPTIONS	3,334	-	-	3,334	4,689
SUBSCRIPTIONS ACADEMY	696	-	-	696	1,463
GRANTS	46,256	-	-	46,256	234
FUND RAISING (NOT QUALIFYING FOR GIFT AID)	-	-	-	-	1,245
FUND RAISING (QUALIFYING FOR GIFT AID)	-	-	-	-	2,995
FUND RAISING (QUALIFYING FOR GIFT AID) ACADEMY	-	-	-	-	809
FUND RAISING (NON GIFT-AID) ACADEMY	-	-	-	-	-
HOTELS	-	-	-	-	3,661
TUCK SHOP	24	-	-	24	746
COACH TRAVEL (REFUND)	100	-	-	100	-
LOTTERY	-	-	-	-	420
GIFT AID PAYMENTS	2,336	-	-	2,336	2,152
MISC DONATIONS (NOT QUALIFYING FOR GIFT AID)	500	-	-	500	1,406
Cash In Hand Account: end of previous year's Balance	57	-	-	57	56
Current Account: end of previous year's Balance	4,903	-	-	4,903	13,007
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	58,205	-	-	58,205	32,883
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	58,205	-	-	58,205	32,883
A3 Payments					
UTILITIES, BILLS	1,358	-	-	1,358	1,390
MAINTENANCE	1,723	-	-	1,723	-
COVID-19 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	13,630	-	-	13,630	-
INSURANCE	991	-	-	991	902
COMPETITIONS	130	-	-	130	578
TUCK SHOP	-	-	-	-	827
CLEANING & EXTERNAL PRODUCTS	-	-	-	-	14
MUSIC / INSTRUMENTS	-	-	-	-	8,214
MUSIC / INSTRUMENTS ACADEMY	-	-	-	-	162
STATIONERY & PHOTOCOPIER	300	-	-	300	192
MUSICAL DIRECTOR	3,400	-	-	3,400	4,400
GUEST MUSICAL DIRECTOR	-	-	-	-	1,650
PLAYER EXPENSES	320	-	-	320	2,257
MISC DONATIONS, EXPENDITURE	84	-	-	84	849
HOTELS	-	-	-	-	4,286
COACHES, HIRE VAN	-	-	-	-	2,201
Sub total	21,937	-	-	21,937	27,923
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	21,937	-	-	21,937	27,923
Net of receipts/(payments)	36,268	-	-	36,268	4,960
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	36,268	-	-	36,268	4,960

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestrict ed funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash In Hand Account: end of year Balance	35	-	-
	Current Account: end of year Balance	36,234	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds <small>(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))</small>	36,268	-	-

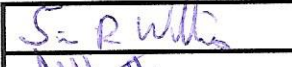

Categories	Details	Unrestrict ed funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	BUILDING MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT	-	7,772	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	SIMON WILLIAMS	2-12-21
	JEFFREY THOMAS	2-12-21



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Ebbw Valley Brass

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/03/21

**Charity no
(if any)**

1004260

Set out on pages

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2021.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

T Thomas

Date:

2/12/21

Name:

Tianna Thomas

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

[Empty box for professional qualification]

Address:

9 Greenway Close, Griffithstown

Pontypool, Torfaen

NP4 5BA

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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