Forest of Dean Brass

Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2026

Charity Registration Number 1197059
Forest of Dean Brass

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees

P Berrow (Chair)
R Deeks
S Sexton
R Stratford
S Sharma
M Nash
F Ruck
T Whittard

Charity Number 1197059

Principal Address
Onward Hall
Stag Hill
Yorkley
Gloucestershire GL15 4TD

Independent Examiner
Mark Turley
High Roost
6 Lynwood Road
Lydney GL15 5SG

Bankers
Lloyds Bank PLC
55 Newerne Street
Lydney GL15 5RA

Forest of Dean Brass

Trustees' Report - Report Contents

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Forest of Dean Brass Final Trustees' Report
Year Ended 31 March 2026

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102).

1. Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (registered 13 December 2021).

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Berrow (Chair)

R Deeks	S Sharma	T Whittard
S Sexton	M Nash	
R Stratford	F Ruck	

The Trustees are elected annually at the AGM.

2. Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity are in all cases for public benefit to provide, advance, develop and maintain public education and appreciation of the art of music, in particular Brass Band music, in all its aspects by provision of training in and playing of musical instruments, practice, preparation and presentation of public performances and similar activities and in such other ways as the Charity Trustees shall from time to time determine.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake, and have complied with their duty to have regard to guidance on Public Benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

3 Achievement and Performance

2025/2026 saw the band performing at many of its "regular" events such as the Coleford Festival of Brass, and the more lucrative Christmas Carol sessions courtesy of Tesco, but exciting new events during this year was the opportunity to take part in the Ironbridge Gorge Brass Band Festival at which we received many positive comments regarding the standard of performance, along with a concert on the Malvern Priory Park Bandstand.
The band promoted several of its own concerts during the year – one with Churchdown Male Voice Choir, and a Christmas Concert with Gloucester Constabulary Ladies Choir, which both went down well with the Audience, as well as an additional concert to raise funds for the Forest of Dean Imjim Memorial Fund.

The band was also pleased to forge a new relationship locally with the Yorkley Star Cricket Club by performing at an open day, and a charity Cricket Match.

Whilst not perhaps achieving the desired results at the competitions that were entered the band is still striving to improve with a few internal moves being made within the band with a view to strengthening our performances for the coming year,

3.1 Rehearsals

Rehearsals are attended by all playing members with little absence apart from holidays and illness. The commitment shown from all playing members is a credit to the band, committee and trustees and one to be applauded. As with any band we have a few gaps in our structure which ebb and flow as people come and go.

3.2 Performances, Competitions and Fundraising events

Items Extracted from Muzudo App

Band Performances since end of financial year 01/12/2025 to 31/03/2026

Fri 05 Dec 2025	Aylburton Christmas Carol Singing Event 2025
Sat 06 Dec 2025	Yorkley Christmas Tree Lights Switch on
Fri 12 Dec 2025	Carol Playing - Morrisons Abbeydale Afternoon
Fri 12 Dec 2025	Christmas at Parkside, Coleford
Sat 13 Dec 2025	Carol Playing - Morrisons Abbeydale
Mon 15 Dec 2025	Santa’s band at Parkend School
Thu 18 Dec 2025	Christmas Concert with Gloucestershire Constabulary Ladies Choir
Fri 19 Dec 2025	Santa’s band at Yorkley School
Fri 19 Dec 2025	Christmas Carolling - Chepstow, Tesco
Sat 20 Dec 2025	Christmas Carolling - Brockworth Tesco
Sun 21 Dec 2025	Christmas Carolling - Chepstow Tesco
Wed 24 Dec 2025	Coleford Baptist Church - Christmas Eve
Thu 25 Dec 2025	Traditional Christmas Morning Carol Playing
Sun 22 Feb 2026	Welsh Open Brass Band Entertainment Championship
Sat 14 Mar 2026	West of England Regional Championships 2026

A busy run up to Christmas with 16 dates



3.3 The Onward Hall – Refurbishment

Following the installation of the new covering on the roof and the addition of new large-capacity gutters and downpipes the refurbishment had to temporarily be put on hold whilst we sought additional funding to continue with the walls. Our priority would be the western and northern elevations due to the fact that these bear the brunt of the prevailing weather. It is also hoped to install a new/additional fully accessible emergency exit door to the rear of the western elevation.

3.4 Online Activity

The Band have an ongoing Website www.forestofdeanbrass.com coinciding with twitter and facebook. The website kept up to date and many posts are put on Facebook to engage followers and new likes. The idea of added items to the miner logo for themes has caused a lot of interest amongst the facebook community.

Monthly Committee meetings are still being run on Zoom and we use Whatsapp for communications and Muzudo for band members attendance and engagements which has proved successful.

3.5 Charity Registration

The Band successfully registered as a charity in December 2021. Charity Number 1197059

3.6 Musical Director – Martyn Patterson

It has been another successful year for Forest of Dean Brass.
On the contest stage we have been quite consistent in our performances however not gaining the results needed. I am finding the need to go back to the basics in rehearsals (intonation, ensemble) as that is what is evident in our performances. However, there is no easy fix but progression has been steady.
That said, the band put a good show at the Wychavon and GBBA contests where we were up against similar or better opposition. We had another disappointing result off a pleasing performance at the west of England area contest. We need a good result in 2027 to remain in the 1st section. Finally, the band performed well against a high level of opposition at the Welsh Open although quite disappointing we didn't come higher in the results. I feel out performances have grown in this contest particularly.
The band have put a good effort into our concert season. Our first performance at the Ironbridge Festival in 2025 which was very well received and subsequently resulted in our invitation for future festivals.
Welland Steam Rally again proved to be one of the biggest audiences and our programme of light upbeat arrangements went down well (as did Maddi's (the dog) singing).
We also were invited to the inaugural Coleford Festival, which was very well received especially the performance of our Magnificent Creatures set inside Coleford Church.
Thanks go to those of the band who ventured out as a small group during the summer raising funds for the band.
One event of huge poignancy was out Imjin Memorial Concert where we premiered a new march, "Gloster Hill" by Tommy Tynan and performed Liz Lane's beautiful "Hymn to the Cross". It really was a stunning, eye-opening and haunting event. Thanks to Roger Deeks who MD'd this concert.
The bands' Christmas concert was well received and lots of fun. Thanks to Roger Deeks for MD of this one too.

3.7 Fund Raising

We continue our regular collections to bags for schools and we have our coffee morning/book sales, which are advertised up front for the year, held monthly. These are a good opportunity to throw our doors open and invite the community in to see what we have been up to. Everyone is friendly and interested in the renovations. We have new faces turn up every month and also the regulars are there without fail.

We applied to the Enovert Community Trust (a grant making organisation which is funded by landfill tax credits via a scheme call the Landfill Communities Fund) for a grant to assist with the continued restoration of the Onward Hall. The application was made in December 2025 and we gained approval in January 2026, with the award of £24,000 subject to us making a reimbursement payment of 10% of the grant value from independent sources (i.e. funds specifically raised for the purpose of the building renovation e.g. the coffee mornings).

4. Financial Review

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to one year's expenditure. The trustees considers that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

5. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

UPDATE P Berrow Chair of Trustees 19/06/26

6. Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Forest of Dean Brass

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Forest of Dean Brass for the year ended 31 March 2026.

6.1 Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

6.2 Independent Examiner's Statement

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Forest of Dean Brass

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Forest of Dean Brass for the year ended 31st March, 2026.

1 Responsibilities and Basis Report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statement carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

2 Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1) accounting records were not kept inn respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act;
   Or
2) the financial statement do not accord with those records
   Or
3) the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other tan any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent Examination.

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

Mark Turley 22nd May, 2026

8. Statement of Financial Activities

Forest of Dean Brass 2025/2026
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st Mar 2026

Forest of Dean Brass

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Carol Playing	£4,151.45	MD Expenses	£6,750.00
Concerts	£4,399.23	Water Rates	£405.70
Subscriptions	£3,711.00	Insurance	£1,117.31
		Rates	£299.40
Donations	£700.17	Heat and Light	£2,309.52
Bag 2 School	£67.00	Registration Fees	£90.00
Easy Fundraising	£44.26	Concert Exp	£281.00
Percussion Hire	£550.00	Imjin Donation	£718.00
Carnival Catering	£1,148.00	Subscriptions	£180.40
Harvest Auction	£1,201.00	Lottery Licence	£20.00
		Contest Expenses	£992.00
Sale of Euphonium	£1,600.00	Repairs & Maintenance	£187.98
Meat Raffle	£450.00	Uniform	£258.90
Bugle Prize Money	£400.00	Music	£199.59
Torquay Hotel	£2,914.00	Performing Rights Society	£97.01
		Bank Charges	£40.32
		Torquay Hotel	£2,914.00
		Room Divider Screens	£35.00
		Enovert Grant 10% fee	£2,400.00
	£21,336.11		**£19,296.13**

Save the Onward Hall

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
FoD Lottery	£588.00	Scaffolding Hire	£500.00
Donation	£304.50	EPC	£295.00
Just Giving	£72.85	Scaffold Tower Purchase	£605.00
Solar Farm Grant	£2,000.00	Materials	£57.18
Monthly Book Sales	£1,555.98	Labour	£675.00
Tin Sponsorship	£1,450.00		
	£5,971.33		**£2,132.18**
		TOTAL	£21,428.31
		Profit for the Year	**£5,879.13**
	£27,307.44		**£27,307.44**

Forest of Dean Brass 2025/2026

BANK BALANCES @ 31st Mar 2026

MONMOUTHSHIRE BUILDING SOCIETY

Balance b/f (1st Apr 25)	£11,536.86		
Interest	£208.80		
		Balance @ 31st Mar 26	**£11,745.66**

LLOYDS

Balance b/f (1st Apr 25)	£2,989.80		
Profit as per accounts	£5,879.13		
		Balance @ 31st Mar 26	**£8,868.93**

LLOYDS DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Balance b/f (1st Apr 25)	£1,861.15		
Interest	£13.02		
Subs	£142.89		
		Balance @ 31st Mar 26	**£2,017.06**
	£22,631.65		**£22,631.65**

ALLOCATED BALANCES @ 31st March 2026

Building Account	£11,745.66
Lloyds Current Account	£8,868.83
Instrument Account	£2,017.16
	£22,631.65

2nd May, 2026 Treasurer S. Stratford Sharon Stratford

Auditor M. Turley Mark Turley

END OF REPORT