



# British Youth Band Association



Annual Report

2022

# **Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements**

**For the period 1st November, 2021 to 31 October, 2022**

**Association Chair** - Neil Wright

**Association Vice-Chair** – Keith Morris

**Honorary Secretary** – Andrew Horton

**Honorary Treasurer** – Justine Morris

**Communications Chair** – Luke Taylor

**Education Chair** -

**Development Chair** -

**Contesting Chair** - Clive Burd

**Judging Chair** – Gary Roylance

**Midlands Region Chair** - Keith Morris

**Northern Region Chair** - Wally Hemingway

**Southern Region Chair** – Paul Morgan

**Co-opted Members** – Lisa Valentine (membership secretary) – Luke Bodycot – Carl Harris

**Registered Office** - 32 Burnside Drive, Bramcote, Nottingham, NG9 3EE

**Registered Charity** – No 277591

**Bankers NatWest**

# Report of the Directors and Trustees for the period ended 31 October 2022

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 October, 2022.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the required accounting policies and comply with the Charity's governing document, applicable law and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, "SORP FRS 102".

## Structure, Governance and Management

The British Youth Band Association is a Registered Charity by way of Constitution. The Charity regularly operates under the known abbreviation of BYBA. The organisation is viable by way of self-generated income from subscriptions and events. We hope to develop our project funding through grants over the coming years. We have no plans to recruit an Executive Director and intend that the trustees continue to manage the charity directly, on a voluntary basis.

## Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

As set out in the Constitution, the Chair of Trustees is elected by the membership. Following guidance from the Charities Commission the Constitution was amended at the 2017 AGM to allow a Chair to only serve two consecutive terms of 3 years. The trustees listed in this report are those in place as at 31 October, 2022. The board of trustees has the power to co-opt trustees until such time that trustees can be voted in at the AGM.

## Charitable Objectives and Activities

The charity's principal objective is to inform the public in the arts and sciences in relation to youth bands. To meet our principal objective the charity undertakes the following activities to further our aims:

- Facilitating consultation and exchange of views between groups to develop a support network
- To bring the activities of youth bands to the attention of the public
- To publish magazines and websites for public distribution
- To host performance opportunities for members
- Training of leaders and senior members of bands to raise standards of performance

## Public Benefit

Our vision is to deliver an innovative, broader range of activities and services for the membership, making BYBA the UK's marching arts organisation of choice.

We do this by organising membership events, reaching out to non-members, and providing other methods of documented support. Bands who participate in BYBA activities are open to a wide variety of demographics, abilities and styles from their local community and some

from further afield.

A number of events are open to the public at reasonable prices, which ensures BYBA and regional events remain financially viable and sustainable.

## **Trustee Induction and Training**

The Trustees receive information on duties and obligations on induction and maintain a good working knowledge of charities and charity law.

## **Organisation**

The Charity is controlled by a Board of Trustees. The day to day running of the charity is divided amongst these trustees with specific roles and responsibilities as required.

## **Risk Management**

The trustees have a risk management plan which comprises of:

- An annual review of the risks the charity may face
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan
- Implementation of the procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialize
- All Trustees being DBS checked

## **Role and Contribution of Volunteers**

BYBA celebrates the fact that it has a committed and diverse front-line services volunteer team. Volunteers contributed many hours to the organisation within service areas during the year. Without this help our organisation could not survive.

## **Financial Review**

The Statement of Financial Activities showed a surplus of £847.78

## **Reserves Policy**

In accordance with the advice of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, the charity aims to hold unrestricted reserves at levels of approximately 12 months of budgeted unrestricted expenditure in order to meet unforeseen costs and statutory obligations. The charity continues to work towards meeting this policy.

## **Future Plans and Developments**

The main priorities are:

- To develop our support services to member units to enable their continued growth, development and service provided to young people.
- To develop our opportunities to provide wider skills to our membership
- To increase bands in membership to provide more benefit to a larger number of young people.
- To work with other likeminded organisations to further develop the activity and bring it to the attention of the public.

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:**

**Andrew Horton**

Trustee

Date: 31 December 2022

# Financial Statements

## Income & Expenditure Account for the period 01 November 2021 to 31 October 2022

	31/10/2021	31/10/2022
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions	£ -	£ -
Contesting Fees	£ -	£1,725.00
Interest	£ -	£ -
Donations / Grant	£350.00	
I&E's	£ -	£ -
Training Day	£ -	£ -
Band Is Back Receipts	£178.76	£1,260.00
Patches Receipts	£58.26	
Stripe Payments - online ticket sales	£ -	£1,387.23
DWBF Interest	£0.57	£ 5.05
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£587.59</b>	<b>£ 4,377.28</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Expenses	£ -	£767.57
Band reimbursement for ticket sales	£ -	£136.23
Chair /Development	£27.50	

Insurance	£622.53	£619.70
Web Site	£ -	£ -
Email & Microsoft support	£308.90	
New web site build	£ -	£ -
Meetings & Room Hire	£ -	£ -
Training	£ -	
Projector Purchase	£ -	£ -
Band is Back Event	£345.65	£1,000.00
Band is Back Patches	£169.50	
Individuals & Ensembles	£ -	£ -
Medals	£1,065.00	
Judges Consumables - T-shirts printing	£ -	£330.00
Patches (2020 / Covid Year)	£256.50	£676.00
DWBF Grant	£ -	£ -
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u>£2,795.58</u>	<u>£3,529.50</u>
<b>Net Income (Expenditure)</b>	<u>-£2,207.99</u>	<u>£847.78</u>

## Notes

Chair / Development – 2021    £27.50    Musical score for Song for the Frontline

**British Youth Band Association  
Balance Sheet as at 31 October 2022**

	<b>31/10/2021</b>	<b>31/10/2022</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>		
Cash at bank and in hand	£6,751.19	£7,593.92
<b>Restricted Funds</b>		
Dalton Wright Bursary Fund	£5,256.21	£5,261.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>£12,007.40</b>	<b>£12,855.18</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Computer Equipment	£0.00	£0.00
Depreciation	£0.00	£0.00
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	£0.00	£0.00
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>£12,007.40</b>	<b>£12,855.15</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Creditor	£169.50	£0.00
Prepayment	£14.59    -£184.09	£0.00    £0.00
<b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities</b>	<b>£11,823.31</b>	<b>£12,855.18</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Total funds brought forward	£14,031.30	£12,007.40
Net movement in funds for the year	-£2,207.99	£847.78
	<b>£11,823.31</b>	<b>£12,855.18</b>
<b>Notes</b>		
Creditor	£169.50    PAID	Band is back patches – invoice received after year end
Prepayment	£14.59	2022 membership payment received before year end





## Chairman's Report

Dear friends

It was great to be able to see so many bands back on the field this season: whether competing or in exhibition, you did it! I am fully aware of all the work that is going on behind the scenes, and the impact that the Covid pandemic has had on the activity. However, there are real green shoots appearing which many of you won't be aware of. We are starting to hear stories of new bands being formed, and seeing bands that are successfully re-building, but we need to look at things completely differently. I think it is fair to say that we are all aware that competition for competition's sake is not sustainable. We can see that banding is going full circle, and going back to basics. I believe that this is essential, and should be embraced and encouraged for the future of the activity. We need to re-build and bring new youngsters into the activity, enthuse, develop, nurture, but most of all excite them about this wonderful activity that I know has given so many people confidence, resilience and aspirations, including me. Over the next year, grab as many chances as you can to perform in public, and get marching bands back on the map.

We have had some success this year in moving the activity, and BYBA forward, and this is due to the hard work behind the scenes of council. It is wonderful to be able to announce that we have been able to secure Corby football club for the foreseeable future to host our finals, and I would like to thank Clive and Dale for their hard work in securing this.

It is always important that I take this opportunity to thank members of council for their hard and tireless work. There are not many evenings throughout the year that calls or emails are not being sent and BYBA work is happening. But this year I'd like to thank four members of council for their work behind the scenes, and as they stand down, thank them for putting us back on a secure footing after Covid. Justine Morris has done a brilliant job over the past eighteen months in the treasurer's department, and Lisa Valentine has done a fabulous job in bringing our membership lists up to date. I'd also like to express my gratitude to Clive for his work in

contesting. We now have dates organised for the next two seasons, show sponsors, a summer season planned, joint shows with DCUK again facilitated, and the venue sorted for finals. Thank you Clive for your unstinting work in this area, and we'd like to wish you the very best of luck in your coming venture of forming a Scout band.

Finally, Keith: you have been my right hand man, confidant, and the driving force behind so many decisions. Thank you for your commitment, but most of all friendship. You will be missed!

And on a final note, I have already expressed to council that this will be my final year as Chairman. I will have completed six years in the chair at the end of this year and it will be time for someone new to step forward and move the association forward. I feel we have steadied the ship, put ourselves back on the map, and hopefully brought a sense of fun to the activity. I've not done as much as I've wanted as Covid got in the way, but I can say that together we can move forward and re-build this great association for the next generation.

Happy banding everyone.

**Neil Wright**  
**BYBA Chairman**

# Treasurers Report

For 2022 we offered free membership to all bands however we did host a number of shows and started the contesting season.

A Midland show was held at Saffron Lane and Finals was held at Corby Football Club. This has resulted in an Gross income totaling £4,372.23 including Contest Fees, Online & Gate ticket sales and 50/50 raffle.

We invested £330.00 this year for Judges Polo shirts and a further £506.50 on patches.

The full rebuild of the BYBA website has resulted in a much more stable and usable platform. All the more important for the much more virtual way of banding and life in general over the last couple of years. It did allow us to repeat the successful Virtual I&E's event again this year.

**Justine Morris**  
**Association Treasurer**

# Finance and Governance Committee Report

The finance and governance committee has not formally met during the last year, Council has however had regular remote meetings to ensure all are up to date on the continually changing landscape, and any major outlay, such as hiring of finals venue has been discussed and approved.

As can be seen from the treasurer's report the Association is still in a much healthier financial position than a few years ago, with income exceeding expenditure this year.

Thank you to Justine for her work as Treasurer this year and it is good to see that we have made a surplus. Much of this has been down to a control on expenditure and the generosity of Council members and judges in not claiming expenses.

I can confirm that we are compliant with our obligations to the Charities Commission in relation to the filing of the annual return and maintenance of the charity's records in accordance with the Charities Act. A risk assessment has also been undertaken and the risk register updated. All Trustees are now required to have a DBS check. In addition, where legislation changes which may have an effect on the Association, this is taken into account in relation to our working practices.

**Andrew Horton**  
**Chair - Finance and Governance Committee**

# Contesting Report

Well, what a year 2022 was! We had 25 amazing performances across 5 shows, we saw the return of Hertfordshire showband who provided something very different to our finals program and we had the drumming sensation that is the Percussion Theatre! On top of this we managed to secure our finals venue for another 3 years! Which means we don't have to trawl up and down the country looking for a suitable venue for finals.

We hosted another excellent online I & E event with some amazing talented youth and not so youthful 😊. Again, the thanks here for our Communications Chair and his small team of willing volunteers. 2022 was, by all accounts, a really positive year for both banding in general and for the Association which will be carried into 2023. We already have a really full calendar with some joint BYBA & DCUK shows, making it a full day of band geeking!

Thank you to all of the bands, volunteers, members, parents, helpers, and those in the background of BYBA for what has been an excellent few years.

2022 was my final year as Contesting Chair, and I wish the incoming Chair every success. I will still be at shows, but this time as a band parent where I can enjoy being a spectator.

I wish you all the very best of luck for the coming season, and for future seasons.

**Clive Burd**

**Outgoing Contesting Chair**

# Judging Report

The 2022 season provided us with a number of challenges and considerations for the judging process coming out of the most difficult period in our history which had a significant effect on how our members were able to operate and ultimately put together a show/routine.

The system was tweaked to provide a more inclusive process both in scoring styles and verbiage utilized in the live judging. This was specifically to provide credit for the hard work and efforts and great talents of the performers in all styles of the marching arts.

Putting together with judging panel proved to be more difficult than envisaged and going forward I would like to ensure that we do not encounter the same issues with completing the panel for each show. In that vein the judges training will be a mandatory event for all existing and prospective judges to ensure the best quality and consistency in providing what our members deserve and require.

The judges training for 2023 will therefore take place on Saturday 15 April.

I hope going forward we can continue to develop the process to further benefit the members and build a more open dialogue and also provide an outlet for people who cannot commit to performing or instructing with a band/corps to become involved in the judging system and remain within the activity.

**Gary Roylance**

**Judging Manager**

# Communications Report

**Luke Taylor** – Chair

**Emma Arnett** – Graphic Design

**Matt Fiddaman** – Website Development, Video Editing

**Lauren Acton** – Quality Assurance

**Tony Lees** – Webmaster

2022 saw the Association return to hosting events proper, which saw 4 regional shows and the National Championships – 1 more live event than 2019, when shows last ran! This return to live events had a larger impact on the time, both of all the volunteers on the Comms Team and of the bands themselves, and meant that we could not undertake as many projects as we did last year. This is unfortunate, as it feels like the opportunity to run contests has interfered slightly with the main aim of the Association (at least on a Comms level) – lessons have been learned, and this should hopefully be avoided next year.

## Digital Presence

The past year has seen our digital presence increase across all social media platforms again. The combined number of followers across the major 4 social networks is 6849, made up of the following:

**Facebook** – Facebook has switched to the new Pages experience and so now prefers “Followers” over likes. The follower count stands at 4598 and the like count shows “4.3k” (up from 4279 last year)

**Twitter** – 1365 followers (up from 1355 last year)

**Instagram** – 761 followers (up from 715 last year)

**YouTube** – 125 subscribers (up from 109 last year)

Due to the time pressures (and stress!) involved with the return to a competitive season, the social media sites were not used to their full capacity. A plan to better utilise these in 2023 is in the works and I am hopeful that it will see these numbers increase further!

## Bandmaster!

Like many other organisations, BYBA has relied heavily on spreadsheets for internal data. Things like membership data and contest entries, and even the scores (and tabulation) are all stored on various spreadsheets that float around on BYBA’s network. This is convenient in the moment but makes *actually doing anything* with the information a bit more complex – for example, sending emails to member bands requires finding the right spreadsheet, making sure it’s the latest version/up to date, manually copying all of the emails out and *only then* being able to start emailing the bands. It also becomes complex to extract any information, as trying to find a list of bands that scored over 60 points in the last 10 years suddenly becomes a mammoth task!

Enter *Bandmaster!*

*Bandmaster!* Is a bespoke system to bring BYBA into the modern world, in three key steps. The first step allows BYBA Council to record, update and access relevant data in one central place. Council members are also able to carry out tasks related to their role – for example, emailing membership, creating events, and recording scores.

The second step will be including the bands – giving bandmasters the ability to sign up for/renew membership through the same platform, register for the events, see their scores throughout the season... and perhaps we'll even throw in a few little helpers such as rehearsal registers or asset lists too!

The final step is pulling together all of the information from this platform and using it to power the BYBA website – removing a lot of manual work for the website editors, and ensuring that there is one absolute source of truth!

Myself and Matt have been hard at work over the majority of the past year, and I'm pleased to say that we have completed the first step. The development work for the second step is expected to take place throughout the 2023 season, so we are hopeful that we will have some more good news to report in time for the next AGM!

**Luke Taylor**  
**BYBA Communications Chair**