

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

1st Nov 2008 to 31st Oct 2009



Traditional Arts Support in the Community (tasc)

Registered Charity 1042144

Introduction

Over the past year, it has been my privilege to chair TASC, and a genuine pleasure to be part of an organisation which, despite the difficult financial times, has continued to pursue a wide variety of projects, and sponsor live music performance of excellence.

We owe much to our Administrator and Artistic Director, Philip Freeman, for his ceaseless beavering away in securing funding, and good support has been forthcoming from Powys County Council, the Arts Council of Wales, and the Llysddinam Trust.



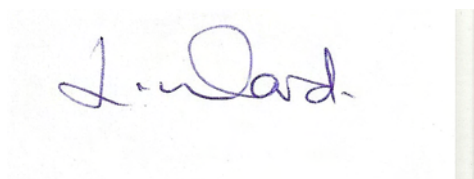
This has made possible a number of events, details of which are itemised in full later in this report.

The year began with the by now annual 12th Night celebration, which included songs and stories from Guto Dafis as well as our own contributions. It ended with rehearsals for the Folk Theatre event in Garth - *Lost, Missing or Stolen*- based on local legend and folklore, which brought together acting, music, singing and dancing - some of it improvised, none of it over-rehearsed!

This was perhaps my personal favourite of the year, and though the actual performance took place a couple of weeks after the period covered by this report, the end result was really something special, with a truly sinister atmosphere dramatically enhanced by a sudden real Winter storm outside.

Another major project was the creation of the sampler CD *Taste*, a compilation of local singers and musicians, launched at a Slow Food Supper in Llandinam Village Hall, where all the food was locally sourced, and served by the growers/producers to the accompaniment of music from Sue Harris and the Wild Angels.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the TASC trustees for their continuing enthusiasm and dedication in making these things happen, and working so well and cheerfully as a team. And also a vote of thanks to all TASC members who turn out in all weathers to attend our events, and give us encouragement for our continuing programme.



Linda Ward
Chair, Traditional Arts Support in the Community (tasc)

AIMS

TASC aims to encourage individuals to become involved in traditional and tradition-based folk arts, particularly - though not exclusively - performance-based, and to support the use of traditional folk music, song and dance in forms appropriate for the 21st century.

Traditional Folk Art is both a living tradition and a repository of materials and techniques. The challenge is to try and understand what makes it distinctive; the better to ensure that nothing vital is lost in its continuing evolution.

TASC's annual programme aims to provide a seasonal gathering (currently Twelfth Night), a small programme of events (perhaps two or three a year), workshops and one more ambitious and experimental longer-term project.

In recent years these larger projects have included:-

- *Strengthening the Tradition* – recording live sessions and then using the music as a basis for teaching tunes with CD and booklet instruction packs.
- *The Severn Suite* – commissioning a suite of tunes and dances in traditional style followed by a fully documented publication
- *Beyond the Severn* – creating new material and reaching new audiences through a sampler CD, launch of the CD and creating an original folk play, also with a fully documented report

Supplementary work has included developing new skills in sound engineering, production and performance as well as continual research and networking.

PROGRAMME OF WORK 2008-9

TASC's approach is fundamentally an experimental one and places an emphasis on collaborative working, social contexts and dialogue with leading tradition-bearers. Alongside that there is a programme of skills development, both artistically and organisationally.

There were two major projects which were part of the *Beyond the Severn*¹ initiative, which in its turn was built upon the creation of *The Severn Suite*.²

- **Twelfth Night.** This is now an annual event which is being constantly experimented with. In 2009 it involved *Montgomeryshire Youth Theatre, Llandinam Village Band, Wild Angels Community Choir* and several of the musicians who were to appear on the Taste CD (see below). It also featured appearances by *Guto Dafis* who was to continue collaboration with TASC during the rest of 2009 (see below).



¹ A fuller account of the development of the *Beyond the Severn* project is available as a separate document.

² This was a set of dances and tunes commissioned by TASC which were realised by a volunteer team of dancers and musicians.

- **Taste CD** was a sampler conceived with the intention of each participant (there were seven 'acts' all of whom perform in a social context) distributing copies that would help to secure themselves work as well as assisting the other participants to do so.
 - Recording and mixing – as well as providing a useful focus for the musicians and singers involved, the recording sessions (which were held in many different locations using TASC's portable studio¹ and featured various combinations from a 20 piece community band to a solo singer) also provided an opportunity for further development of recording, editing and mixing skills.



- Launch at *Llandinam Lives*² – the album was launched during a week of community events in Llandinam (Llandinam Lives) which included:
 - Traditional Music Evening (Lion Hotel)
 - Poems and pints (Lion Hotel)
 - Slow food supper (Llandinam Village Hall)
 - Twmpath and Bal (Llandinam Village Hall)

In addition *Beyond the Severn* involved research and development that carried over into 2009-10. This involved working with the Cardiff-based storyteller, singer and musician Guto Dafis in two areas.

- Research at St Fagan's Museum on traditional Montgomeryshire tunes, songs and music.
- Creating a piece of Folk Theatre incorporating some of Guto's stories from a Montgomeryshire perspective.

This broke new ground for TASC and we are particularly grateful to the Llysdim Trust for its support of this project in the developmental phase, as well as to Powys County Council's Community Enablement Fund and to the Arts Council of Wales for supporting the full project which allowed TASC to bring it to proper fruition.



¹ The Suitcase Studio, as it is called, was acquired during a previous project called *Strengthening the Tradition*

² Funded by *Glasi* under their Festivals & Events programme as part of the Rural Development Plan for Powys, with Welsh Assembly Government, Powys County Council and European Funding support.

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Trustees

The Trustees for 2008-9 were:

Linda Ward	Pete Damsell
Pam Knight	Philip Freeman
Kathleen Freeman	

elected at the AGM in March 2009

and Rees Wesson, who was co-opted in June 2009.

Administrator

The day to day running of TASC, along with financial management, members' newsletter and artistic direction is carried out by an Administrator who is appointed at the AGM each year. The Administrator is always one of the Trustees and so the appointment is carried out after the election of the trustees.

Meetings

Trustee meetings are held three or four times a year. In the current year they were held in January 2009, April 2009, July 2009.

Training

Trustee training is offered to trustees. Induction is provided for new trustees. In addition to the governing document (constitution) TASC has adopted policies on the the following for its guidance:-

- Equal Opportunities
- Welsh Language
- Protection of Children & Vulnerable Adults
- Recruitment of people with a criminal record
- Secure storage, handling, use, retention and disposal of disclosures and disclosure information
- Procurement Policy
- Project Development Protocol

In addition risk assessments are carried out for all TASC events.

Membership

Membership is open to all who support TASC's aims. Membership runs from 1st November each year, which coincides with the financial year. The annual fee is currently kept very low with correspondingly few benefits as the members' engagement with TASC activities can vary significantly. The main benefit at the moment is discount on TASC publications.

Planning

TASC's programme of work is devised following consultation with its members. The last consultation was carried out in July 2009 following initial discussions at the AGM in March.

FINANCE

The accounts are to be found on the following pages. TASC has a reserves policy of holding £2,000 as a contingency which is estimated as the cost of running the organisation for one year without any major projects, and would allow it to continue operating if grant income dried up.

The bank account is held at:-

HSBC
The Cross
Broad Street
Newtown
Powys

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF TASC CHARITY NUMBER 1042144

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st October 2009 which are set out on pages 3 and 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act), as amended by Section 28 of the Charities Act 2006) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts (under section 43(3)9a) of the 1993 Act)
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

I mention the following:

- (1) Payments have been made to a trustee acting as the administrator for the provision of services to the Charity, which has been authorised by you the trustees and is acceptable to the Charity Commission under their sealing number C32/04.

Independent examiner's statement

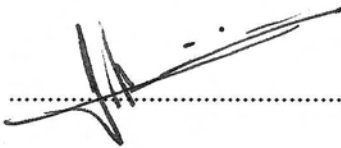
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records (in accordance with Section 41 of the 1993 Act); and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act 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.

John M Huninik ACEA, ICPA

Yew Tree House
Pant
Oswestry
Shropshire
SY10 9QF

30th March 2010


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TASC Receipts & Payments Account

1st November 2008 to 31st October 2009

	NOTES	2008-9	2007-8
PAYMENTS			
Events			
Fiddle Day	1	250	
Twelfth Night 09		1599	
AGM		34	
			2807
		1884	2807
Projects			
Beyond the Severn	2	1777	
			434
		1777	434

	NOTES	2008-9	2007-8
RECEIPTS			
Events			
Fiddle Day			
Twelfth Night 09		526	
Workshops		102	
			1364
		628	1364
Projects			
Beyond the Severn	2	710	
			675
		710	675

NOTE: As events and projects vary from year to year no attempt has been made to compare individual items.

Capacity Building			
Maesmawr		50	
Research		9	
			196
		59	196
General Expenditure			
Affiliation Fees		152	
Insurance		50	
Marketing	3	274	
Website			
			698
		476	698
Admin			
Misc		25	
Postage		108	
Trustee Expenses		359	
Administrator Fees	4	1750	
Administrator Expenses		108	
Office sundries		18	
			1520
		2369	1520
Depreciation			
Capital			
		0	0

Sales			
Severn Suite Sales		172	
Other Sales		42	
			453
		213	453
General Income			
Membership fees		110	
Donations		5	
Studio Hire			
Other			570
		115	570
Grants			
Powys County Council CES		3500	
Llysdinam Trust			
ACW	5		8945
		3500	
			8945

Total Payments **6565** **5,655**

Total Receipts **5,166** **12,007**

Deficit on year 1400

NOTES

- 1) Revenue was received in previous year
This represents a payment to ACW towards artists fees.
- 2) Beyond the Severn was a multi-faceted project which involved the Taste CD, joint working with several other groups and individuals plus a dramatic devising and production.
- 3) As marketing has increasingly been about raising TASC's profile rather than just the needs of the individual event it is presented as one item rather than allocated to an event or project.

- 4) There was an increase in the workload of the Administrator in 2007-8. This represents the work involved as artistic director of the new project
- 5) Arts Council of Wales (ACW) also support TASC's work through the Night Out scheme which pays fees directly to the performers, and so do not appear in these accounts.

CURRENT FUNDS

31st October 2009			
Balance at HSBC		6959	
Cash in Hand		137	
Paypal Account		395	
		7491	

CURRENT FUNDS

Project Fund		4714	
ACW Restricted Funds*		777	
Reserves		2000	
		7491	

* This is a provisional figure pending the completion of the project.

tasc**Accounts 2008/9****Balance Sheet****As at 31st October 2009**

	2009	2008
FIXED ASSETS		
Original Cost	2400	2400
Less Depreciation	<u>2400</u>	<u>2400</u>
	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stock	774	874
Cash at HSBC	6959	8629
Cash at Paypal	395	173
Cash in hand	<u>199</u>	<u>114</u>
	8327	9790
	<u>8327</u>	<u>9790</u>
ACCUMULATED FUND		
Brought forward	9790	3917
Surplus/Deficit in Year	<u>-1463</u>	<u>5873</u>
	<u>8327</u>	<u>9790</u>