

# Wallsend Churches

Although the weather on the day of the Festival was not very good, it did not dampen the spirits of us, the Wallsend Churches Working Together.



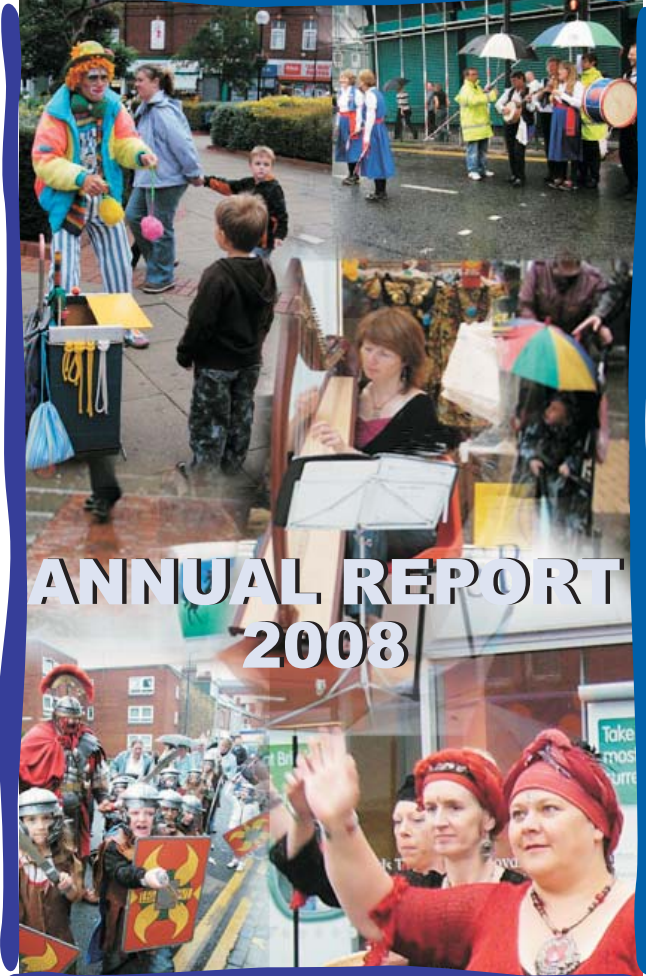
The singing on the Bandstand went well and people did stop to listen.

The stall went well too and all in all it was a good and positive outcome and we look forward to taking part in 2009.

*The Wallsend Festival Association is an unincorporated body with charitable aims, which was formed in January 2002, following the successful Wallsend Festival event held in July 2001.*

*The WFA seeks to celebrate all that is good in Wallsend; past, present and future and its main activity to date has been planning and delivery of the annual Wallsend Festival, held for the eighth time in July 2008.*

# WALLSEND



## ANNUAL REPORT 2008

# FESTIVAL

# Chair's and Secretary's Report

I am pleased to once again present the Annual Report and Accounts for the Wallsend Festival Association, this time for 2008.

It has been particularly pleasing to see a rise in the number of folk who have attended planning meeting during the course of the year and this has been reflected in the range of activities put on during Festival week. Reports from some of the organisation who took part in this year's Festival are to be found in this Annual Report.

We have been very fortunate in having a relatively stable 'core' membership of workers for a number of years now – outstanding amongst them being our indefatigable treasurer Tom Fairhurst who has produced another comprehensive set of financial statements. In summary form they are presented here as our annual accounts, but much more detailed analysis of our income and expenditure lies behind the scenes. Once again, we are indebted to our Independent Examiner Jim Graham for scrutinising our books; his report is appended to the Accounts.

We have been really fortunate in the level of external support received for the Festival this year, with significant donations being received from: The Community Foundation, Hadrian Trust, R W Mann Trust and the Sir James Knott Trust. In addition we are delighted to acknowledge the continuing financial and operational support from Halladale the operators of the Forum Shopping Centre, and North Tyneside Council.

Plans are already well in hand for the 2009 Festival, which will be our ninth and during which we hope to once again 'celebrate all that's good in Wallsend, past, present and future'.

John Fleet  
Chair/Secretary

excellent.' He also commented in feedback that although the one day residency was very successful he felt it would have liked some sort of semi-permanent piece or stretching the project over more than one visit would be good for the users of the building. This is something rednile are really interested in developing for future Factory Night events and commissions from them.



Cloud Nine performing 'Better the devil you know'



Tyne Bridge Morris before the rain drove them into the Forum



Children from Western Primary show off their dancing skills...

## rednile at Mecca Bingo Hall

*This year we were pleased to welcome to the Festival a new partner in rednile Projects Ltd. rednile is an artist led organisation that initiates projects in temporary venues and within businesses. rednile encourages experimentation and professionalism in the arts and is committed to engaging others in the exploration and enjoyment of art. They worked with Mecca Bingo and their report is given below:*

Another new dimension to the Factory Nights session was the Factory Nights by Day Project. The idea behind this was to give artists that attended the session the opportunity to research their art work and new ideas in the venues further.

This came about due to the successful relationship built up with Chris Robson the Manager of Mecca Bingo Wallsend (which is housed in the former 1930s Ritz cinema). He was open to continue working with us after the one night session and rednile decided to link in with the Wallsend Festival an annual event in North Tyneside. Chris commented 'it brought together two different groups who might not otherwise have naturally met one another through the medium of bingo. From a customer point of view, it generated an enormous amount of curiosity and provoked a number of contrasting reactions. It also obliged the club to consider again the potential offered by the interior of the club to be used in other, non-bingo ways.' rednile board of directors selected 3 artists Adinda Vant Klooster, Sarah Stamp of Base North and Brighid Mulley to spend another day engaging with the space and user of the buildings exploring their stories and responding to that.

Adinda the sound artist recorded stories of some of the older women who attend the bingo and was interested in exploring how this is important for their independence and how different she feels to these women two generations ahead of her. Adinda has contacted rednile to continue developing her work further with the Mecca Bingo and this is a commission that we would be interested in supporting to develop further. All artists were pleased to have the opportunity to research their ideas further and to be paid as professionals for this.

Chris Robson went on to say, 'It seems unbelievable that these people can have drawn inspiration from a building that so many take for granted -

## Wallsend Festival 2008

The eighth Wallsend Festival, held in the week leading up to Saturday July 5th, will probably be long remembered for the monsoon conditions which were encountered from lunchtime onwards on the Saturday. Inevitably this had a major impact on all of the street activities and resulted in a curtailment of much of the on-street programme.

We were able to move a number of the street performers into the Forum Shopping Centre, which was even busier than usual as a result, but sadly some scheduled performances simply had to be abandoned. The weather meant that the afternoon's music performances on the bandstand were enjoyed by a very much smaller audience than would normally be expected and our stallholders were also badly affected.

Despite the weather, the independent evaluation of the Festival carried out on our behalf by AIDA, revealed very high satisfaction levels with the event and a very pleasing age range suggesting that we are succeeding in our objective of providing something for all the family to enjoy.



Festival Saturday largely followed the established formula with a good mix of music and entertainment. This year we tried to programme two separate entertainment areas on High Street East, which, with hindsight, was perhaps a little ambitious; so for 2009 we plan to consolidate with the one area dedicated to street entertainment.

The Local History Society walk was a successful new feature, which we hope they'll repeat in more clement weather conditions next year.

Our colleagues at Wallsend Library reported their most successful Festival yet and are planning to build on this success in 2008. It was very good to

have Mecca Bingo involved once again through Red Nile's involvement and their report appears elsewhere in the report.

Our evening concert at the Buddle was very poorly attended despite having what we thought was a strong bill. This was the second consecutive year of poor attendance so clearly we need to rethink this part of the programme.

As well as the organisations reporting here, the Wallsend People's Centre, Western Primary School and the North Tyneside Steel Band were all involved in either hosting events or performing at the Festival together with a number of other uniformed youth organisations.

Finally we should record our appreciation of the time and interest shown in the Festival by North Tyneside's elected Mayor, John Harrison who visited the Festival on Saturday morning and spend some time chatting with stallholders and exhibitors as well as the general public.

## Wallsend Library

An intergenerational project between Crummock Court sheltered housing and Denbigh Primary took place in the library on the Thursday 3rd July. The residents and children discussed what parks were like in the past and what they wished their parks to be like now.



The event ran alongside a Wallsend 'Past and Present' photographic display. This display was held in the library foyer for two weeks showing images of Wallsend and the High Street over the past 100 years. It generated a lot of interest and very popular.

On the actual day of the festival Maximus the Roman Gladiator led up to 16 legionnaires from the library down to the Roman Fort, just escaping the weather!

Wallsend Green was next to be visited and the oldest buildings including the Old School House and Wallsend Hall were highlighted as well as the Victorian letter box and a rare air-raid shelter.

The Buddle Arts Centre was the last building visited and the almost unique handball wall was pointed out which now forms part of the Surestart Centre.

Very good feedback was received from the participants and further tours have taken place during the year. Hopefully the event can be repeated next year with better weather!

The society meets every second Monday at 7.00 pm at Wallsend Memorial Hall – visitors welcome.

"The entertainers and bands were top class"



"there was a real community spirit"



"a great way of bringing the community together"

## Wallsend Local History Society

The Society's stall was very busy again this year with constant crowds all day fighting each other for the best position to view local scenes contained in the photographs as well as on the constantly changing computer screen.

Old school photographs were a major attraction with people of all ages trying to find relatives and friends. A number of visitors even borrowed the photos to dash to the local photographic shops or library to get copies and went away very happy. We are always on the lookout for additional photos which we can copy and give back to add to the displays.

For the first time Wallsend Local History Society offered a free guided walk around Wallsend as part of Wallsend Festival. At 12.00 as storm clouds gathered a dozen hardy souls set off from the Forum to look at the interesting collection of buildings to the south of the High Street including Wallsend Café/Memorial Hall, St Luke's Church, Masonic Hall, Old Co-op Buildings and St Columba's Church. The Walk was led by Steve Boundey, Secretary of the Society, who had devised the walk and he was helped by David Harding and Ken Hutchinson.

Visitors continued down to Segedunum Fort then along Hadrian Road past the partially dismantled cranes and sheds at Swan Hunters. Next the group visited the 100 year old Municipal Buildings which originally housed the Town Hall, Police Courts, Fire Station and Public Baths.

The group continued to the very impressive St Peter's Church, which celebrates its bicentenary next year, and where church volunteers laid on a very welcome cup of tea and biscuits.

The heavens opened when the walk proceeded to take in the church stocks and the plaque to record the (then) worst ever pit disaster at Wallsend which occurred on 18<sup>th</sup> June 1835 when 102 men and boys were killed.

It was suggested that the proposed visit to Church Bank Cemetery be abandoned because of the weather but the group insisted on marching down Church Bank amid torrents of water to visit the unusual twin chapels and external coffin storage buildings, war memorial and William Richardson's grave.

The library also ran a photographic competition. 'Faces of the Festival' asked for images to be sent in capturing events leading up to and on the day of the festival.

The library also held a coffee stall in aid of Macmillan Relief. This was as well as holding a huge book sale and a stall by the Forum joining up new customers.

All in all this year's festival was a huge success for the library service.

## Wallsend Choral Society

The summer concert given by the Wallsend and District Choral Society during Festival week 2008 was attended by the Society's President, Councillor Michael Huscroft and his wife, Councillor Marion Huscroft, representing North Tyneside Council. The programme consisted of 'Trial by Jury' by Gilbert and Sullivan and a selection from the musicals 'Phantom of the Opera' and 'South Pacific'. It was good to see many of our regular supporters and also some new faces in the audience. Our Christmas carol concert will be held in St. John's Church, Station Road, Wallsend (near the Coast Road) on Saturday 6th December at 7.15pm.

The Youth Choir from the Burnside Business and Enterprise College under the direction of Mr Selwyn Thompson, will be joining us on this occasion and we hope to see you there. Please do come and support your local choirs. If you would like to join us, we welcome new members - especially men.

Contact our secretary, Mrs Julie Lowen; 0191 295 3376 for more information.

**WALLSEND FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION  
SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2008**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

| year ended<br>30.9.2007<br>£ |  | year ended<br>30.9.2008<br>£ |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
|                              | <u>Income</u>  |                              |
| -                            | Grants: Community Foundation, SMD Fund,                  | 1,000.00                     |
| -                            | Hadrian Trust,   | 500.00                       |
| 1,000.00                     | Halladale Group plc,                                     | 1,250.00                     |
| 2,000.00                     | North Tyneside Council,                                  | 2,000.00                     |
| 2,000.00                     | Port of Tyne Trust,                                      | -                            |
| 2,000.00                     | R. W. Mann Trust,  | 2,000.00                     |
| 750.00                       | Sir James Knott Trust,                                   | 750.00                       |
| 500.00                       | Sure Start,  | -                            |
| 8,250.00                     |  | 7,500.00                     |
| 2,307.50                     | Stalls and Concessions,                                  | 2,470.00                     |
| 111.13                       | Building Society Interest,                               | 172.94                       |
| -                            | Prior-Year Adjustment -f provisions made but not needed, | 330.00                       |
| 10,668.63                    |  | 10,472.94                    |
| -                            | Deficit for Year, excess of Expenditure over Income,     | 81.56                        |
| 10,668.63                    | Total Income,  | 10,554.50                    |
|                              | <u>Expenditure</u>                                       |                              |
| 3,946.44                     | Artistes, etc.,  | 3,795.00                     |
| 1,334.41                     | Publicity and Communications,                            | 2,648.64                     |
| 3,518.53                     | Provision of Facilities on Festival Day,                 | 3,524.42                     |
| 467.81                       | Management and Administrative Expenses,                  | 586.44                       |
| 9,267.19                     | Total Expenditure,                                       | 10,554.50                    |
| 1,401.44                     | Surplus for Year of Income over Expenditure,             | -                            |
| 10,668.63                    |  | 10,554.50                    |

**RESERVE ACCOUNT**

| year ended<br>30.9.2007<br>£ |   | year ended<br>30.9.2008<br>£ |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 2,476.59                     | Accumulated Surplus brought forward at 1st October,               | 3,878.03                     |
| 1,401.44                     | Surplus for Year, brought down from Income & Expenditure Account, | -                            |
| 3,878.03                     |   | 3,878.03                     |
| -                            | Deficit for Year, brought down from Income & Expenditure Account, | 81.56                        |
| 3,878.03                     | Accumulated Surplus carried forward at 30th September,            | 3,796.47                     |
| 3,878.03                     |   | 3,878.03                     |

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008**

| 30.9.2007<br>£ |   | 30.9.2008<br>£ |
|----------------|---|----------------|
| 3,878.03       | Reserve Account, Accumulated Surplus, as above, | 3,796.47       |
| 571.82         | Sundry Creditors,                               | 706.85         |
| -              | Provision for Future Liabilities,               | 983.00         |
| 4,449.85       |   | 5,486.32       |
| 4,440.46       | Cash at Building Society,                       | 5,477.61       |
| 9.39           | Cash at Bank,                                   | 8.71           |
| 4,449.85       |   | 5,486.32       |

**Certificate and Notes of the Hon. Treasurer**

Comprehensiveness of Accounts

Some costs incurred in the organisation, management and general operation of the Wallsend Festival have not been directly charged or invoiced; and they are excluded from the accounts. Such costs include:

- (a) the services of the Chair of the Wallsend Festival Association, his support staff, and members of the Committee;
- (b) meeting facilities provided throughout the year by Burnside Business and Enterprise College;
- (c) school teachers who have worked outside their curricula; and
- (d) exhibitors who provided their services during the week of the Festival without charge.

Apart from the uncharged costs referred to above, the accounts as presented include all the income and expenditure of the Wallsend Festival Association for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008 and present fairly its financial position as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

Accounting Policies

The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis following the historical cost convention, except in that interest receivable is accounted for as received, without accrual. Full provision has been made for known payments due to creditors as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008 and for likely future liabilities; the Committee does not expect any further claims for moneys to be paid by the Association, nor are any further moneys due to the Association at that date.

Financial Performance

Expenditure on artistes and entertainers fell by £151 or 4%, due to non-appearance of some booked artistes. Expenditure on publicity and communications increased sharply by £1,314 or 98% from the previous year, largely because of work done by AIDA (Access, Inclusion and Development in Arts) on creating a flyer, marketing and evaluation of the Festival at a cost of £1,300. The provision of facilities on Festival Day cost £6 more, as reduced marquee costs and traffic sign costs were counterbalanced by sound system costs. Other management and administrative expenses rose by £119 or 25% due to a need for more letterheads at £120.

Income from grants fell by £750 or 9%, and income from stalls and concessions rose by £163 or 7%.

Overall, the 2008 Festival cost a net £412 as compared to the previous year's £584 surplus, but a prior-year adjustment of £330 reduced the call on the accumulated reserve to £82. The accumulated reserve of £3,796 is healthy and adequate.

T. S. Fairhurst, CPFA  
Hon. Treasurer

14<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

**Certificate of the Independent Examiner**

I certify that I have examined all the books, accounts, invoices and bank statements of the Wallsend Festival Association for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008. I find that the books, accounts, invoices and bank statements are an accurate reflection of the financial affairs of the Wallsend Festival Association.

J. S. Graham, MCIEH  
Independent Examiner

26<sup>th</sup> October 2008.