



# **Beeston Festival Annual Report 2023**

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## The Annual Report

This Annual Report is an opportunity for members of the organising committee to report and reflect on the 2023 festival; look at what worked well; and what could be improved and share our thoughts and ideas with our sponsors, supporters, and the wider community. We hope you find it informative and useful.



## About Beeston Festival

Beeston Festival is organised by a committee of local volunteers, with posts of chair, secretary, and treasurer elected at an Annual General Meeting. We work closely with other groups and agencies including Friends of Cross Flatts Park, local sport, arts, and youth organisations, and Leeds City Council's Parks Department. Our operating ethos is one of participation and empowerment and of partnership working.



The Festival aims to provide an exciting, entertaining, and informative day that brings together all the different communities in Beeston. We hope to promote community cohesion, local regeneration, community sports and arts, and environmental education. We also aim to portray both Beeston and Cross Flatts Park positively.

The Festival has become a major community event for the area, thanks to the hard work of many people. It aims to provide something for everyone. Those who attend can:

- Get information from the various organisations that operate in the area.
- Find out about issues affecting Beeston.
- Speak to or get involved with community and sports groups.
- Sample the food, music, and culture of other sections of the Beeston community.



Each year the committee seeks new ways of attracting people and improving the event. We remain open to new ideas, ways in which things can be done better, and of course, to new people getting involved with the Committee or helping on the day. It is a genuine community event, and whilst we acknowledge with thanks the support of agencies and organisations, we remain rooted in the community.

## The 2023 Festival

The 2023 event was held back in our usual spot in June on Saturday 24th of June in Cross Flatts Park.

Once again we had excellent feedback that people had enjoyed the day. Thousands of residents came out to enjoy the day, see what was on offer, and have some fun. We were also joined by an increasing number of people from other parts of the city – the Festival is helping Beeston to become a destination!



We followed the successful layout of previous years and provided three performance areas. One of the stages is dedicated to more local and busker acts located in the food court.

For 2023 the Arena was run by “Leeds 2023 City of Culture”. The arena acts as a platform for a live demonstration and local acts.



Stalls were spread out along the paths under the trees in a village street style,

with a dedicated food court in the centre of the stalls. Children's activities joined up the spaces between the main stage and the sports activities, giving the event a unified feel. This year we placed some kids-related stalls near the kid's area, which proved to be a successful formula.

We once again had Bowland Farm attend with their farm animals, as well as birds of prey and ferret racing. A fun fair was also set up below the sports activities.



## Organisation Before The Day

The Committee works for 12 months to plan and organise the Festival. The work was divided up into several “Action groups” (finance, stalls, volunteers, etc.) which allowed us to get the detailed work done between meetings and then report progress at subsequent committee meetings. The result was that the work was shared effectively and everyone felt involved.

The scale of the Festival means we have to take security issues seriously. We were well supported by West Yorkshire Police who provided a visible presence. This was supplemented by a small team of stewards we hired to assist with security at the festival. The teams worked well together, and the event passed off without incident.



## Publicity

Local news website and newspaper South Leeds Life gave us good coverage in the lead-up to the festival as well as a review of the event.

This year we continued to increase our social media presence with a series of posts on Facebook and Twitter leading up to the day and live coverage at the Festival. We also did some targeted advertising of the music acts on Facebook and Instagram to people across Leeds.

In the run-up to the event we:

- Displayed banners at strategic sites around Beeston.
- Produced programmes distributed through local schools, libraries and colleges, and distributed at the festival.



## Entertainment

This year's Festival featured a diverse range of entertainment. On the main stage, we had: Vera Media Choir; Chubby Chubbsta; Old Time Sailors; Love Generation; and Alfie Blue. On the Emerge stage, we had: Riana McGovern; Emma McKee; Bravo and REES; D3; Daddy Abe; Blackson; and Dialect. The arena featured 15 groups including various dance, majorette, and music groups, as well as a demonstration from the royal amouries.

We also had roaming acts that interacted with festivalgoers, these included the Sun Gods and the Lost Explorers.

## Children & Young People

The Children and Young People's activities were very successful. The Tetley attended to provide arts activities, and we delivered a range of activities including arts and crafts, a climbing wall, and inflatables.



## The Bazaar

Once again there was a large range of stalls with numerous organisations and individuals on over 100 pitches in the Bazaar. These ranged from health and education through to community groups, faith groups and sole traders. The "village street" layout under the trees at the top of the park worked well.

Returning for 2023 was a dedicated food stall in the centre of the Bazaar where all the food stalls were located and seating was available for people to enjoy their food. The Emerge stage was once again located within the food court providing entertainment for people while they ate. For the second year, the festival provided power, using a low-emission generator, to food vendors.

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The Beeston festival team put on the usual stalls: BBQ, cafe, cake, book, and jam stalls. We decided to keep the food and drink prices the same as last year, despite our costs rising, to help people struggling with the cost of living crisis. For the first time, the Beeston festival run stalls accepted card payment.



Between them, they worked approximately 240 hours for free. The Community Development Foundation calculates that an hour of a volunteer's time is worth £13.70. This equates to £3288 worth of donated time.

They got through a vast range of work: setting up stages; moving generators; directing traffic; looking after lost children; picking up litter and managing stages to name but a few.

We had positive feedback from the volunteers who said, "Volunteering makes me feel part of my local community and helps me to meet other people".

## Finance & Sponsorship

The Committee thanks our main sponsor this year: **The White Rose Office Park.**

Thanks also to our other sponsors:

- DePuy Synthes
- Building Blocks Nursery

We extend our thanks to the Leeds City Council Inner South Community Committee for their grant.

In addition to grants, we raise funds ourselves. Our stalls on the day (Barbecue, Cafe, Cakes, Books, etc.) raised £3349. Stall bookings raised £7758.

## Volunteers

This year, we had around 50 volunteers - not including the committee (who are also all volunteers). They came from a wide range of cultures, ages, and walks of life.

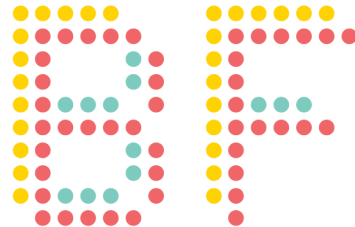
## Acknowledgements

The Committee thanks all our supporters who helped make this year's Festival such a success.

- The Council's Parks Department, and especially
- Youth Services
- All the volunteers who helped out on the day
- All the sponsors and funders
- All the performers, stallholders, and sports coaches
- Everyone who came along and made it such a great day.

Thanks to the organising committee:

Angela Gabriel (Chair)  
Mark Day (Secretary)  
Hannah Marshall (Treasurer)  
Jeremy Morton  
Ed Carlisle  
Christine Thornton  
Becky Howcroft  
Councillor Paul Wray  
Brenda Barlow  
Emily Swingler  
Darryl Baker  
Andrew Hewitt  
Councillor Annie Malony  
Sharafat Ali



See you all next year - the  
29<sup>th</sup> Beeston Festival will be  
on  
**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024**

Contact Beeston Festival:

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W: [www.beestonfestival.org.uk](http://www.beestonfestival.org.uk)

F: [www.facebook.com/beestonfestival](https://www.facebook.com/beestonfestival)

T: [@BeestonFestival](https://www.instagram.com/BeestonFestival)

## Beeston Festival 2023 – Annual Report

### Income & Expenditure 2023 - Summary

	2023		2022	
<b>Total brought forward</b>		<b>27,840.90</b>		<b>24,883.02</b>
Paid in 2023 for 2022	(916.00)			
<b>Adjusted b/f value</b>		<b>26,924.90</b>		
Income 2023	22,947.73		31,988.20	
Expenditure 2023	(34,210.86)		(29,040.57)	
<b>In year surplus/(deficit) 2023</b>		<b>(11,263.13)</b>		<b>2,947.63</b>
Interest received (savings) 2023	136.87		10.25	
<b>Funds to carry forward to 2024</b>		<b>15,798.64</b>		<b>27,840.90</b>
Transactions for following year			(791.43)	
<b>Funds in the bank to take into 2024</b>				<b>27,049.47</b>

Funds in savings account	15,154.09
Funds in current account	644.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,798.64</b>

#### Capital items bought in 2023 (within the expenditure 2023 line above)

Chairs	1,642.68
Gazebo	961.58
	<b>2,604.26</b>

#### Income & Expenditure 2023 - detail

<b>2022 funds carried forward into 2023</b>	<b>7,823.68</b>
Costs in '23 that relates to '22	(916.00)
<b>2022 funds carried forward into 2023</b>	<b>6,907.68</b>

	2023 actuals
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#### Income

##### Festival

Festival	Stall bookings	7,758.50
Festival	Stall takings - Cafe	1,770.73
Festival	Stall takings - BBQ	1,163.30
Festival	Stall takings - Book stall	49.60
Festival	Stall takings - Cake Stall	365.60
Festival	Funfair	1,300.00
Festival	Donkeys	40.00
Grants	Area committee (Leeds City Council)	6,000.00
Sponsorship	Faith Together	500.00
Sponsorship	De Puy	1,500.00
Sponsorship	White Rose	2,500.00
<b>TOTAL Income</b>		<b>22,947.73</b>

## Beeston Festival 2023 – Annual Report

### Expenditure

#### Festival

Publicity	Programmes	(682.00)
Publicity	Banners / signs	(662.21)
Publicity	Website	(82.48)
Publicity	Domain (2021 cost for 2 years)	(28.78)
Publicity	Band promotion further afield	(77.92)
Logistics	Insurance	(635.00)
Logistics	Toilets	(1,500.00)
Logistics	Marquees	(6,603.12)
Logistics	Generator hire	(1,190.00)
Logistics	Security	(976.76)
Logistics	PA System	(3,102.00)
Logistics	First aid / medical	(627.20)
Logistics	HR Fire	(72.00)
Logistics	Fencing	(358.80)
Logistics	Chairs	(1,642.68)
Logistics	Radios	(265.20)
Logistics	Gazebo	(961.58)
Logistics	Hi-viz jackets	(784.08)
Logistics	Small purchases	(133.82)
Entertainment	Stage Acts	
Entertainment	Arena Acts	
Entertainment	Walkabout Acts	(7,391.17)
Entertainment	Stage hire (incl crew 2021)	
Entertainment	Crew hire	
Entertainment	Backline hire	
Young People / Sports	LCC Children's Activities	(1,809.00)
Young People / Sports	Children's activities	(300.00)
Young People / Sports	Sensory tent	(122.93)
Festival Activities	Various	(1,520.00)
Festival	BBQ supplies	(868.20)
Festival	Cafe supplies	(868.20)
Admin	South Leeds Life sponsorship	(600.00)
Admin	Misc	(219.54)
Admin	Volunteer party	(126.20)

<b>TOTAL Expenditure</b>		<b>(34,210.86)</b>
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<b>Fund surplus / (deficit) 2023</b>		<b>(11,263.13)</b>
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Transfer in from savings account 5,000.00

<b>Bank balance to take into 2024</b>		<b>644.55</b>
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### [Full Accounts](#)