

Scottish Charity Number:
SC003301

Strathnairn and Strathdearn Church of Scotland

(Previously 'Daviot and Dunlichity Parish Church of Scotland')

**Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended
31 December 2023**

Congregation No: 372164

Strathnairn and Strathearn Church of Scotland
Receipts Payments Accounts
Year Ended 31 December 2023

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Strathnairn and Strathdearn Church of Scotland

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Year Ended 31 December 2023


Report of the Trustees

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the Church for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Reference and Administrative Information


Charity Name:	Strathnairn and Strathdearn Church of Scotland
Previous Charity Name:	Daviot & Dunlichity Parish Church of Scotland (Changed 23 August 2023)
Charity Registration Number:	SC003301
Congregational Reference Number:	372164
Contact Address:	Glenkyllachy Lodge, Tomatin, IV13 7YA

Trustees and Office Bearers



Minister
Session Clerk
Treasurer
Safeguarding Coordinator

Independent Examiner



Morrison Accountancy Limited
Chartered Accountants
32 Tobreck Road
Inverness
IV2 4DF

Bankers

Bank of Scotland plc
2-6 Eastgate
Inverness
IV2 3NA

Strathnairn and Strathdearn Church of Scotland
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Report of the Trustees

Structure and Governance

The Church is a Scottish Registered Charity, charity number SC003301. The Church is administered with the terms of the Unitary Deed of Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are the elders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills. The Minister was inducted as the Minister of Cawdor linked with Croy and Dalcross in 2016; became the Interim Moderator of Daviot & Dunlichity linked with Moy, Dalarossie & Tomatin in 2018, and the Minister of the new United charge of Strathnairn and Strathdearn on 12 August 2023.

Organisational Structure

The Kirk Session presently meets approximately every two months and under the Unitary Constitution is responsible for both spiritual and finance and property matters within the church. We are still settling into the new union. A Finance Team has been set up, led by the Treasurer with help from another elder from the Session, an elder not on the Session, and a member of the congregation. Other teams will follow.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. To this end, each community shall be served by a parish where worshipping, witnessing and serving congregations are easily accessible; and where these communities will work ecumenically; with a priority for the poor. The whole people of God will be encouraged and called out to exercise their gifts within a mixed economy of existing Church structures and New Expressions of Faith in "well equipped spaces in the right places."

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Report of the Trustees

Our Vision

Our vision is to fulfil the Church of Scotland's vision within our parish and beyond by following the 5 Marks of Mission, and thereby endeavouring to proclaim the Good News, nurture faith, serve human need, transform injustice and care for creation.

Our Guiding Principles from Scripture

Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your mind and with all your strength, and love your neighbour as yourself." Mark 12: 30-31

Jesus said, "All authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything and I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of age." Matthew 28: 18 - 19

In addition to the activities already listed, Prayer Meetings are regularly held in The Strathdearn Hub and Croy Church. We also support the Highland Foodbank and donations for this are uplifted at both Services at Croy and Tomatin every month. Goods were also donated at Harvest Thanksgiving in lieu of the traditional harvest gifts of fruit and vegetables

The Guild enjoyed many interesting and enjoyable meetings throughout 2023 at all three local venues – Croy Church, The Strathdearn Hub and Daviot Church. We also attended the Guilds Together Service at Nairn, and enjoyed the Guilds Together afternoon tea at the Kingsmills Hotel. A United Service and Guild Dedication took place at Daviot Church on 30 October.

The Friday morning Coffee & Crafts sessions on Friday mornings at Daviot Church are well attended and enjoyed by all.

Worship

Worship normally takes place each Sunday at Daviot Church at 12 noon, with certain joint services, such as the first Sunday of the year, or the Good Friday Evening Service, with Moy, Dalarossie and Tomatin alternating with each other's venues. Holy Communion normally takes place in February, July and November, with joint services in either Daviot, Dalarossie or Tomatin. The Sacrament of Baptism is administered as and when it is appropriate. A joint community Remembrance Sunday Service and Act of Remembrance was held with St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Croachy, at the War Memorial at Daviot at 10.15am on Remembrance Sunday. The changed format, necessitated by Covid, may well be repeated annually. Also because of covid restrictions, the Watchnight Service, and usual services at St Pauls for Christmas, had to be cancelled. However, it was possible to have a Christmas Celebratin in the Cabin in the Wood at Farr specifically for the younger children. A World Day of Prayer Service is normally held each year, the venue alternating between the linked parishes, but again this could not take place as usual because of the lockdown restrictions. However, the possibility of home worship was made possible by Rev Brookes emailing out and posting on Facebook and the website, written copies of his services. He also recorded services from the various churches in his charge, which could be seen on Youtube.

A joint service was held in Daviot Church in early August involving members from Daviot & Dunlichity and Moy, Dalrossie & Tomatin, and Cawdor, and Croy & Dalcross.

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Report of the Trustees

Church Roll

Involved in the life of the congregation:

*	Children 17 or under	9
*	18 years or over not on Communion Roll	68
*	Communion Roll	241
*	Elders	12
*	Total Baptisms	4
*	Adult Baptisms	0
*	Thanksgiving and blessing of children services	1
*	Weddings conducted by Minister	5
*	Funerals conducted by Minister/Moderator	21

Achievements

Completing the Union

Continuing the work of the previous four Kirk Sessions and learning to work together in our new United Parish..

The advancement of our Church's vision through social media and the written word.

The progress made with the disposal of buildings which will allow us to focus more on mission in the year ahead.

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Report of the Trustees

Financial Review

The principle sources of income for the Church are weekly offerings, bequest and investment dividends and interest. The overall surplus/(deficit) for the year for the Church was £(17,034) (2022: surplus £25,476). The deficit compared to the prior year was as a result of a number of factors. Firstly, legacy donations were down from £23k to £500. Significant repair costs for buildings were carried out during the year in preparation for sale of some buildings. Due to the congregational union of the 4 churches and amalgamation into 1 parish, there were some other one-off costs which would not be expected to occur in the future. The expectation would be that in the future open plate, weekly offerings and other donations would increase due to the amalgamation of the 4 parishes. The Church remains in a strong financial position following the congregational union.

Reserves Policy

It has, in the past, been the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of up to one year's expenditure in general funds. At the yearend the cash held in General Funds and Fabric Funds current accounts combined was £72,300 (2022: £61,981), which is sufficient to cover the annual expenditure of the Congregation. The reserves have been significantly increased due to the Congregational Union Transfers of liquid cash and investments and temporary funds held centrally by the Church of Scotland totalling £578,714 in the year. At the yearend the total reserves of the Church were £841,434 (2022: £279,754) which are split between the General Fund £275,633 (2022: £40,180) and the combined Designated Funds of £565,801 (2022: £239,574),

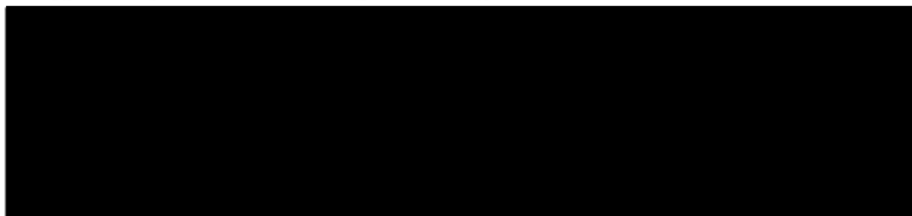
Future Plans

The four congregations have now worked through the process of enacting a union to create this new charge. The rationale is the continuing outworking of a condition of approval from the General Trustees in relation to Cawdor. They asked that further consideration be given to possible release/retention of buildings. All parties agreed that releasing The Mound as soon as possible is the right course of action as it would not ultimately fit the objectives of the Presbytery Mission Plan. Discussions have indicated encouraging potential for Cawdor Church building to also be released via sale locally to purchasers with a commitment to a degree of ongoing access for the church's missional use. We are currently awaiting approval from the General Trustees to resume these discussions. There are also negotiations with Strathdearn Community Developments about the possibility of Dalarossie Church being bought by the development company whilst still allowing the local church a degree of missional use there too; and we have been given until December 2025 to prove missional use for Daviot Church and so allow it to remain open for missional activities and occasional Services outwith Sunday mornings.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session and Working Committees must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The members of the Kirk Session and Working Committees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the financial position of the Church at that time. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the Regulations Anent Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2007. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 8 July 2024 and signed on their behalf:



Starthnairn and Strathdearn Church of Scotland

Receipts Payments Accounts

Year Ended 31 December 2023

Report of the Independent Examiner to The Trustees

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 ("the 2005 Act") and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) ("the 2006 Regulations"). The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the 2006 Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section (44)(1)(c) of the 2005 Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Regulations. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

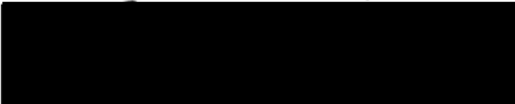
Independent Examiner's Statement

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 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulations 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



Morrison Accountancy Limited
Chartered Accountants
32 Tobreck Road
Inverness
IV2 4DF

8 July 2024

Starthnairn and Strathdearn Church of Scotland
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Receipts And Payments Account

		Unrestricted 2023	Designated 2023	Restricted 2023	Total 2023	Total 2022
	Note	£		£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	4	15,021	-	-	15,021	34,477
Income from charitable activities	5	3,887	-	-	3,887	1,110
Investment income	6	6,300	1,427	-	7,727	5,191
Total Receipts		25,208	1,427	-	26,635	40,778
Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities	8	-	-	-	-	-
Payments relating to charitable activities	9	29,507	11,522	-	41,029	14,400
Donations paid	10	2,265	-	-	2,265	331
Governance costs	11	375	-	-	375	571
Other expenses	12	-	-	-	-	-
		32,147	11,522	-	43,669	15,302
Purchase Relating to Assets and Investments						
Purchase of Investments	13	-	-	-	-	-
Total Payments		32,147	11,522	-	43,669	15,302
Surplus/deficit for the year		(6,939)	(10,095)	-	(17,034)	25,476
Transfer between funds	14	(11,522)	11,522	-	-	-
Surplus / deficit after transfers		(18,461)	1,427	-	(17,034)	25,476
Congregational Union Transfers	15	253,914	324,800	-	578,714	
Total Funds brought forward		40,180	239,574	-	279,754	254,278
Closing fund balances	14	275,633	565,801	-	841,434	279,754

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Statement of Balances

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Designated Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Cash Funds						
Cash and bank at start of period		40,180	239,574	-	279,754	254,278
Congregational union transfers	15	253,914	324,800		578,714	279,754
Transfer between funds		(11,522)	11,522	-	-	-
Surplus/deficit for the year		(6,939)	(10,095)	-	(17,034)	25,476
Cash and bank at end of period	14	275,633	565,801	-	841,434	559,508

Represented by:

General Fund Current Account		35,198	-	-	35,198	22,427
General Fund Deposit Account		240,435	-	-	240,435	17,753
Fabric Fund Current Account		-	37,102	-	37,102	39,554
Fabric Fund Deposit Account		-	6,687	-	6,687	1,198
Temporary Fund Deposit Accounts		-	525,014	-	525,014	196,956
Temporary Fund Revenue Account		-	(3,002)	-	(3,002)	1,866
	14	275,633	565,801	-	841,434	279,754

Other Assets and Liabilities

Market Value of Investments

	Original Cost £	2023 Unrestricted Fund £	2023 Designated Fund £	2023 Restricted Fund £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Income Fund	32,709	-	41,495	-	41,495	9,272
Growth Fund	40,106	-	198,482	-	198,482	29,128
Growth Fund	44,201	-	81,323	-	81,323	148,689
Capital Fund		-	-	-	-	19,209
		-	321,300	-	321,300	206,298

Other Liabilities

Accrued expenses					467	250
					467	250

Approved by the Trustees on 8 July 2024 and signed on their behalf:



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the Receipts & Payments basis, under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Heritable properties, consisting of the Church and previously the manse, are not recorded in the statement of balances. The historical cost and market value of these properties are not known.

Taxation

The Charity is exempt from taxation on its Charitable Activities.

2. Funds

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds comprise all income received for the objects and activities of the Church without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated Funds

Designated funds are also unrestricted but have been set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes. The designated funds included in these financial statements are as follows:

Fabric Fund The fund is financed by investments held by the Church and the Church of Scotland General Trustees, which is designated for the maintenance, repair and development of the Church properties. The fund also receives income from a Permanent Endowment Fund.

Guild A semi-endowment fund with its own bank account which is used to support the activities of the local Church of Scotland Guild.

Temporary Fund The net sale proceeds of the manse is dedicated to the purchase of a new manse. The fund is held by the Church of Scotland General Trustees.

The Church had no restricted funds in operation during the current or previous year.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

		Unrestricted Funds 2023	Designated Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
4. Donations and Legacies						
Weekly offerings		5,260	-	-	5,260	4,950
Open plate donations		4,597	-	-	4,597	4,074
Legacy donations		500	-	-	500	23,011
Other donations		1,696	-	-	1,696	131
Gift aid received		2,968	-	-	2,968	2,311
		<u>15,021</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,021</u>	<u>34,477</u>
5. Receipts from Charitable Activities						
Events (weddings, funerals etc.)		1,365	-	-	1,365	790
Other receipts		2,522	-	-	2,522	320
		<u>3,887</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,887</u>	<u>1,110</u>
6. Investment Income						
Interest on deposit fund		387	1,427	-	1,814	1,196
Income fund dividends		5,913	-	-	5,913	966
Endowment fund dividends		-	-	-	-	3,029
		<u>6,300</u>	<u>1,427</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,727</u>	<u>5,191</u>

Starthnairn and Strathdearn Church of Scotland
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Designated Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
8. Payments for Fundraising Activities					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
9. Payments Relating to Charitable Activities					
Cleaning services	320	-	-	320	1,060
Light & heat	6,665	-	-	6,665	2,568
Insurance	(629)	3,068	-	2,439	2,761
Ministries & mission allowance	2,236	-	-	2,236	1,250
Organist services	2,482	-	-	2,482	2,280
Presbytery dues	12,182	-	-	12,182	81
Pulpit supply	3,464	-	-	3,464	2,402
Repairs & maintenance		8,454	-	8,454	1,141
Software and IT	1,102	-	-	1,102	258
Stationery and printing	119	-	-	119	326
Subscriptions	181	-	-	181	167
Sundry expenses	1,385	-	-	1,385	106
	29,507	11,522	-	41,029	14,400
10. Donations Paid					
Donations	2,265	-	-	2,265	331
	2,265	-	-	2,265	331
11. Governance Costs					
Bookkeeping services	375	-	-	375	500
Other legal and professional fees				-	71
	375	-	-	375	571
12. Other Expenses					
Interest expense	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
13. Payments Relating to Asset & Investments					
Purchase of current investments	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

14. Analysis of Funds

	General Fund Unrestricted £	Fabric Fund Designated £	Guild Fund Designated £	Temporary Fund Designated £	Total Funds 2022 £
Opening balance 1 January 2023	40,180	40,752	-	198,822	279,754
Receipts received	25,208		-	1,427	26,635
Payments expensed	(32,147)	(11,522)	-	-	43,669
Congregational union transfers	253,914	324,800	-	-	578,714
Transfer between funds	(11,522)	11,522	-	-	-
Closing balance 31 December 2023	<u>275,633</u>	<u>365,552</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>200,249</u>	<u>841,434</u>

15. Congregational Union Transfers

During the year, the congregations of Daviot & Dunlichity; Moy, Dalrossie & Tomatin; Cawdor; and Croy & Dalcross were combined under this Charity number, previously Daviot & Dunlichity Parish and now, Strathnairn and Strathdearn Church of Scotland on 12 August 2023.

As a result, cash balances from the other churches and investments and funds held centrally by the Church of Scotland were all merged during the year. The amount in the accounts is a total of all cash reserves, investments and centrally held funds which were transferred during the year. There is an expectation that some other smaller amounts will be transferred during 2024 as well, once the administration of closing accounts and paying final liabilities have all been resolved by each individual congregation.

16. Activities after the Balance Sheet Date

In January 2024, one of the Church buildings was sold for a consideration of £50,000. Due to the Church buildings being historic and the original historic cost not being known, difficulty in knowing a reliable market value, they are not included in the balance sheet items in these accounts.