

Registered Charity No: SC005463

**FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025**

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

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FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name: Forth and Clyde Canal Society

**Registered Office and
Operational Address:** Boat Users' Block
Unit 4 Southbank Marina
Strathkelvin Place
Kirkintilloch
Glasgow
G66 1XT

Charity Registration Number: SC005463

Board Members: James Miller
Scott Castel (Resigned 13 May 2025)
Tuulia McCourt
Paula Braceland
James McFarlane
James Pert
Ronnie Tucker (Resigned 23 November 2024)
William Boyle
Fiona Murray
Mary Carnie (Resigned 23 November 2024)

Secretary: Paula Braceland

Independent Examiners: Wbg Services LLP
168 Bath Street
Glasgow
G2 4TP

Bankers: Virgin Money
110 Cowgate
Kirkintilloch
Glasgow
G66 1JU

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2025. The trustees made the decision to prepare receipts and payments accounts for the year ended 30 September 2025. The 2024 comparative figures have been restated to receipts and payments also (previously prepared on the accruals basis).

The legal and administrative information on page one forms part of this report.

Objectives and Activities

It is our objective to continue to promote the history, heritage and navigation of the Forth and Clyde Canal, ensuring its maintenance and use for generations to come. It is widely recognised that there are great benefits to health and mental wellbeing when individuals have access to fresh air and enjoyment of the natural environment, which the canal provides. The interaction with nature helps to reduce stress levels and improves moods as well as being a great relaxation tool.

This year we increased our presence in the local community by promoting the Society at various gala days, community events and volunteer fairs. This resulted in recruiting over 20 new volunteers and several additional charters. We held fund raising Mother's Day Afternoon Tea Cruises and Easter Bunny Cruises both were hugely popular and likely to be repeated in 2026.

We were fortunate to receive over £3k from the National Lottery Community Fund to host free Discovering the Forth & Clyde Canal trips for children. The purpose of these trips is to enlighten over 450 children with a brief history of the Canal, provide some fun activities and introduce them to the delights of the Canal with a 90 minute sail. Additional funding was also received from East Dunbartonshire Council to purchase and fit a marine toilet on Voyager and a canopy on Gipsy.

Crew training normally stops in September however, this year we decided to continue our weekly training sessions throughout the winter and continue our social nights to help forge and develop friendships within the Society and retain existing volunteers.

As a Society, we are committed to being involved in diverse areas of the community and can advise that nearly 20% of our new volunteers are from an ethnic minority background.

We have continued to develop the Social Group, Friends of Forth and Clyde where we offer a warm space, free cuppa and friendly chat every Friday to combat loneliness and have a number of regular visitors some of whom have become volunteers.

Achievements and Performance

Our slipway has continued to generate regular income as many boaters on the Forth and Clyde Canal need to do necessary repairs. Our volunteers managed a regular flow of boats up and down the slipway throughout the year which generated welcome revenue.

Our boats continue to be booked throughout the year. This includes various clubs, schools, church groups, families and individuals. We have a number of groups that book regular annual charters which reinforces the success of these trips.

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

Achievements and Performance (continued)

There is a continued interest in the chartering of our vessels, ensuring regular income to help maintain them. The number of charters has been helped by our increased presence at community events.

We are in the process of arranging for our smallest vessel, Maryhill, to become an overnight accommodation facility being let initially to our volunteers and their friends and families. This should produce a steady flow of income through spring and summer 2026 and will help to cover the running costs of this vessel,

We continue to communicate with the general public via our website and Facebook page, which is updated on a regular basis and has a large following. There are also members of the Forth and Clyde Canal Society who deliver talks to groups within the community who have an interest in the history and heritage of the Lowland Canals.

The Society also continues to produce and distribute the Canal News magazine three times per year to the membership body, various interested groups, and local authorities. The Canal News magazine is available in both paper and digital format and a copy is available on our website. Paper copies are well received as marketing tools at community events. All of this would not be possible without the many unpaid hours spent by a small group who produce this interesting publication.

Excluding maintenance and training, the number of volunteer hours involved with administration, crewing and social group has exceeded 3,000 hours this year. A phenomenal amount from such a small group.

Boat Maintenance and Crew Training

We must maintain our boats to Maritime and Coastguard Agency and Boat Safety standards to allow us to carry passengers in the numbers we do. This is made possible by a group of enthusiastic maintenance volunteers who devote many unpaid hours working on our boats ensuring they meet the required standards of passenger carrying vessels.

Gipsy Princess was downgraded this year from MCA to Boat Safety Scheme resulting in reduction of permitted passengers from 35 to 12. As a direct result of this the cost of maintaining Gipsy e.g. insurance etc has greatly reduced making the vessel much more financially viable,

Due to updated MCA regulations, Voyager had to have a Fixed Fire System installed this year at considerable expense and was unavailable for hire whilst system was being resourced and fitted.

Crew training recommenced in full in March 2025 and we have had a regular core of 19 volunteers across maintenance and crewing this year. It is hoped that we can recruit or get some volunteers to achieve Boatmaster level in 2026.

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

Financial Review

The charity had incoming resources of £47,865 (2024: £23,574) and incurred expenditure of £29,009 (2024: £21,073), resulting in a surplus of £18,856 (2024: £2,501). At 30 September 2025 the charity had unrestricted funds of £56,477 (2024: £41,501) of which £12,567 represented designated funds (2024: £12,601), leaving free reserves of £43,910 (2024: £28,900).

Principal Funding

Principal funding source comes from our Membership Fees, Donations and income from Charters and Slipway bookings.

Reserves Policy

The Society continues to monitor its running costs on a monthly basis and we still have a balance which allows us to maintain and run our boats, produce and distribute our Canal News magazine and cover the ongoing costs of our website. Current year result is showing a surplus of 18,856, which includes higher than normal charter income from long term hire by the Scottish Canals, Grants received from National Lottery and East Dunbartonshire Council and Insurance Claim refund relating the break-in during 2022. These additional income items were offset by installation of new fire prevention system to one of the boats as a result of regulation change by Maritime and Coastguard Agency. Income and costs from normal operations of the charity would have been showing loss on the financial statements, mainly due to high maintenance costs due to the age of the boats.

The Trustees continue to ring-fence an amount of £12,500. The amount of money we ring-fence has to be flexible to include unforeseen circumstances with regard to our assets i.e., our three boats. These assets are subject to annual depreciation which has to be considered.

Structure and Governance

Current Office Bearers are Chairman – James Pert, Secretary – Paula Braceland and Treasurer – Tuulia McCourt who are supported by another 4 Board Members – Jim Miller, William Boyle, Jim McFarlane and Fiona Murray.

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting on 29th November 2025 where we elect the Board and update our membership body on finance, plans for the future and condition of our assets. This also gives the membership the opportunity to question the Board and put forward their ideas.

The Forth and Clyde Canal Society operate under a Memorandum and Articles of Association which were drawn up on the formation of the Society. The charity is constituted as a company, limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

Persons shall be admitted to membership of the Society upon written application in the terms laid out in the Society agreed membership application form and upon payment of the subscription appropriate to the class of membership. The subscription is subject to annual renewal which the Board agreed should be in March. The Trustees of the Society are made up of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, who are also designated as Directors of The Forth and Clyde Canal Society Ltd as registered at Companies House.

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

Reference and Administrative Details

The Forth and Clyde Canal Society is a company limited by guarantee. Registration Number SC077067 and is registered in Scotland as a charity, Registration Number SC005463, Registered Office: Boat Users Block, Unit 4, Strathkelvin Place, Southbank Marina, Kirkintilloch, G66 1XT.

The Trustees of the Forth and Clyde Canal Society Ltd are Mr. James Pert, Mrs Paula Braceland, and Mrs Tuulia McCourt. The aforementioned are also directors of the company and members of the Society Committee of Management who look after the day-to-day operation of the Society. Trustees, who since the inception of the Society, have been the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary of the Committee of Management are sought from the membership of the Society and are subject to election each year at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

All the Trustees and members of the Committee of management are all volunteers and no remuneration is given or sought by them for their work.

Funds held as custodian/agent on behalf of others

The Forth and Clyde Canal Society Ltd does not hold any funds or assets on behalf of others.

Plans for the future

The Society will continue to work with Scottish Canals, and other canal organisations who have an interest in the canal network to maximise its use and enjoyment.

We will continue to update our training programme to MCA standards.

We will endeavour to make contact with the general public in as many ways as we can both by personal contact and use of internet media and local press to inform and invite them to become involved in volunteering along the canal network.

Where possible we will develop non boating activities eg Litter picking, Guided Walks etc and participate in as many community events as possible.

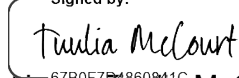
We shall develop the Social Group ensuring that a safe space is provided for everyone who comes to visit.

We will continue to monitor our income and expenditure to ensure we remain a viable group and therefore be able to continue to maintain our presence on the Forth and Clyde Canal.

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

Name: Tuulia McCourt

Date: 8 December 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2025, which are set out on page 8 to 11.

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) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the 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 Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 accounts.

Independent examiner's statement


In the course of 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 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts 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.

Signed by:

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Claire Dalrymple FCCA
Wbg Services LLP
168 Bath Street
Glasgow
G2 4TP

Date: 8 December 2025

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £	As Restated 2024 £
Receipts				
Donations	2,879	-	2,879	3,492
Receipts from Charitable Activities	37,290	5,160	42,450	13,011
Receipts from Other trading	2,527	-	2,527	7,071
Investment income	9	-	9	-
Total Receipts	<u>42,705</u>	<u>5,160</u>	<u>47,865</u>	<u>23,574</u>
Payments				
Payments relating directly to Charitable Activities	25,769	1,280	27,049	18,785
Payments in relation to Fundraising	712	-	712	740
Governance costs	1,248	-	1,248	1,548
Total Payments	<u>27,729</u>	<u>1,280</u>	<u>29,009</u>	<u>21,073</u>
 Surplus for the year	 <u>14,976</u>	 <u>3,880</u>	 <u>18,856</u>	 <u>2,501</u>

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £	As restated 2024 £
Cash funds					
Cash and bank at start of Year	1	41,501	-	41,501	39,000
Surplus shown on receipts and payments account		14,976	3,880	18,856	2,501
Cash and bank balance at end of year		<u>56,477</u>	<u>3,880</u>	<u>60,357</u>	<u>41,501</u>
Fixed Assets	2			<u>67</u>	<u>101</u>
Debtors	3			<u>1,120</u>	<u>1,175</u>
Liabilities	4			<u>1,542</u>	<u>2,534</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

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Name: Tuulia McCourt

Date: 8 December 2025

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS****YEAR END 30 SEPTEMBER 2025****1. Funds**

	As restated Opening Balance £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Closing Balance £
Unrestricted Funds					
Contingency funds	12,500	-	-	-	12,500
Fixed assets	101	-	-	(34)	67
	<u>12,601</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(34)</u>	<u>12,567</u>
General Funds	28,900	42,705	(27,729)	34	43,910
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>41,501</u>	<u>42,705</u>	<u>(27,729)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,477</u>
Restricted Funds					
EDC grant	-	1,520	(690)	-	830
The National Lottery grant	-	3,640	(590)	-	3,050
Total Restricted Funds	<u>-</u>	<u>5,160</u>	<u>(1,280)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,880</u>
Total Funds	<u>41,501</u>	<u>47,865</u>	<u>(29,009)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,357</u>

- a) The unrestricted funds are available to be spent for any of the purposes of the charity.

The Trustees have created the following designated funds:

Contingency fund – represents funds set aside for unforeseen future expenditure.

Fixed assets – represents funds tied up in the charity's boats and other assets.

- b) The charity has received the following restricted funds during the year:

EDC grant – funding towards the purchase new toilet for Voyager and to get a canopy for Gipsy Princess.

The National Lottery grant – funding towards organising free educational trips for over 400 children.

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR END 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

2. Fixed Assets

	Boat £	Plant & Machinery £	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 October 2024	205,446	9,635	508	215,589
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 30 September 2025	205,446	9,635	508	215,589
Depreciation				
At 1 October 2024	205,446	9,539	503	215,488
Charge for the year	-	32	2	34
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	-
At 30 September 2025	205,446	9,571	505	215,522
Net book value				
At 30 September 2025	-	64	3	67
At 30 September 2024	-	96	5	101

3. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Accrued income	-	380
Other debtors	1,120	795
	<u>1,120</u>	<u>1,175</u>

4. Liabilities

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals	1,542	1,248
Other creditors	-	1,286
	<u>1,542</u>	<u>2,534</u>

5. Related party transactions and trustees' expenses and remuneration

No Trustee received any remuneration or was reimbursed any expenses during the year (2024: £Nil). No trustees made any donations during the year (2024: £Nil). No expenses were waived by trustees during the year (2024: £Nil).

No Trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity in the year (2024: £Nil).