

The Church of Scotland
Glenmuick (Ballater) Parish Church

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

CONGREGATION No: 321927

CHARITY No: SC 005522

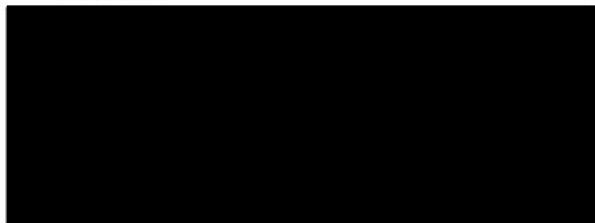
Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Glenmuick (Ballater) Parish Church

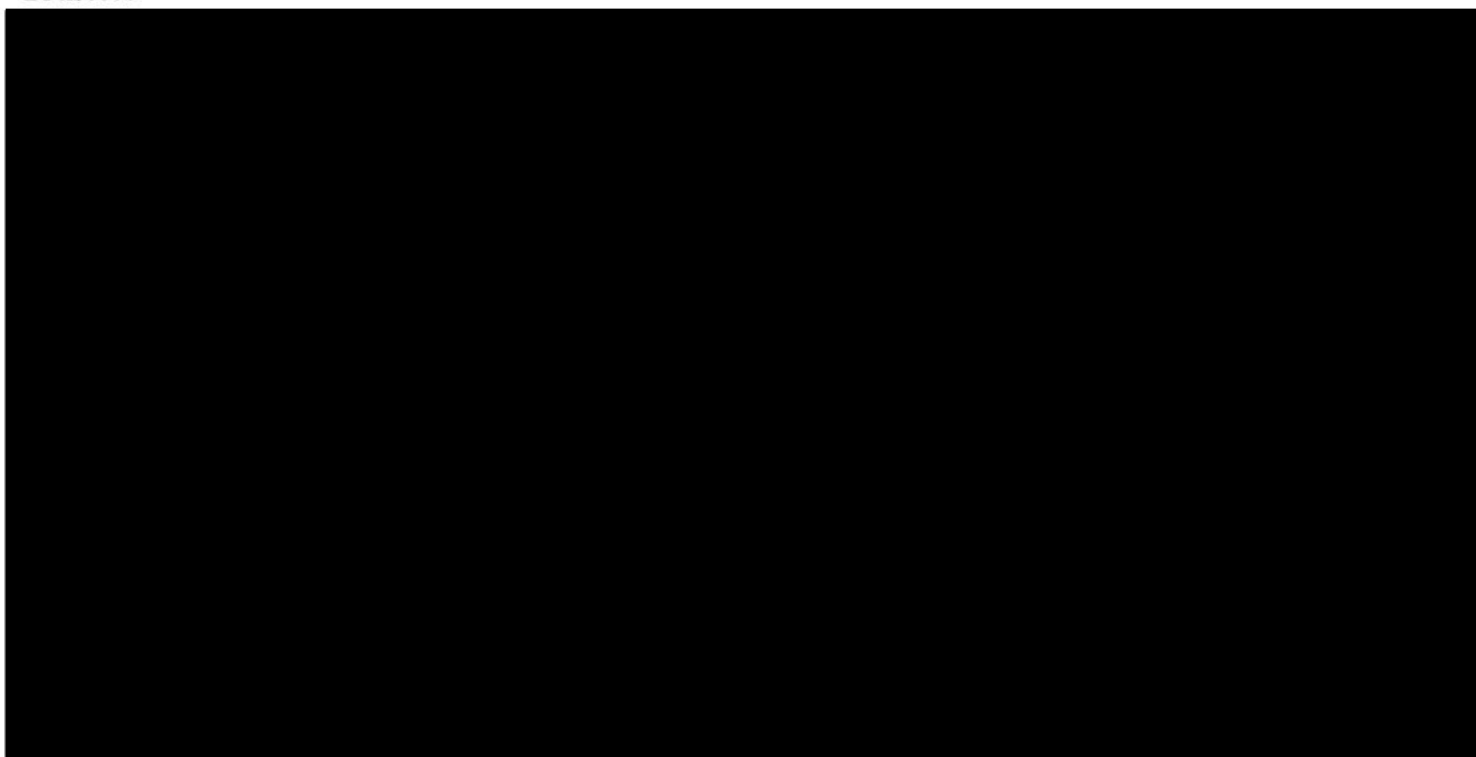
Charity Registration Number: SC005522

Congregation Reference No: 321927

Contact Address:



Trustees



Bankers

Virgin Money
1 Queens Cross
Aberdeen
AB15 4XU

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Unitary 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, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery.

Organisational Structure

The Kirk Session is chaired by the minister and meets six times a year. The Kirk Session has formed committees dealing with fabric and finance, worship and ecumenical, social and communication matters.

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. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

Glenmuick (Ballater) Parish Church holds a service of worship every Sunday morning. The annual ecumenical Remembrance service is held in the church and we aim to have two joint services with Braemar Crathie Church each year, one held in our church and one at Crathie.

Various groups including the Ballateers community choir use our church hall for their meetings.

Achievements and Performance

Throughout the year we have produced leaflets for the congregation to keep them informed of events happening in the church. This provides us with a way of keeping in touch with those members who do not regularly attend church. Posters are also put up on our noticeboard giving information on church events.

There was an ecumenical riverside service followed by breakfast on Easter Sunday morning. The primary school children attended an Easter service at the church in March 2024 and a Christmas service in December 2024. It is hoped to build on this connection with the school in the future. We held our two Stated Communion services in April and October.

Our Annual Stated Meeting was held on 30 June 2024.

The church was once again open during the day over the summer welcoming many tourists who came to Ballater. There was an ecumenical "Songs of Praise" service held during Ballater Victoria Week in August. The Salvation Army Citadel band led the worship and the Ballateers choir took part also. This was a wonderful time of praise and fellowship. Donations at the door were split between the Salvation Army and Ballater Victoria Week.

In August we had a bingo night in the golf club to raise funds to help with church roof repairs. This was a very successful evening enjoyed by all and raised £486.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving service took place at the beginning of October 2024.

Over the Christmas period we collected food donations for the Cyrenians and this was well supported.

The Upper Deeside Parish Grouping has held several meetings in the year. There was a joint service at Aboyne church in May 2024, the theme of this being "New Things and Unity".

We continue to have refreshments served after the Sunday service, which allows members an opportunity for fellowship after the service and we thank all those who help on Sunday mornings.

Financial Review

The principal sources of income continue to be Gift Aid, weekly freewill offerings, ordinary offerings and donations. Our membership numbers continue to fall and total donations this year have fallen by 14% compared to last year when we had a large one off Gift Aid donation. Free Will offering donations and other donations are similar to last year while ordinary offerings have fallen.

Income from the rental of premises has increased slightly, mainly due to more funerals than last year but there were no weddings. Hall rental income has halved as one walking group folded during the year.

We received two legacies in the year totalling £3,000 neither of which put any restriction on their use and so they have been added to general funds.

Our fundraising was from the bingo night held in August and coffees after the Sunday service.

Bank interest received is higher than last year due to interest rates increasing and also because of additional funds being placed on deposit.

Other income received was made up of an electric refund and flower fund monies brought into our current account.

We cleared our outstanding 2023 Giving to Grow contributions and paid £5,400 towards our 2024 allocation. A balance of £9,230 remained outstanding at the year end. Once we have finalised our budget for 2025, we will look at whether we can start to reduce this balance.

We will continue to explore fundraising ideas and other opportunities to increase our income.

Reserves Policy

It has been the Trustees' policy to try to hold sufficient reserves to cover approximately twelve months expenditure.

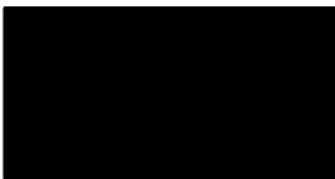
At the year end the Church held unrestricted cash funds of £21,199 of which £2,133 had been designated for the fabric fund, £168 to the flower fund and £10 to the heating fund. The remaining balance of £18,888 represents about 60% of annual expenditure excluding fabric repairs and maintenance costs, although if we had paid the remaining liability for Giving to Grow of £9,230, the balance would only have represented 44% of annual expenditure. We may review our reserves policy in the year, but the Trustees will also have to look at new ways to increase income in the coming year to try to build up our reserves.

The church also held restricted funds of £13,178 which have been provided for the purposes specified in Note 2 to the accounts.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session 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 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 and signed on their behalf,



Session Clerk

Date 25 March 2025

Glenmuick (Ballater) Parish Church
SC 005522

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Glenmuick (Ballater) Parish Church

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on pages 6 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) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

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.

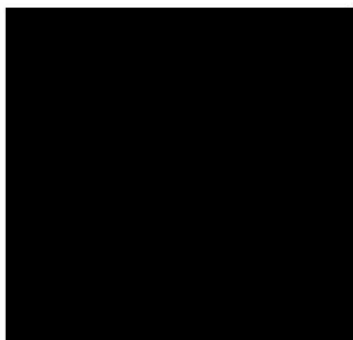
Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 view given by 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.



Date: 27th March 2025

Glenmuick (Ballater) Parish Church
Receipts and Payments Account
Year ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Endowment Funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
<u>Receipts</u>	Note	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	3	23,966	-	-	23,966	28,065
Legacies		3,000	-	-	3,000	16,000
Fundraising		865	-	-	865	1,181
Bank & Deposit interest		125	213	130	468	174
Investment income		-	-	2,464	2,464	2,190
		27,956	213	2,594	30,763	47,610
Rental of premises	4	3,100	-	-	3,100	2,660
Sale of Cons Fabric Fund units		-	-	-	-	-
Grants		-	-	-	-	-
From Cons Fabric Rev a/c		3,172	-	-	3,172	3,663
Other receipts	5	476	-	-	476	1,043
		34,704	213	2,594	37,511	54,976
<u>Total Receipts</u>		34,704	213	2,594	37,511	54,976
<u>Payments</u>	6					
Costs of generating funds		87	-	-	87	460
Cost of Charitable activities		33,629	1,029	2,100	36,758	28,912
		33,716	1,029	2,100	36,845	29,372
<u>Total Payments</u>		33,716	1,029	2,100	36,845	29,372
Excess/ (deficit) of Receipts over Payments for the year before transfers		988	(816)	494	666	25,604
Transfers		-	-	-	-	-
Excess/(deficit) of Receipts over Payments for the year		988	(816)	494	666	25,604

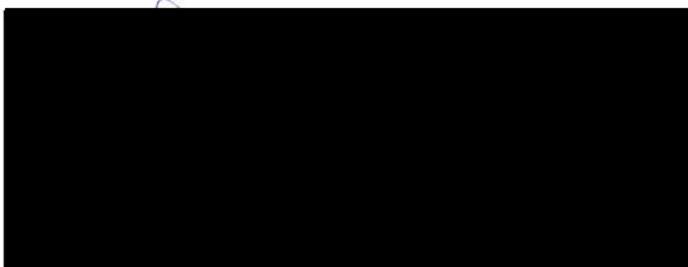
Glenmuick (Ballater) Parish
Church
Statement of Balances

At 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<u>Bank & Deposit Balances</u>						
Bank & deposit balances brought forward		20,211	13,994	14,608	48,813	23,209
<u>Movement in year:</u>						
(Deficit)/Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year		988	(816)	494	666	25,604
Bank & deposit balances						
carried forward		<u>21,199</u>	<u>13,178</u>	<u>15,102</u>	<u>49,479</u>	<u>48,813</u>
<u>Investments at market value</u>						
<u>Dr Ethel Emslie Trust Fund</u>						
(Cost £31,207.50)		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>116,435</u>	<u>116,435</u>	<u>106,397</u>
<u>Assets</u>						
Electric refund due		<u>914</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>914</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>						
Giving to Grow contributions		<u>9,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,553</u>
Minister's travel expenses		<u>234</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>240</u>
		<u>9,464</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,793</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session on 25th March 2025

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session



Session Clerk

Treasurer

Glenmuick (Ballater) Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts

1 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

Three trustees received reimbursement of expenses totalling £6,580 during the year.

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

2 Movements in Funds

	At 1 January 2024	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	At 31 Dec 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	16,345	29,834	(27,291)	-	18,888
Designated Heating Fund	510	564	(1,064)	-	10
Designated Flower Fund	-	247	(79)	-	168
Designated Fabric Funds	3,356	4,059	(5,282)	-	2,133
	<u>20,211</u>	<u>34,704</u>	<u>(33,716)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,199</u>
Restricted Funds					
New heating system	112	-	-	-	112
Fabric/organ fund	13,557	213	(1,029)	-	12,741
Sunday School	325	-	-	-	325
	<u>13,994</u>	<u>213</u>	<u>(1,029)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,178</u>
Endowment funds					
Ethel Emslie Fund	14,608	2,594	(2,100)	-	15,102
Total funds	<u>48,813</u>	<u>37,511</u>	<u>(36,845)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>49,479</u>

Purposes of Designated Funds

Fabric Funds: The Trustees have set aside funds for the maintenance of the Church property

Flower Fund: Funds have been set aside for floral displays in the church and for flower gifts for pastoral care.

Heating Fund: The balance represents funds set aside for heating costs in the church.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Fabric/organ fund: Two legacies received in 2023 specified that the monies had to be used for maintenance of the fabric of the buildings and the organ and so these are held in a restricted fund.

Sunday School (Jam Hearts): This funding was set aside for the running costs of the group. The Sunday School has not resumed post pandemic.

Purposes of Endowment Funds

Income from the Dr Ethel Emslie Fund is used to help persons in need of financial assistance who are members of Glenmuick (Ballater) Parish Church or reside in the parishes of Tullich, Glengairn and Glenmuick.

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
3. Analysis of Donations					
WFO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	1,950	-	-	1,950	1,935
Gift Aid Donations	11,539	-	-	11,539	15,111
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Donations	5,054	-	-	5,054	3,958
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	3,129	-	-	3,129	4,118
Other Offerings, Donations etc	2,294	-	-	2,294	2,943
	<u>23,966</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,966</u>	<u>28,065</u>
4. Analysis of Rental of premises					
Weddings	-	-	-	-	1,300
Funerals	2,880	-	-	2,880	960
Use of hall	220	-	-	220	400
	<u>3,100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,100</u>	<u>2,660</u>
5. Analysis of Other Receipts					
Pulpit supply reimbursed	-	-	-	-	1,043
Electricity refund	328	-	-	328	-
From Flower Fund account	148	-	-	148	
	<u>476</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>476</u>	<u>1,043</u>
6. Analysis of Payments					
Costs of generating funds					
Offering envelopes	87	-	-	87	129
Film night costs	-	-	-	-	331
	<u>87</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>460</u>
Charitable activities					
Giving to Grow allocation	12,953	-	-	12,953	5,638
Presbytery dues	856	-	-	856	438
Minister's expenses	2,776	-	-	2,776	1,754
Pulpit supply	229	-	-	229	1,052
Other staffing costs	4,140	-	-	4,140	3,928
Fabric repairs & maintenance	1,872	665	-	2,537	2,443
Heat and light	2,060	-	-	2,060	3,957
Council tax	3,633	-	-	3,633	3,551
Insurance	4,610	-	-	4,610	4,209
Flower Fund	79	-	-	79	-
Organ & music	239	364	-	603	224
Other expenses	182	-	2,100	2,282	1,718
	<u>33,629</u>	<u>1,029</u>	<u>2,100</u>	<u>36,758</u>	<u>28,912</u>

7. Minister's Stipend

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale, which is related to years of service. For the year under review the minimum stipend was £31,642 and the maximum stipend (in the 5th and subsequent years) was £38,884.

8. Collections for Third Parties

Scottish Air Ambulance Charity
The Salvation Army
Ballater Victoria Week

	2024	2023
	£	£
	-	384
	120	222
	120	222
	<u>240</u>	<u>828</u>

APPENDIX

FUNDS HELD ON BEHALF OF THE CONGREGATION BY THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL TRUSTEES

	2024 £	2023 £
<u>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balances held at 31 December at cost	<u>83,005</u>	<u>83,005</u>
Market Value of Balances at 31 December	<u>97,582</u>	<u>92,118</u>
 <u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>		
(Debit)/Credit Balance at 31 December	<u>(22)</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes

1. Glengairn Church Sale

The net proceeds of £134,696 from the sale of Glengairn Church which were temporarily held in an investment account with the Church of Scotland Investors Trust Deposit Fund at 31st December 2014 were reinvested as follows:

Consolidated Stipend Fund £45,000
Consolidated Fabric Fund-Capital £89,696

During the year ended 31 December 2022 636 units of Growth Fund units were sold to assist with the cost of the new heating system.

The cost and market value of total holdings at 31 December 2024 is shown above.

2. Revenue Account

Dividends from the Consolidated Fabric Fund holdings are credited to this account.

The total income for the year was £3,392.79 which includes interest earned on the Revenue Fund of £61.92. £3,171.86 was drawn down from the fund In December 2024 to cover the buildings insurance element of our insurance premium. This was done before the final administrative charges for the year of £21.80 were applied to the account, resulting in the closing debit balance at the year end.