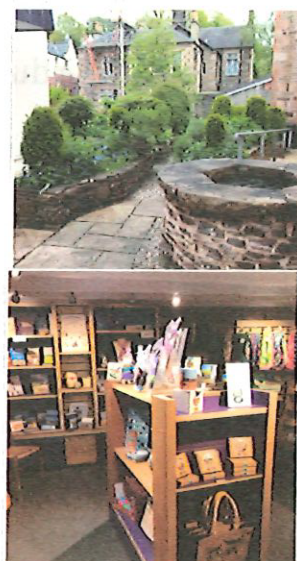




Dunblane Museum Trust Trustees' Annual Report

From 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025





Contact Information

Dunblane Museum Trust

Scottish Charity Number: SC020895

Address The Cross, Dunblane

Postcode FK15 0AQ

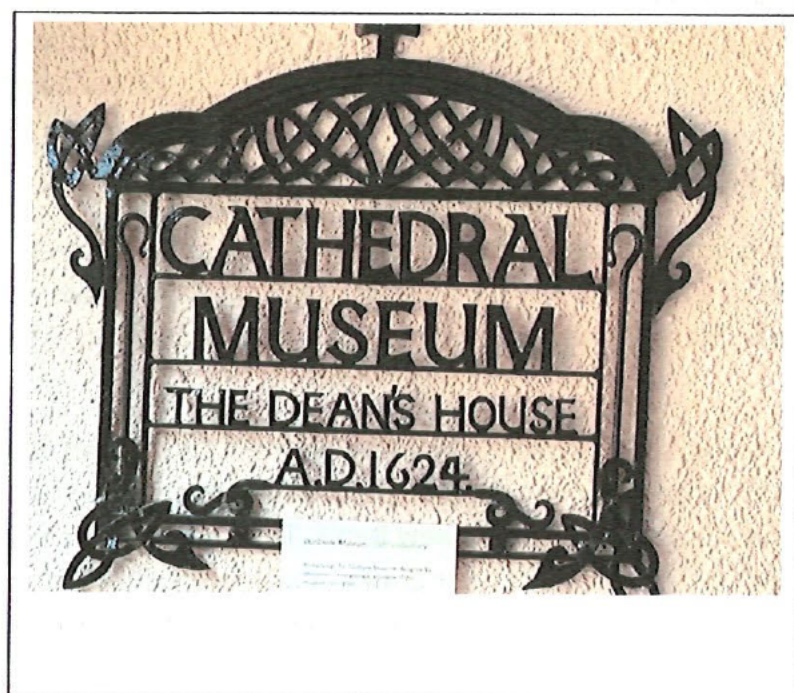
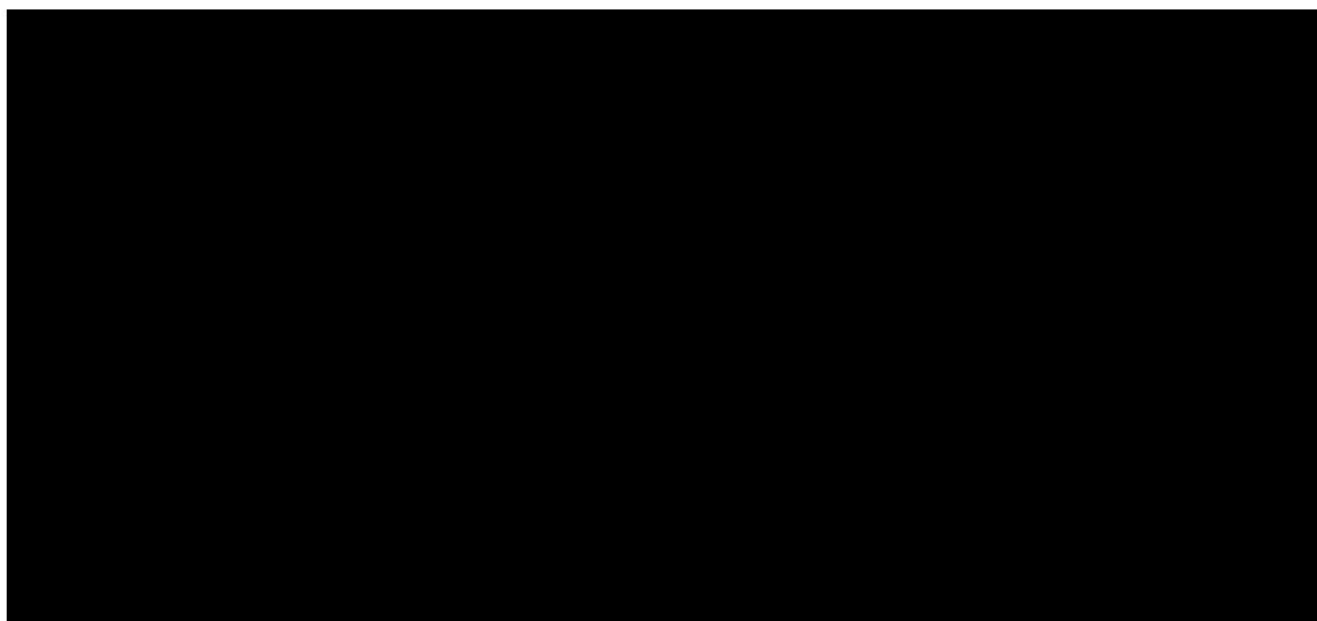


Website www.dunblanemuseum.org.uk

Social Media profile name

(Facebook, X, Bluesky, YouTube): Dunblane Museum

Charity Trustees:



Objectives and activities

Dunblane Museum was established by the Society of Friends of Dunblane Cathedral in 1943 in what was the Dean's House, a 17th century building, originally storing and displaying the artefacts and archives of the mediaeval cathedral. The collection has grown since then to include many more items and artefacts from Dunblane, its people and the surrounding area.

The Trust exists to present, care for, promote and conserve for this and future generations the present collection and any new relevant items of local history, and also of the modern town. The museum seeks to provide enjoyment, recreational learning, personal, and informal or formal study.

To that end, we provide materials and access for academic study and for those who wish to research their family history, the history of their house, or the history of the town.

Of particular interest is our extensive collection of communion tokens, which attracts interest from visitors and academics alike.



Management and Volunteers

Dunblane Museum is entirely run by volunteers. We have a management team, which includes 2 Co-Directors, a Treasurer, a Collections Curator, (these 4 being Trustees also) and others who manage the garden, maintenance of the building, the shop, and social media.

The management team meets regularly to review progress and to plan for the future. They work extremely hard to review policies, produce volunteer rotas, and of course take care of the collections and accession new items. The museum receives no funding from public bodies or from regular grants, and so we rely on the contributions of visitors & supporters for the running costs of the Museum, which are considerable.

There is a large number of volunteers, although we always need more, who each do a regular 3-hour duty in the museum to welcome visitors, provide information, and handle sales in the gift shop. It gives us great pleasure that the museum receives lovely reviews from visitors who comment on our interesting collection, the fact that the museum is much bigger inside than it appears from the outside and always there are lovely compliments about how welcoming and helpful the volunteers are.

Visitors

We normally open from the 1st of April until mid-October, and on a few extra days up to Christmas or when groups request a visit at a particular time. In the past year, having managed to recruit more volunteers, we have been able to open 6 days a week from 10.30 to 16.30 as we did before Covid..

Our visitors come from the local area and from all over the world. In the past year we have welcomed 6750 visitors, which is still a lower number than our pre Covid numbers, but it is still climbing.

To inform our visitors and advertise activities, we have an excellent website, social media, adverts in a local magazine, and posters, where relevant.

We often have visits from groups – children, history societies, clubs, students, tourists, etc. and, on request, we provide a presentation to clubs, schools, etc in their own premises. This year in our closed season, we had several groups request a visit – Edinburgh Scouts, Heriot Watt students, 2 groups of trainee guides- and, as always, we were very happy to open up for them

The museum is open to all and free. There is a disabled entrance, and a lift.

We have printed guides in many languages and also in Braille.

There are activities for children – For smaller children, building bricks, a jigsaw game, and especially popular, searching for mediaeval mice which are hidden around the museum.

For older children: we have a museum quiz and also a local quiz which includes the other historical buildings in the vicinity.

A small prize is given if they complete the task.



Princess
Pattern by Alan Dart

Governing Document

The charity is governed by a Deed of Trust.

Trustees

The Deed of Trust states that there should be no more than 9 trustees and no fewer than 5. These are the guidelines by which the present trustees govern the museum. One trustee must be a member of the Kirk Session of Dunblane Cathedral and 5 must be members of the Society of Friends of the Cathedral.

The Trustees meet several times a year to review recent activities, to deal with any problems, to keep policies up to date, to plan for the future, and to review the financial position of the museum. They are provided with a financial statement before every meeting. Our curatorial advisor, Sarah Bromage, an archivist, and Head of Collections at the University of Stirling also attends Trustees meetings to give help and advice. Dunblane Museum is fully accredited, and Sarah is extremely helpful when we have to renew our accreditation every few years.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

One of our Trustees retired this year, and so our Collections Curator was appointed in his place. She has been involved with the museum for many years and we are delighted to have her on board.

The Society of Friends of Dunblane Cathedral has the right to nominate up to 5 trustees; several of our Trustees are members of the Society.

When new Trustees are appointed, they are given:

OSCR's "Guidance and Good Practice for Charity Trustees" - updated April 2025.

In-person orientation to the museum and its activities.

The Trust Deed

The Lease document'

The museum also has its own document outlining what is expected of a trustee.

Achievements and performance

As always, the trustees and management team work tirelessly, not just to keep the museum going, but to improve, and plan ahead.

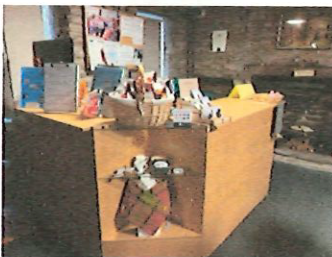
The work of assessing, recording and accessioning is never ending, and many hours are spent on this. We receive donations to our collections from all over.

In the past year, we have helped with individual research projects, e.g. on the hacksilver and rare Viking weight in our collection, and with research on The Leighton Library, our close neighbour, and the oldest private library in Scotland

We continue to get many requests about family history, and we do our best to provide helpful information.



Gift Shop



We recently bought a new counter for the reception and shop and have been discussing how to update our till system to complement the card readers we have found so necessary in today's cashless society.

Our shop managers continue to source items, not only from larger suppliers, but also from local crafts people. Some local people generously donate their work for sale in the museum.

Social media and digital displays

Social media continue to attract many followers of our fascinating little posts. This year we have introduced playlists on our YouTube channel which bring together videos related to displays within the museum, including the 1715 Jacobite Battle of Sheriffmuir, as well as the World War II Atlantic Wall on Sheriffmuir.

There are also now QR codes alongside the associated in-museum displays for these videos, as well as one for our 4000-year-old necklace.

It's [#NationalRetroDay](#) today. So looking back to Dunblane in the 1950s, can you identify the location of each of these views of Dunblane from back then?



Conservation

- Thanks to a very generous donation, we have been able to have 3 paintings professionally restored.
- One of our volunteers has spent a great deal of time, digitising our photo collection, which not only makes access easier but also helps conserve the originals.

New Acquisitions

- For some years, we have had in our collection a lamp from the old Dunblane Station. Recently we received another one, gifted by a Glasgow Museum.
- As its present home was closing down, we acquired a grandfather clock with a particularly interesting history relating to Dunblane's Tragedy in 1996.
- We were pleased to receive the Provost's chair after the closure of Dunblane's Burgh Chambers.
- 16 more communion tokens were donated.



Exhibitions

Our Goddard gallery has been fully occupied this year, with exhibitions including works by 2 artists, a 50th anniversary of the local High School, and a local display, detailing the history of the buildings in one of Dunblane's oldest streets.

Garden



Our garden volunteers spend many hours maintaining our little garden and planting when required. Plants are also available for visitors to purchase. All plants are labelled with information on their usage through the years.

Statement of the Charity's Policy on Reserves

The Trustees aim to maintain a sufficient level of reserves to facilitate the operation of the charity. Our investments provide sufficient reserves.

For the first time since Covid, we have no deficit, thanks to the generosity of visitors and sales in the shop, as we receive no funding from public bodies or regular grants.

Future plans

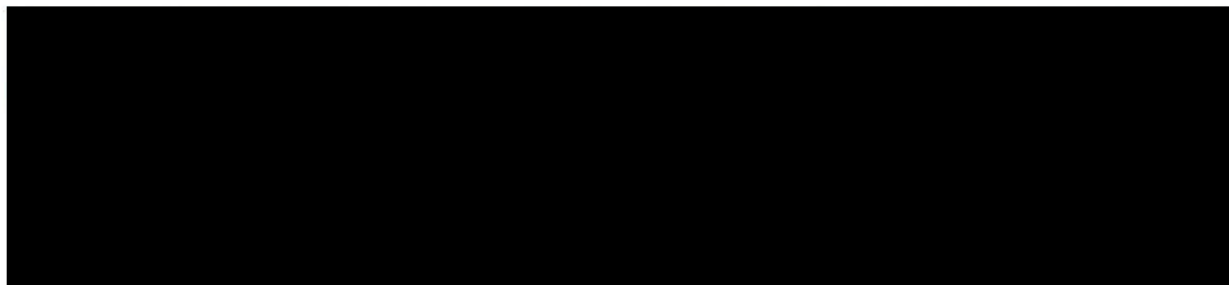
We will shortly buy two more museum - quality display cases.

We are always considering future projects and improvements, some of which may be costly and others may only require volunteer time. A small group is currently looking at a 5 year plan to keep the museum fresh and interesting.

In 2024-25 we have teamed up with the other historical properties in Dunblane to encourage visitors to our town, and we have also become involved in the museum forum for the Stirling area and the Stirling Heritage group.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Designation

Co-Director

Date

1 September 2025

Dunblane Museum Trust

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Receipts and payments accounts							
For the period from	Period start date			to	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	1	April	2024		31	March	2025

Section A Statement of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds current period to nearest £	Total funds last period to nearest £
A1 Receipts						
Donations	19,280	1,859			21,139	9,215
Legacies					-	
Grants					-	
Receipts from fundraising activities	599				599	737
Gross trading receipts	8,895				8,895	9,081
Income from investments other than land and buildings	2,075				2,075	67
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	9,455				9,455	3,411
					-	
A1 Sub total	40,304	1,859	-	-	42,163	22,511
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	40,304	1,859	-	-	42,163	22,511
A3 Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities	75				75	75
Gross trading payments	3,761				3,761	3,689
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	31,689	333			32,022	18,429
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination	480				480	450
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
Other					-	
					-	
A3 Sub total	36,005	333	-	-	36,338	22,643
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets		1,481			1,481	5,158
Purchase of investments					-	
A4 Sub total	-	1,481	-	-	1,481	5,158
Total payments	36,005	1,814	-	-	37,819	27,801
Net receipts / (payments)	4,299	45	-	-	4,344	(5,290)
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds						
					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	4,299	45	-	-	4,344	(5,290)

B1 Cash funds

Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total current period	Total last period
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
Cash and bank balances at start of year	19,503	11,720			31,223	36,513
Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	4,299	45			4,344	(5,290)
					-	
					-	
Cash and bank balances at end of year	23,802	11,765	-	-	35,567	31,223
(Agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))						

Details

Investment with Charles Stanley

Fund to which asset belongs	Market valuation to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
	166,551	172,035
Total	166,551	172,035

Details

Shop Stock
Tenant's Improvements
Furniture, Fittings and Equipment
Furniture, Fittings and Equipment
Museum Artefacts
Museum Artefacts

Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (if available) to nearest £	Current value (if available) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
unrestricted		5,538	5,623
restricted		907,797	907,797
restricted		121,388	119,907
unrestricted		15,354	15,354
restricted		256	256
unrestricted		290	290
Total	-	1,050,623	1,049,227

Details

Fund to which liability relates	Amount due to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Total	-	

Details

Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (estimate) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Total	-	

Date of approval

1 Sept. 2025

Section C Notes to the Accounts

C1 Nature and purpose of funds (may be stated on analysis of funds worksheets)

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes by donors. The Friends of the Museum funds are raised for Acquisition and Conservation and are restricted to that purpose.

C2 Grants

Type of activity or project supported	Individual / Institution	Number of grants made	£
Total			-

C3a Trustee remuneration

If no remuneration was paid during the period to any charity trustee or person connected to a trustee cross this box (otherwise complete section 3b)	X
--	---

C3b Trustee remuneration - details

Authority under which paid	£

C4a Trustee expenses

If no expenses were paid to any charity trustee during the period then cross this box (otherwise complete section 4b)	X
---	---

C4b Trustee expenses - details

	Number of trustees	£

C5 Transactions with trustees and connected persons

Nature of relationship	Nature of transaction	Transaction amount (£)	Balance outstanding at period end (£)

C6 Other information

During the year there have been the following movements on the investment portfolio:
 Dividends Received: £4202
 Investment Manager's fees: £1910
 Acquisitions of new investments: £4004
 Investments sold: £5304
 Portfolio Value: £166551
 Within which held in cash: £3850

Dunblane Museum Trust

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Additional analysis (1)

Analysis of receipts and payments

1 Donations

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Individual donations	17,796				17,796	6,111
Gift Aid	1,484	175			1,659	1,595
Friends of the Museum		1,684			1,684	1,509
					-	
Total	19,280	1,859	-	-	21,139	9,215

2 Grants

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Total	-	-	-	-

3 Gross receipts from other charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Exhibitions	8,295				8,295	2,636
Volunteers Christmas lunch	990				990	775
Sale of garden plants	170				170	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	9,455	-	-	-	9,455	3,411

reference error

-

-

reference error

-

4 Payments relating directly to charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Gas	3,140				3,140	2,211
Electricity	1,405				1,405	1,986
Phone & Broadband	618				618	1,277
Water	1,413				1,413	1,300
Rent	1,000				1,000	1,000
Insurance	4,705				4,705	2,623
Security	1,580				1,580	1,148
Advertising/Marketing	290				290	575
Repairs/Maintenance	1,203				1,203	1,760
Events		333			333	1,090
Exhibitions	5,387				5,387	1,636
Annual Fees	118				118	982
General Expenses	283				283	770
Volunteer lunch	990				990	
Garden	28				28	71
Conservation	9,529				9,529	
Total	31,689	333	-	-	32,022	18,429

Additional analysis (2)

5 Breakdown of unrestricted funds

General	Unrestricted fund 2 - enter name of fund below	Unrestricted fund 3 - enter name of fund below	Unrestricted fund 4 - enter name of fund below	Total unrestricted funds	Total unrestricted funds last period
Receipts					
Donations	19,280			19,280	7,533
Legacies				-	
Grants				-	
Receipts from fundraising activities	599			599	737
Gross trading receipts	8,895			8,895	9,081
Income from investments other than land and buildings	2,075			2,075	67
Rents from land & buildings				-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	9,455			9,455	3,411
Sub total	40,304	-	-	40,304	20,829
Receipts from asset & investment sales					
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets				-	
Proceeds from sale of investments				-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	40,304	-	-	40,304	20,829
Payments					
Expenses for fundraising activities	75			75	75
Gross trading payments	3,761			3,761	3,689
Investment management costs				-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	31,689			31,689	17,671
Grants and donations				-	
Governance costs:				-	
Audit / independent examination	480			480	450
Preparation of annual accounts				-	
Legal costs				-	
Sub total	36,005	-	-	36,005	21,885
Payments relating to asset and investment movements					
Purchases of fixed assets				-	5,158
Purchase of investments				-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	5,158
Total payments	36,005	-	-	36,005	27,043
Net receipts / (payments)	4,299	-	-	4,299	(6,214)
Transfers to / (from) funds					
Surplus / (deficit) for year	4,299	-	-	4,299	(6,214)

Nature and purpose of funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use, at the discretion of the Trustees, in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes by donors.

Dunblane Museum Trust

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Additional analysis (3)

6 Breakdown of restricted funds

	Friends of the Museum	Atlantic Wall	DDT Leaflets	Respite Fund (continuation of Respite Fund)	Total restricted funds	Total restricted funds last period
Receipts						
Donations	1,859				1,859	1,682
Legacies					-	
Grants					-	
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading receipts					-	
Income from investments other than land and buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
Sub total	1,859	-	-	-	1,859	1,682
Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,859	-	-	-	1,859	1,682
Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	333				333	758
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
Sub total	333	-	-	-	333	758
Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets	1,481				1,481	
Purchase of investments					-	
Sub total	1,481	-	-	-	1,481	-
Total payments	1,814	-	-	-	1,814	758
Net receipts / (payments)	45	-	-	-	45	924
Transfers to / (from) funds						
Surplus / (deficit) for year	45	-	-	-	45	924

Friends of Dunblane Museum: These are funds given by donors on an annual basis and are designated for Acquisition and Conservation. We would use this fund, for example, to buy display cases, new artefacts, preservation of documents etc.

Atlantic Wall Project: Research and Education on Atlantic Wall on Sheriffmuir. This project was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and British Legion. It allowed us to research the history of the Wall as well as other Atlantic Walls in Britain. What remains in the fund is used to maintain and update materials.

Dunblane Development Trust: purchase of advertising leaflets.

APPENDIX 3



		Independent examiner's report on the accounts						v2	
Report to the trustees/members of	Charity name	Dunblane Museum Trust							
	Registered charity number	SC020895							
	On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date				Period end date			
		1	April	2024	To	31	March	2025	
Set out on pages	1 to 15						(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		
Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	<p>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 (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.</p>								
Basis of independent examiner's statement	<p>My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts 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.</p>								
Independent examiner's statement	<p>In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than that disclosed on the attached page*]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <p>have not been met, or</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. 								
Signed**:	[Redacted Signature]				Date:	17th SEPTEMBER 2025			
Name:									
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):					ICAS				
Address:	The A9 Partnership Ltd Abercorn School Newton Broxburn, EH54 6PZ								

*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

** OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures

APPENDIX 3

Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose