

# **Old Gala Club**

(Galashiels and District Local History Association)

Scottish Charity No. SCO34141

## **Trustees Annual Report and Accounts**

### **Year ended 31 March 2026**

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**Scottish Charity No SCO34141**

#### **Governing Document**

The Old Gala Club is a charitable unincorporated association and the purposes and administration arrangements are set out in our constitution. The Committee members are the Trustees of the charity and carry out their tasks voluntarily. No Committee member receives any payment or any expenses.

#### **Committee**

The annual general meeting was held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025 and was presided over by Murray Dickson. The Committee and office bearers for the season April 2025 to April 2026 therefore has been

President – Murray Dickson; Vice President Stuart Wilson

Treasurer- Alan A Brown Membership Secretaries - Jackie and Colin Playfair

General Committee Gordon Taylor, George Watson and Irene Mcauley.

The Committee are the Trustees of the charity and carry out their tasks voluntarily. No Committee member receives any payment or expenses.

The Committee meet on a regular basis and, in addition, members of the Committee continue to meet on a weekly basis to oversee the photographic group. Volunteers record, organise and copy the many photographs that are donated to the Club. Through the group a variety of requests for photographs has been satisfied. The Committee occasionally supply local interest groups on social media with photographs. The photographic group also select and copy photographs which form the main part of our annual exhibition.

Bruce Jackson, a retired archivist, continues to archive our collection to a professional standard.

Vice President Stuart Wilson continues the task of in the transferring data on the website to a new platform as well as being responsible for the setting up of audio and visual equipment during our winter programme. He is also responsible for the communication of the meetings and outings.

Murray Dickson remains responsible for our ever growing collection of artefacts which are housed within Old Gala House. Departments from Scottish Borders Council liaise with Murray with regard to projects and requests.

#### **Contact Address**

Murray Dickson Cote Lea Cottage, Oatlands Terrace Galashiels TD1 3DB

## Activities and Achievements

There were two summer events. On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025 Douglas Johnston took party of members for a walk up to the ruined peel tower at Torwoodlee. There they were met by James Pringle the Laird of Torwoodlee. The second on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025 was a walk round the town led by the President Murray Dickson and the Robert McKendrick. This was based on a piece of work called "Our Towns History" and the walk covered half of it. In the coming year there is an event covering the other half.

In 2024 on 8th October our winter programme was launched with the customary Annual Slide Show together with a display of some of the club's many artefacts and photographs which covered a variety of topics. This annual event is indeed a talking point throughout the town.

On the 22<sup>th</sup> October John Haliday gave an interesting talk entitled "1st Edinburgh Festival in 1815 its origins and legacy in Scotland". Cameron Roberston on 12<sup>th</sup> November gave a well-documented lecture on "Travelling Photographers in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century". The annual Joint meeting with Selkirk Antiquarians on the 19<sup>th</sup> November was an away fixture and featured Matt Seattle & John Gibbons speaking and demonstrating "The Music of Selkirk and Selkirkshire". A week later on 26<sup>th</sup> November David Mclean gave a fascinating lecture on "The Runaway Slave in Dunse".

January saw on the 7<sup>th</sup> the ever successful "Bring along night" where among other things a cricket ball, silver rugby cup and a WWI officers compass were shown and discussed. Shelia Munro of the Ancrum Heritage Society on the 21<sup>st</sup> January gave a talk on Ancrum House. Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer explained the "Historic Environment with special reference to the Galashiels Area" on 4<sup>th</sup> February.. On 11<sup>th</sup> March, to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Gala Rugby Club Gordon Keddie gave a presentation of the club through its 15 decades. This was followed on 25<sup>h</sup> March by Gala Historian Mark Nichol giving what is now his annual talk in this case on "The Pacification of the Scottish Borders"

All talks were well attended and generated discussion and plenty of questions for our guests. Murray welcomed all speakers in a professional manner and several Committee members gave good and sincere votes of thanks.

In order to highlight both our collection and to raise awareness of the work that we do as Galashiels has no permanent museum the Club once again this year staged an exhibition. The title being "150 Years of Galashiels Rugby" and shows through photographs and narratives of not only of Gala RFC, the senior club, but the activities of junior and age groups of both genders.

The Club remains in a sound financial position. The club made a deficit in the year of £408 (£670 in 2025). As other recent years the main drivers were the rapid rise in energy costs for the storage unit and Live Borders ever increasing charges for the hire of the hall. That all said cash and funds in the bank total £29,263 this is regarded by the committee as more than adequate for the forthcoming future.

The object of the Club is to enhance the education of the public in the history and heritage of Galashiels. We remain confident that this will continue. We are encouraged by, and are very appreciative of the constant support from our Committee, our volunteers and members and the general public. Our current membership stands at 78 members which is a down on last year of 88. Despite to the rising cost heating of the storage unit the membership fee was kept at £15.

Approved by the Trustees and signed of their behalf.

Signed



**Murray Dickson, President**

Signed



**Alan A Brown FCMA, Treasurer**

## Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

	2026 £	2025 £
<b>Receipts</b>		
Membership subscriptions	1,170	1,320
Donations	50	-
Fundraising – sale of publications	297	-
Door donations - lectures	465	360
Miscellaneous	<u>120</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>2,102</b>	<b>1,680</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
<u>Payments for charitable activities:</u>		
Room hire	760	672
Speakers' expenses	20	60
Equipment repairs and supplies	129	-
Subscriptions	94	94
Stationery, postage and telephone	115	317
Miscellaneous	155	-
Museum collection and exhibitions	120	350
Unit 7, Langlee	<u>1,117</u>	<u>858</u>
<b>Total payments for charitable activities</b>	<b><u>2,509</u></b>	<b><u>2,350</u></b>
<b>Net receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>(408)</b>	<b>(670)</b>
Cash funds last year end	<u>29,671</u>	<u>30,341</u>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b><u>29,263</u></b>	<b><u>29,671</u></b>

As there has been no restricted income received there are no reserved funds.

All payments were for charitable activities there were no governance costs in the year (2025 nil).

## Statement of Balances as at 31 March 2026

	2026 £	2025 £
<b>Bank and cash in hand</b>		
General Fund - Cash at Bank	29,161	29,288
General Fund - Cash at hand	<u>102</u>	<u>383</u>
	<b><u>29,263</u></b>	<b><u>29,671</u></b>

## Notes to the Accounts for 2025/26

1. The General Funds of the Old Gala Club are used under the authority of the Committee for all day-to-day activities of the Club..
2. The Club has made no Grants.
3. There has been no remuneration of any of the Club's Trustees.
4. No expenses were paid to any of the Club's Trustees.
5. There have been no transactions with any of the Trustees or connected persons.
6. The Accounts are intended to be open and self-explanatory; there are no items with any hidden meanings or misleading implications.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.

Signed   
Alan Brown FCMA, Hon. Treasurer

Date 15 MAY.....2026

Signed   
Murray Dickson, Hon. President

Date 15 May.....2026

Signed   
Lorna A Notman FCCA, External Examiner

Date 15 May.....2026

## **Old Gala Club**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Old Gala Club**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026 which are set out on pages 5 and 6.

#### **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. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) 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 was 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 L Notman

**Lorna A Notman FCCA,**

**8d The Village, Hawick, TD9 0AH**

Date ... 15 May .....2026