

The Maryculter Woodlands Trust

Scotland · Charity number SC044224

Details

Status	Active
Legal form	SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Registered	2013-08-26
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address	4 Oldman Road Kirkton of Maryculter Aberdeenshire AB12 5BZ
Website	http://maryculterwoods.com/

Activities

Activities: 'It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the advancement of citizenship or community development', 'the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science', 'the provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended', 'the advancement of environmental protection or improvement'

What the charity does: We own and maintain a 67Ha former commercial conifer plantation. Our principle objective is to restore the wood back to largely native species and create a range of habitats to improve biodiversity. We run weekly and monthly work parties for our volunteers using hand tools only (supplied by us, incl safety gear). We sometimes hire in contractors if forest roads need maintenance or if there is significant felling to be done e.g, from storm damage. We host Mucky Boots Forest School which operates in the wood four days per week. We also frequently host other organisations incl Aberdeen University, SRUC, Grampian Fungus Group, Canicross, Carriage Driving for the Disabled. The wood is extremely popular with the general public. We raise all our own funds.

Beneficiaries: 'Other charities or voluntary bodies'

Objectives: 7.1 The SCIO will promote, advance and further the following charitable purposes in the Community:- 7.1.1the advancement of environmental protection or improvement. 7.1.2 the advancement of citizenship or community development. 7.1.13 the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science. and 7.1.4 the provision of recreational facilities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended so as to make such activities available to members of the public at large.

Geography

- **Main operating location:** Aberdeenshire
- **Geographical spread:** A specific local point, community or neighbourhood

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£9,326	£18,139	-	0
2024-08-31	£9,465	£6,811	-	0
2023-08-31	£15,951	£5,732	-	0
2022-08-31	£24,102	£14,987	-	0
2021-08-31	£16,116	£7,257	-	0
2020-08-31	£7,316	£6,929	-	0

The Maryculter Woodlands Trust

Scotland - Charity number SC044224

Accounts

APPENDIX 1

OSCR

Scottish Charity Regulator

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	1	9	24	To	31	8	2025

Reference and administration details

Charity name
Other names charity is known by
Registered charity number
Charity's principal address

The Maryculter Woodlands Trust
SC044224
4 Oldman Road
Maryculter
Aberdeenshire
Postcode: AB12 5BZ

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Ed Thorogood	Director (Chair)		MWT members
2	Inga Milne	Director (Events)		MWT members
3	Bill Caffyn	Director (Treasurer)		MWT members
4	Laura Wilks	Director (Publicity)		MWT members
5	David Brainwood	Director (Vice-Chair)		MWT members
6	Kees Witte	Director	From 26/1/26	MWT members
7	Matthew Blair	Director	From 26/1/26	MWT members
8				
9				
10				

Reference and administration details

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Susan Astell	Whole of reporting period
Nigel Astell	Whole of reporting period

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

Constituted as a Two Tier Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Constitution last amended in October 2017

Registered with OSCR on 26th August 2013

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Appointment and removal of Directors is in accordance with the SCIO constitution. A Director is elected by members of the SCIO at an AGM and can serve for up to three years without seeking re-election i.e. all Directors, if they are still willing to serve, must seek re-election at least once every 3 years but can be re-elected for consecutive terms.

Co-opting of up to two additional Directors (subject to a maximum of 7 Board Directors) requires majority agreement of the elected Directors and all such co-opted Directors are obliged to stand-down no later than the next AGM.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes

1) to advance environmental protection including preservation, sustainable development, native habitat restoration and conservation of the natural environment in the community woodlands at Maryculter, Aberdeenshire;
2) to advance the education of the wider community about the natural history, environment, archaeological and cultural heritage of the Maryculter woodlands
3) to manage Community land and associated assets in a sustainable manner
4) to promote, develop and manage projects and initiatives for recreation and leisure in the Maryculter woodlands

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

- Executed wetland restoration (de-canalisation) project, our largest environmental project to date. This project has been a major success
- Installed new information boards & new fencing at the main entrance
- We hosted a range of groups & organisations including Aberdeen University School of Biological Sciences, Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) Aberdeen, Siemens Energy, ABB

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

Our main achievements were:

- We raised £9,326 in the reporting period
- We spent £18,139 including £11,100 on our wetland restoration (de-canalisation) project & £4,467 on improving the main visitor entrance (new fencing & new information boards)
- Ran both monthly & weekly work parties for community members. The main tasks performed in our community work parties were: planted 242 native trees, spread woodchip on selected paths, brushed along drainage ditches, bashed gorse, installed deflection dams in wetland, planted & seeded native species in wetland, felled trees damaged by storm Amy (by hand), repaired stone bridge, maintained planted trees
- Hired a chainsaw crew to clear trees damaged by storm Éowyn
- Gave permission for a metal-detector survey. Finds have been related to forestry, hunting (including with muskets) & wartime activities with the home guard

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

MWT maintains surplus funds (unrestricted) in order to:

- Provide a contingency reserve for unplanned costs related to the management of the wood e.g. recovery from storm damage, repairs arising from careless acts by visitors, increased maintenance from ever-increasing visitor numbers
- Provide a contribution towards new projects in the wood where only match-funding or limited grants are available, especially for projects with extensive (multi-year) planning requirements.

This has led us to increase the desired level of surplus funds progressively over the last few reporting periods. We also anticipate major expenditure in the future as we plan within the next 5 years to replace the large wooden bridge over the Crynoch Burn.

Details of any deficit

The deficit for the period was long-planned and was entirely due to the delayed execution of our wetland project, having raised funds for the project in previous periods.



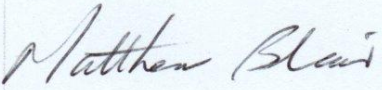

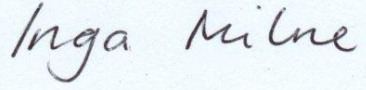
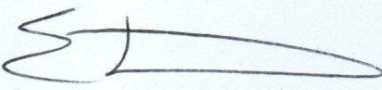
Donated facilities and services (if any)

Other optional information


Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures		
Full name(s)	LAURA JANE WILKES	WILLIAM JAMES CAFFYN
Position (e.g. Chair)	DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS	TREASURER AND DIRECTOR
Date	06/05/26	6/5/2026
Signature(s) OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures		
Full name(s)	MATTHEW BLAIR	David Brainwood
Position (e.g. Chair)	DIRECTOR	Vice Chair
Date	6/5/26	6/5/26
Signature(s) OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures		
Full name(s)	INGA LIAN MILNE	EDWARD JOHN THOROGOOD
Position (e.g. Chair)	DIRECTOR	CHAIRMAN
Date	6/5/26	16/5/26

APPENDIX 2

	The Maryculter Woodlands Trust						Enter SC No. below
							SC044224
Receipts and payments accounts							
For the period from	Period start date			to	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	1	9	2024		31	8	2025
Section A Statement of receipts and payments							
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total funds current period	Total funds last period	
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	
A1 Receipts							
Donations	1,969				1,969	8,481	
Legacies					-		
Grants	7,132				7,132	315	
Receipts from fundraising activities	-				-	-	
Gross trading receipts	- 30				- 30	180	
Income from investments other than land and buildings					-		
Rents from land & buildings	255				255	277	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-		
Other Income - HMRC interest	-				-	212	
A1 Sub total	9,326	-	-	-	9,326	9,465	
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales							
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-		
Proceeds from sale of investments					-		
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total receipts	9,326	-	-	-	9,326	9,465	
A3 Payments							
Expenses for fundraising activities					-		
Gross trading payments	-				-	-	
Investment management costs					-		
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	17,718				17,718	6,405	
Grants and donations					-		
Governance costs:					-		
Audit / independent examination					-		
Preparation of annual accounts					-		
Legal costs					-		
Other	421				421	406	
A3 Sub total	18,139	-	-	-	18,139	6,811	
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements							
Purchases of fixed assets					-		
Purchase of investments					-		
A4 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total payments	18,139	-	-	-	18,139	6,811	
Net receipts / (payments)	(8,813)	-	-	-	(8,813)	2,654	
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds							
Surplus / (deficit) for year	(8,813)	-	-	-	(8,813)	2,654	

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 £
HMRC Gift Aid Refund	-				-	3,586
K & H Witte	-				-	4,000
Other	300				300	895
PayPal account donations	1,669				1,669	-
Total	1,969	-	-	-	1,969	8,481
	-	-	-	-	-	-

2 Grants

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £			Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
Meikle Carewe Wind Farm Community Fund	1,500				1,500	-
Aberdeenshire Council (Decanalisation Project)	5,632				5,632	-
The Tree Council	-				-	315
					-	
Total	7,132	-			7,132	315
	-	-			-	-

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 £
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
					-	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-

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 £
Mulching & excavating	383				383	3,220
Community events and workshops	225				225	263
Tree & flower planting	954				954	315
Miscellaneous	320				320	-
Info boards	603				603	-
Administration	293				293	626
Tools & PPE	125				125	88
Decanalisation Project	11,100				11,100	1,000
Infrastructure/Tracks	-	149			-	893
Car Park fencing	3,864				3,864	-
	-				-	-
Total	17,718	-	-	-	17,718	6,405
	-	-	-	-	-	-

Additional analysis (2)

5 Breakdown of unrestricted funds

	Maryculter Woodland Trust	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	1,969				1,969	8,481
Other Income - HMRC interest	-				-	212
Grants	7,132				7,132	315
Receipts from fundraising activities	-				-	-
Gross trading receipts	30				30	180
Income from investments other than land and buildings	-				-	-
Rents from land & buildings	255				255	277
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	-				-	
Sub total	9,326	-	-	-	9,326	9,465
Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	9,326	-	-	-	9,326	9,465
Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities	-				-	-
Gross trading payments	-				-	-
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	17,718				17,718	6,405
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs	-				-	-
Other	421				421	406
Sub total	18,139	-	-	-	18,139	6,811
Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	18,139	-	-	-	18,139	6,811
Net receipts / (payments)	(8,813)	-	-	-	(8,813)	2,654
Transfers to / (from) funds						
Surplus / (deficit) for year	(8,813)	-	-	-	(8,813)	2,654
Nature and purpose of funds						

APPENDIX 3



		Independent examiner's report on the accounts						v2
Report to the trustees/members of	Charity name	The Maryculter Woodland Trust						
Registered charity number		SC044224						
On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year	to	Day	Month	Year	
	1	September	2024		31	August	2025	
Set out on pages							(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)	
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 (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 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.							
Independent examiner's statement	In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than that disclosed on the attached page*]							
	<p>1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:</p> <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> <p>2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.</p>							
Signed**:						Date:	07-MAY-2026	
Name:	John Dean Turner							
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Fellow of Chartered Institute of Management Accounts (FCMA)							
Address:	3 Oldman Road							
	Kirkton of Maryculter							
	Aberdeen AB12 5BZ							

*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