

**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE  
(A SCOTTISH CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

**Charity Registration No: SC046698**

**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE  
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 15 AUGUST 2025**

**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE**  
**(A SCOTTISH CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

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**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE  
(A SCOTTISH CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025**

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The Trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 15 August 2025.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

<b>Registered Charity Name</b>	Strathnairn Music Initiative
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	SC046698
<b>Principal Office Address</b>	Milton Farm Aberarder Inverness IV2 6UE

The Trustees under charity law who served the charity during the period were:

Frances Matheson  
Kristina High  
Marielle Piron  
Rachel Moore  
Philine Vanderheide  
Lisa McGregor

With 1 Co-opted member responsible for PVG compliance:

Eva Craig

Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland, Inverness
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Independent Examiner	Roy Campbell ATT Mission House Tomatin Inverness-shire IV13 7XZ.
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**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE  
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**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025**

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**Structure, Governance and Management**

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), registered on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2016. It is a two-tier charity as described in its constitution. All participants, taking part in the charity activities automatically become Members of the Charity, from their enrolment date until they decide to cease their activities. In the case of participants under the age of 16, a responsible adult is instead designated the Member of the Charity.

The Charity is structured in accordance with the requirements of its Constitution and of OSCR. Governance is undertaken by the Trustees meeting formally approximately once a term. Trustees also meet informally weekly during the Charity activities, where they work as Volunteers. This ensures a direct and regular contact with Members of the Charity and timely response to operational issues encountered during the activities.

**Trustee Recruitment and Appointment**

Trustees are appointed annually at the Annual General Meeting, where all the Members are invited. The position of Trustee is open to all members and is advertised in the local free newsletter supplied to all homes in Strathnairn, issued usually 14 days before the date of the actual meeting. The annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 where these financial statements were approved and the Trustees appointed.

**Charitable Purposes**

The objective of Strathnairn Music Initiative (also called SMI) is to provide a means to the local community to start or further their music education. Activities are open to all generations, run locally and made affordable.

Ultimately this initiative will provide the community with musical opportunities where people from across generations, social classes and income brackets will be able to meet and play, sing, learn and enjoy music together throughout the year. The initiative will endeavour to recapture the musical heritage of Strathnairn and adapt it to our current demographic.

**Summary of main activities run in the period by the Charity and plans for future development**

The Initiative's operations started on 6th September 2016, following funding approval from our main funder, Strathnairn Community Benefit Fund and has focused on two main aspects in order to bring together residents who are either experienced or beginner musicians, in local venues, 1) Instrument group tuition, and 2) Adult Singing (local choir).

Our annual music activities follow the school calendar year, starting in August and finishing at the end of June, with school holidays off. This equates to 39 weeks throughout the year, and all activities are held at Farr Community Hall.

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By the end of the academic year, the different music organised by the SMI team and led by qualified Music Teachers was:

- Group Music Lessons (Wednesdays, 3pm to 7.45pm) – lessons in violin, drumming, piano, ukulele, guitar, and the Fun Music Session for the very young participants, which equated to 101 allocated slots delivered weekly.
- Adult singing lessons (Wednesdays, 7:45pm to 9:15pm) – 10 regular attendees.
- Children's singing lessons (Wednesdays, 5pm to 5:30pm & 5:30pm to 6pm) – 12 regular attendees.
- SMI Performance Music Group (Tuesdays, 7.15pm to 8.15pm) – intergenerational group music project with 9 regular attendees.
- SMI Traditional Music Group (Tuesday's 7:15pm to 8:45pm, once per month)

Making a total of 139 music slots taking place each week.

The project is popular with families due to the localised and affordable service provided, which is not available elsewhere. A good portion of the caring adults in these families have taken on music sessions themselves, helping to imbed a musical heritage across our Strath, and we are excited to see this continue to develop over the years.

**Group Music Lessons (Wednesdays, 3pm to 7:45pm)**

Lessons are taught in groups for guitar, ukulele, piano, drumming, violin, Fun Music Session.

Each year the groups come together for a Seasonal Ensemble. As per the previous year, this year it was delivered across 1-hourly teaching groups where the students played together and showcased their favourite tunes. It was wonderful to hear the different music from across the various age groups and proficiencies, and all delivered with great community spirit.

**Adult singing lessons (Wednesdays, 7:45pm to 9:15pm)**

The adult singing continues to go from strength to strength as the group establishes with Julie leading the sessions.

The group sang beautifully at Daviot Church in September 2024 featuring 13 singers and drawing an audience of approximately 25. A total of £150 was raised for '*Highlands Supports Refugees*'.

Christmas carols and winter songs performance at Daviot Church was a great success followed by cake and coffee. 'Sing and Feel Good' participated in a singing workshop event alongside other singing groups in Gorthleck.

The group continue to attract new members following their successes.

**Children's singing lessons (Wednesdays, 5pm to 6pm(2 sessions))**

Singing lessons are split into two age groups:

- 1) P1 to P5
- 2) P6 onwards to Secondary school age

The groups sang at the Seasonal Ensemble & Music Cafes.

**SMI Performance Music Group (Tuesdays, 7.15pm to 8.15pm)**

This intergenerational music project aims and works towards the group being prepared to play music at community events (where participant availability allows). This year the group prepared and played at the SMI Ensemble, and the Music Cafe.

At the end of the academic year, changes in Music Teacher availability and a reduction in participant numbers meant that we took the decision to 'pause' with the group and review in January 2026. The Traditional Music Group continues to meet up and will be prepared to play at community events.

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**SMI Traditional Music Group** (Tuesdays, 7.15pm to 8.45pm, once per month)

In October last year we started organising Traditional Music Open Sessions for adults, which are now taking place once monthly. The numbers have varied over the year but are now fairly stable at around 7 musicians per night. The sessions are very much enjoyed by all, and we are building up more of a repertoire.

We played at the recent Gala and hope to perform at similar events in the future. The aim for coming year is to focus more on tunes written by local musicians. We do not charge for the sessions as there are no teacher costs. Of course we are grateful for use of the community hall.

**Other Community Music Events:**

**Music Café**

A Music Café took place in September 2024 and February 2025. This is an opportunity for musicians to perform in an informal setting and to enjoy playing music together.

The Café is open for everyone; you don't have to play music, you can also just listen, chat with others and enjoy a cuppa and tasty home-baking. The music side of the café is led by one of the SMI teachers, who ensures that all adults and children musicians get a chance to perform. We take donations, which will partly cover the costs for the teacher.

**Financial Review and Reserves Policy**

Annual funding is necessary for the charity to perform its charitable objectives. In 2024-25 the trustees sought external funding to cover about 50% of its projected running cost and received a total of £26,700 (2023-24: £25,500) from Strathnairn Community Benefit Fund. The trustees are extremely grateful for this contribution that consisted of a contribution of £19,000 towards the running costs of the charity for the current academic year and a supplement of £7,700, ring-fenced, to cover the cost in the next academic year of a new part-time Charity officer. No other contributions were received in the year from other funding bodies. The Charity's aim is to provide an affordable service for the community and would not be able to meet this important objective without annual funding from the community and other grant providers.

The remaining running costs of the charity were covered by fees collected from the participants who took part in the previous academic year (2023-24), a total of £16,005, and donations obtained in the same year (£225). The fees and donations raised in the current year (2024-25), a total of £15,864 will go towards meeting the costs of 2025-26 academic year.

Donations raised from events run by the charity totalled £639 (2023-24: £225) in the year.

The price paid per participant (£3-£4.5/session) is comparable to the charges for other group activities in the local and extended area, and the fee level has been found affordable for our members, whilst keeping in mind the ethos of being accessible for as many in our community as possible. It is also our policy to set a minimum charge to ensure an acceptable level of motivation and attendance throughout the year. Indeed, fees are paid in advance per term time. However as mentioned, our aim is to be inclusive to all and our Trustees would consider reducing the charge to specific participants for whom the fee level would remain a barrier to participate. We have also encouraged the lending and donation of instruments in the community, which some of our members have already benefited from.

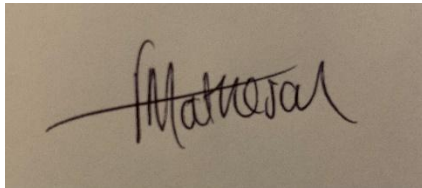
**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE  
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The Charity's expenditure was within budget. The amount raised in Members' fees, donations, and cost savings, has enabled the Charity to accumulate a reasonable fund by the end of this academic year. This prudent approach was adopted by the Charity from the start of its activity to ensure a smooth start in the following academic year in the event of delays in the annual funding provision. This year end cash balance was £29,951 (2023-24: £23,857).

Following the large purchase of music instruments in the first year of operations, the main expenditure for the charity remains annually the hourly cost of the music facilitators excluding travelling expenses. This total expenditure was for the year £34,768 (2023-24: £34,457).

**The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above.**

**Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees**

A handwritten signature in dark ink on a light-colored background. The signature is written in a cursive style and appears to read 'Fran Matheson'.

**Fran Matheson  
Charity Chairperson and Trustee**

**Date: 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE  
(A SCOTTISH CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

**Strathnairn Music Initiative**

**Independent Examiner's report to the members  
on the unaudited financial statements of  
Strathnairn Music Initiative**

I report on the financial statements of Strathnairn Music Initiative for the period ended 15<sup>th</sup> August 2025, which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out therein.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent 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 Regulationshave 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.

Roy Campbell ATT  
Mission House  
Tomatin  
IV13 7XZ

Signed: 

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026



**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE**  
**(A SCOTTISH CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

**Strathnairn Music Initiative**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**  
**for the period ended 15<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>2025 Total Funds</b>	<b>2024 Total Funds</b>
<b>Receipts</b>					
Voluntary Income	5	19,639	7,700	27,339	25,425
Income from Charitable Activities	6	15,225	-	15,225	16,005
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u>34,864</u>	<u>7,700</u>	<u>42,564</u>	<u>41,430</u>
<b>Payments</b>					
Cost of Charitable Activities	7	36,092	-	36,092	35,846
Payments relating to assets	7	378		378	120
Governance Costs		-	-	-	-
<b>Total Payments</b>		<u>36,470</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,470</u>	<u>35,966</u>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for the period</b>		<u>(1,606)</u>	<u>7,700</u>	<u>6,094</u>	<u>5,464</u>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		-	-	-	-
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for the period</b>		<u>(1,606)</u>	<u>7,700</u>	<u>6,094</u>	<u>5,464</u>

**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE**  
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**Strathnairn Music Initiative**

**STATEMENT OF BALANCES**  
**As at 15<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>2025 Total Funds</b>	<b>2024 Total Funds</b>
Opening Cash at bank and in hand	23,857	-	23,857	18,393
Surplus / (Deficit) for the period	(1,606)	7,700	6,094	5,464
Closing Cash at bank and in hand	<u>22,251</u>	<u>7,700</u>	<u>29,951</u>	<u>23,857</u>

**Other Assets (Unrestricted Fund)**

	<u>5,608</u>	<u>5,230</u>
<b>Total cost</b>	<u>5,608</u>	<u>5,230</u>

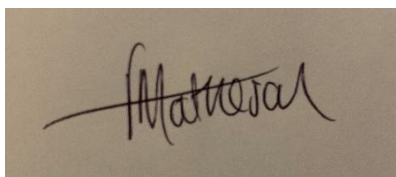
The current 'market' value of the music instruments is estimated at 15% of original costs.

**Liabilities (Unrestricted Fund)**

<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
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The following notes on pages 9 to 11 are also part of these financial statements.

**Theses financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and were signed on their behalf on**



**Frances Matheson (Chairperson & Trustee)**

**Date 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE  
(A SCOTTISH CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025**

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**1 Status of the charity**

Strathnairn Music Initiative was approved as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

**2 Accounting Policies**

***Basis of accounting***

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

***Donations and donated services and facilities***

All donations received are credited to the Statement of Receipts and Payments in the year to which they relate. Donations received or earmarked for specific purposes are accounted for as restricted funds.

***Grants receivable***

Grants receivable are credited to the Statement of Receipts and Payments in the year to which they relate. Grants receivable or earmarked for specific purposes are accounted for as restricted funds.

***Income***

Income has been classified under the following headings:

Voluntary income – This comprises resources generated from voluntary sources including, for example donations and grants where the donor does not receive any direct return as a result of the donation.

Activities for generating funds – This comprises fund-raising activities carried out by the charity to generate incoming resources which will be used to undertake its charitable activities.

Charitable activities – This comprises all incoming resources received, which are a payment for goods and services provided for the benefit of the charity's beneficiaries. It includes fees paid by members to participate to the charity activities.

**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025**

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***Expenditure***

Expenditure has been classified into the following headings:

Charitable Activities – This comprises all resources expended by the charity in undertaking its work to meet its charitable objectives. Such costs include the direct costs of the charitable activities together with those support costs incurred that enable these activities to be undertaken.

Governance costs – This comprises the cost of governance arrangements, which relate to the general running of the charity.

***Nature and Purpose of Funds***

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day-to-day running of the charity

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes. In the current financial year, restricted funds have been issued by the granter to cover the cost of a charity officer in the subsequent academic years.

**3 Related Party transactions**

No remuneration was paid to any trustee or related person

**4 Taxation**

The charitable organisation is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

**5 Voluntary Income**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>2025 Total Funds</b>	<b>2024 Total Funds</b>
Grants	19,000	7,700	26,700	25,200
Donations and gifts	639	-	639	225
<b>Total Voluntary Income</b>	<b>19,639</b>	<b>7,700</b>	<b>27,339</b>	<b>25,425</b>

2024-25 grant awarded from Strathnairn Community Benefit Fund was £26,700 (2023-24: £22,000). This year's grant included an amount of £7,700 to allow the trustees to contract a part-time charity office for running the day to day operations of the charity on their behalf, covering a period of a year and a half, starting from academic year 2025-26. The charity didn't receive any other grant fundings in the year (2023-24: £1,000 from Highlife Highland and £2,000 from The William Syson foundation). More information in relation to grants and donations received in the year can be found in the Trustees' report, accompanying these financial statements.

**STRATHNAIRN MUSIC INITIATIVE**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025**

**6 Income from Charitable Activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>2025 Total Funds</b>	<b>2024 Total Funds</b>
Members' fees	15,225	-	15,225	16,005
<b>Total Income from Charitable Activities</b>	<b>15,225</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,225</b>	<b>16,005</b>

**7 Cost of Charitable Activities**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>2025 Total Funds</b>	<b>2024 Total Funds</b>
Music facilitators fees and expenses	34,768	-	34,768	34,457
Instrument purchase and other equipment	378	-	378	120
Facility rental	-	-	-	-
Insurance and other professional fees	902	-	902	887
Stationery and other miscellaneous costs	422	-	422	502
<b>Total Cost of Charitable Activities</b>	<b>36,470</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36,470</b>	<b>35,966</b>

No remuneration and no expenses were paid during the period to any charity Trustee or person connected to a Trustee.

The cost related to the independent review of this and last year (2023-24) 's financial statements was paid on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2026 (£100 in total).