

# Girvan Traditional Folk Festival

Scotland · Charity number SC048244

## Details

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Status	Active
Legal form	SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Registered	2018-03-26
Register	<a href="#">View on the OSCR register</a>

## Contact

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Address	■ 4 North Park Avenue Girvan KA26 9DH
Website	<a href="http://www.girvanfolkfestival.org.uk">www.girvanfolkfestival.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Activities:** 'It carries out activities or services itself'

**Purposes:** 'the advancement of education', 'the advancement of citizenship or community development', 'the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science'

**What the charity does:** Girvan Traditional Folk Festival (SC048244) promotes and enables participation in the traditional arts for people of all ages and backgrounds in Girvan, South West Scotland and beyond. Our main activity is our annual Festival, held every Mayday holiday weekend since 1975 (?? with the notable exception of 2020! ??) making it one of Scotland's longest-established gatherings of traditional musicians – a significant economic driver for the local area and beloved by the many visitors who faithfully attend and participate each year.

**Beneficiaries:** 'Children or young people', 'Older People', 'People with disabilities or health problems', 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community', 'Other charities or voluntary bodies'

**Objectives:** The organisation's purposes are: In providing a public benefit for Scotland and elsewhere, the organisation's AIMS & OBJECTIVES and associated activities are 1. To advance Scottish arts, heritage and culture by: I.Sustaining the organising, and managing an annual festival of the Traditional Arts in Girvan with a strategic short and long term management plan in order to promote an interest in traditional music and related art forms including folksong, dance and storytelling II.Encouraging and facilitating the passing on of skills and repertoire to successive generations of musicians III.To develop and manage The Girvan Traditional Folk Festival and related activities in ways which benefit both the local community and contribute to the promotion and preservation of traditional music in a national context 2. To advance citizenship and community development by: I. Engagement with Girvan Town Team in collaborative events planning for the social benefits of town and village community operating in joined up community development support thinking. II. Reaching out to rural village communities to enhance quality of living, particularly in the disabled

care sector. III. Creating more inclusive arts and education opportunities to address South Ayrshire's rural social deprivation 3.To advance education in the areas of traditional music, song, dance and storytelling and develop associated performance skills by: I.Encouraging and facilitating the passing on of skills and repertoire to successive generations of musicians through the provision of skills and mentoring workshops

## Geography

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- **Main operating location:** South Ayrshire
- **Geographical spread:** UK and overseas

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£31,083	£37,450	-	0
2024-09-30	£24,004	£21,398	-	0
2023-09-30	£20,688	£18,340	-	0
2022-09-30	£17,062	£24,196	-	0
2021-09-30	£11,815	£3,675	-	0

**Girvan Traditional Folk Festival**

Scotland - Charity number SC048244

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# Accounts

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**EST 1975**  
**GIRVAN**  
**TRADITIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL**

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025





## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	10	2024	To	30	09	2025

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

### Reference and administration details

Charity name	Girvan Traditional Folk Festival
Other names charity is known by	Girvan Folk Festival
Registered charity number	SC048244
Charity's principal address	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	Postcode [REDACTED]

### 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	[REDACTED]	[ Festival Director ]		
2	[REDACTED]	Treasurer		GTFF Board
3	[REDACTED]	Secretary		GTFF Board
4	[REDACTED]	Vice-chair		GTFF Board
5	[REDACTED]			GTFF Board
6	[REDACTED]			GTFF Board
7	[REDACTED]	Chair		GTFF Board

### 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
[REDACTED]	01/20/2024 – 03/04/2025
[REDACTED]	01/20/2024 – 03/04/2025
[REDACTED]	01/20/2024 – 03/04/2025

## Structure, governance and management

<b>Type of governing document</b>	Constitution
<b>Trustee recruitment and appointment</b>	<p>At each AGM, the members may elect any member to be a trustee. The board may at any time appoint any member to be a trustee.</p> <p>New members undergo induction and training to brief them on their legal obligations under charity law, the content of the constitution, the leadership team and decision making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the organisation.</p>

## Objectives and activities

<b>Charitable purposes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To advance Scottish arts, heritage and culture.</li><li>2. To advance citizenship and community development.</li><li>3. To advance education in the areas of traditional music, song, dance and storytelling and develop associated performance skills.</li></ol>
<b>Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects</b>	<p>Our annual Festival, held every year since 1975 (with the notable exception of 2020), promotes the traditional arts and has participatory arts &amp; culture, community collaboration and inclusion at the heart of an ambitious artistic programme of traditional music, song, dance and storytelling.</p> <p>Additional activities include outreach activities in surrounding areas bringing high quality arts and cultural programming to rural communities (such as "Ballads at Ballantrae" held in November 2023 as part of Book Week Scotland) and an ambitious programme of commissioning and publishing work that highlights and showcases the traditional culture and heritage of Carrick and Ayrshire.</p>

## Achievements and performance

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

The 50<sup>th</sup> Girvan Traditional Folk Festival took place from 2<sup>nd</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> May 2025 and delivered a full weekend of concerts, workshops, informal music sessions and community events. We hosted 5 ticketed concerts alongside a free programme of sessions, family activities, and our spectacular shoreside fireshow in partnership with **CRAG Community Arts SCIO**.

Weekend tickets for the Festival sold out in advance and all evening events and most afternoon events were at capacity. Formal attendance numbers at ticketed events was 855 and our estimate of overall visitor numbers to the town were in excess of 1100.

Artists included leading traditional musicians from across Scotland, Ireland and England performing with, and alongside, a cast of local community musicians from **Girvan Folk and Music Club**, **Girvan Community Choir** and **Ayr CCÉ**.

A very special addition to our normal programme of events was the presence of the **Sessions and Sail** team in the beautiful tall ship *The Lady of Avenel* which was moored in the harbour for the duration of the Festival and hosted a number of events.

Another new initiative was our hugely popular Ballad Bus event – a ‘song safari’ with eminent folklorist [REDACTED] around sites and locations within the local area that are associated with traditional song. This event was delivered in partnership with partner organisation **South Ayrshire Community Transport SCIO**.

Our last formal Economic Impact Assessment was conducted in 2015 so we chose our anniversary year as an ideal occasion to conduct a renewed impact assessment in partnership with **EKOS Consulting Ltd**.

As we now look forward to the period beyond our golden anniversary we consider how we can continue to grow the Festival’s scope and reputation and cement our vision for Girvan Festival as a vibrant fixture in Scotland’s traditional music calendar for years to come.

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves

On the advice of Foundation Scotland our 2019 SCIO AGM instigated a policy of seeking to build financial reserves equivalent to six month’s operation. This figure is reviewed each year and is currently set at £10,000. Having made small draws upon reserves in recent years we are now working to return to our ideal figure.

Unrestricted reserves provide a degree of security in an uncertain funding landscape.

### Details of any deficit

We made a further draw on our organisational reserves of £2115.87. We feel this amount is commensurate with celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Furthermore this includes the fee for our renewed Economic Impact Assessment which should remain valid for a decade and can be recouped over the same period.

### Donated facilities and services (if any)

The organisation is grateful for the invaluable contributions of our volunteers, whose dedication and hard work are instrumental to our success. We are fortunate to have a committed group of volunteers, both those serving on our committee and those who generously offer their time and energies over the Festival weekend and without whom it would be impossible for us to operate.

## 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)

Full name(s)

Position (e.g. Chair) Festival Director

Date 30/09/2025

	Enter charity name below					Enter SC No. below	
	<b>Girvan Traditional Folk Festival</b>					<b>SC048244</b>	
	<b>Receipts and payments accounts</b>						
	For the period from	Period start date			to	Period end date	
	Day	Mo	On	Year	Day	Month	Year
	01	O	c	2024	30	S	e
						p	t

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>						
Donations					-	
Legacies					-	
Grants	21,500				21,500	19,352
Receipts from fundraising activities	9,019				9,019	4,153
Gross trading receipts	564				564	398
Income from investments other than land and buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	
					-	
<b>A1 Sub total</b>	<b>31,083</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,083</b>	<b>23,903</b>
<b>A2 Receipts from asset &amp; investment sales</b>						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
<b>A2 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>31,083</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,083</b>	<b>23,903</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>						
Expenses for fundraising activities	35,205				35,205	17,934
Gross trading payments					-	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	2,109				2,109	1,908
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination	136				136	166
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
Other					-	
					-	
<b>A3 Sub total</b>	<b>37,450</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37,450</b>	<b>20,008</b>
<b>A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements</b>						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
<b>A4 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>37,450</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37,450</b>	<b>20,008</b>
<b>Net receipts /(payments)</b>	<b>(6,366)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(6,366)</b>	<b>3,895</b>
<b>A5 Transfers to /(from) funds</b>						
					-	
<b>Surplus /(deficit) for year</b>	<b>(6,366)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(6,366)</b>	<b>3,895</b>



## Section C Notes to the Accounts

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

	Type of activity or project supported	Individual / institution	Number of grants made	£
<b>C2 Grants</b>				
	<b>Total</b>			-

<b>C3a Trustee remuneration</b>	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
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	Authority under which paid	£
<b>C3b Trustee remuneration - details</b>		

<b>C4a Trustee expenses</b>	If no expenses were paid to any charity trustee during the period then cross this box (otherwise complete section 4b)	x
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	Number of trustees	£
<b>C4b Trustee expenses - details</b>		

	Nature of relationship	Nature of transaction	Transaction amount (£)	Balance outstanding at period end (£)
<b>C5 Transactions with trustees and connected persons</b>				

<b>C6 Other information</b>	
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**APPENDIX 3**



**Report to the trustees/members of**

**Registered charity number  
On the accounts of the charity for the period**

**Set out on pages**

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

**Independent examiner's statement**

**Signed:**

**Name:**

**Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):**

**Address:**

<b>Independent examiner's report on the accounts</b> <span style="float: right;">v2</span>						
Charity name Girvan Traditional Folk Festival						
Registered charity number <b>SC048244</b>						
Period start date			to	Period end date		
Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
01	10	2024		30	09	2025
					(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)	
<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>						
<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>						
<p>In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention</p> <p>1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and</li> <li>• to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations</li> </ul> <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>						
				<b>Date:</b>	22/01/2025	

