

# Visiting Friends SCIO

Scotland · Charity number SC048362

## Details

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Status	Active
Legal form	SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Registered	2018-05-08
Register	<a href="#">View on the OSCR register</a>

## Contact

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Address	First Floor 101 -103 East Clyde Street Helensburgh Argyll and Bute G84 7PJ
Website	<a href="https://visitingfriends.org/">https://visitingfriends.org/</a>

## Activities

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

**Purposes:** 'the advancement of health', 'the advancement of citizenship or community development', 'the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage'

**What the charity does:** We provide 1:1 volunteer befriending for adults across Helensburgh and Lomond

**Beneficiaries:** 'Older People', 'People with disabilities or health problems'

**Objectives:** 4. Visiting Friends SCIO has been formed to benefit the people of Helensburgh in particular (and the three electoral wards of Helensburgh and Lomond as a whole) ("the Community"), with the purposes listed in the sub-clauses hereto ("the Purposes"), to be exercised following the principles of sustainable development (where sustainable development means development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs). In accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment Act 2005 the aims of the organisation are to: 4.1. Reduce social isolation and loneliness in adults (charitable purposes 'd' the advancement of health and 'n' the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage) 4.2. Raise awareness and involvement of the community in matters relating to social isolation and loneliness, and encourage social inclusion. (charitable purpose 'f' the advancement of citizenship)

## Geography

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

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£77,943	£72,063	-	2
2024-05-31	£75,070	£80,972	-	2
2023-05-31	£71,000	£63,000	-	2
2022-05-31	£65,093	£59,873	-	2
2021-05-31	£49,793	£62,103	-	2


**Visiting Friends SCIO**

Scotland - Charity number SC048362

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# Accounts

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		Visiting Friends				SC48362	
		Receipts and payments accounts					
For the period from		1 06 2024		to		31 05 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 £	
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					72,543		
Donations	72,543				-0		
Legacies					-0		
Grants					-0		
Receipts from fundraising activities					-0		
Gross trading receipts					-0		
Income from investments other than land and buildings					5,400		
Rents from land & buildings	5,400				-0		
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-0		
<b>A1 Sub total</b>	<b>77,943</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>77,943</b>		<b>75,070</b>
<b>A2 Receipts from asset &amp; investment sales</b>					-0		
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-0		
Proceeds from sale of investments	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0		-0
<b>A2 Sub total</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>		<b>-0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>77,943</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>77,943</b>		<b>75,070</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					-0		
Expenses for fundraising activities					-0		
Gross trading payments					-0		
Investment management costs					-0		
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	71,713				71,713		
Grants and donations					-0		
Governance costs:					300		
Audit / independent examination	300				50		
Preparation of annual accounts	50				-0		
Legal costs					-0		
Other					-0		
<b>A3 Sub total</b>	<b>72,063</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>72,063</b>		<b>80,972</b>
<b>A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements</b>					397		
Purchases of fixed assets	397				-0		
Purchase of investments					397		-0
<b>A4 Sub total</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>397</b>		<b>-0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>72,460</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>72,460</b>		<b>80,972</b>
<b>Net receipts / (payments)</b>	<b>5,483</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,483</b>		<b>(5,902)</b>
<b>A5 Transfers to / (from) funds</b>							
<b>Surplus / (deficit) for year</b>	<b>5,483</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,483</b>		<b>(5,902)</b>

APPENDIX 2

Visiting Friends		SC48362						
Section B Statement of balances								
Categories	Details	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 £	
B1 Cash funds	Cash and bank balances at start of year	7,700				7,700		
	Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	5,483				5,483		
						-		
	Cash and bank balances at end of year	13,183	-	-	-	13,183	7,700	
	(Agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))							
	Details			Fund to which asset belongs	Market valuation to nearest £	Last year to nearest £		
B2 Investments								
				Total	-	-		
	Details			Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (if available) to nearest £	Current value (if available) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £	
B3 Other assets								
					Total	-	-	
	Details			Fund to which liability relates	Amount due to nearest £	Last year to nearest £		
B4 Liabilities								
					Total	- 0	- 0	
	Details			Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (estimate) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £		
B5 Contingent liabilities								
					Total	-	-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees							Date of approval	
						22/1/2025		



## Visiting Friends, Trustees Report June 2024 – May 2025

2024 - 2025 has been another busy year for Visiting Friends, providing one to one volunteer befriending for adults in Helensburgh and Lomond. Despite our numbers of matches declining slightly with an average of 36 matches being supported, the work has remained constant in recruiting volunteers and supporting these often complex matches. This decline has reflected the slightly higher than average number of clients passing away during this time period and also sadly the death of one of our wonderful longstanding volunteers. Volunteer retention remains a high priority for us as the number of new volunteers coming forward remains low, reflecting the UK wide pattern for all volunteer involving organisations.

Because of the need to reduce barriers to volunteering we continued to provide travel expenses to those volunteers who were prepared to travel a considerable distance from their home to visit their friends. The approximate cost for this accounting year has been £1200. The costs of this have been partially offset by the remainder of funds gratefully received from the CO-OP Community Fund.

The charity has once again concentrated on volunteer engagement and partnerships with local businesses, and in June 2024, thanks to the National Trust for Scotland, we enjoyed a specially curated and supported event at Hill House, where the Friends in addition to being treated to tea and cake, were able to tour the property, and even take wheelchairs around the gantry and see the house from it's rooftop!

For the second year running, alongside Helensburgh Community Hub, we co-hosted the Volunteers Week event at Helensburgh Civic Centre, celebrating all volunteers across Helensburgh Lomond. This was an excellent opportunity to raise our profile locally, particularly as we are an organisation that cannot run without volunteers.

We have enjoyed excellent local press coverage throughout the year and in February 2025 our manager was invited to write a regular column for the Helensburgh Advertiser which will hopefully attract some new volunteers to the charity.

We were delighted to receive a sizeable donation from the Barremman Bowling Club in Rosneath and invited to enjoy a game of bowls with their members: they gave us an incredible welcome and reminded us that these small clubs are the lifeline and heart of the community in keeping us all connected. Such was the connection between our two organisations we reciprocated some of their generosity by inviting their members on our annual bus trip, which this year was to The Riverside Museum. A great success!

In addition to our regular coffees held throughout the year (even storm Eowen couldn't keep us down!) and our Walk in the Park we celebrated befriending week with a special coffee to thank our volunteers for their commitment to Visiting Friends. Thanks must go to Ardarden for continuing to support us with our coaster and postbox campaign to raise awareness of Visiting Friends and befriending.

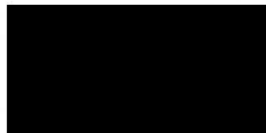
This year our new database system 'Lamplight' went live and this has reduced our paperwork considerably and allowed for smooth handover of information in our small charity where staff are not always working at the same time.

Visiting Friends continues to connect with other befriending organisations and our Manager and Co-ordinator, both members of Befriending Networks attended a really useful networking event in Glasgow where they were able to discuss pertinent befriending topics and meet other befriending organisations – an essential part of working in our sector where they can sometimes feel a bit isolated from their peers. Our manager also took part in the Scottish Covid Enquiry in December, where alongside other befriending representatives she was able to recount the experience and lasting effects of the covid response on our organisation and its members

Thanks go to [REDACTED] for their ongoing support of Visiting Friends via the Clarke Family Foundation.

[REDACTED] 2025

Chair of Visiting Friends SC048362



**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:**

Independent examiner's report on the accounts							v2
Charity name							
Visiting Friends							
Registered charity number							
SC048362							
Period start date				Period end date			
Day	Month	Year	to	Day	Month	Year	
01	June	2024		31	May	2025	
Set out on pages						(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. 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 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.</p>							
<p>In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than that disclosed on the attached page*]</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>	26.06.25		
<p><b>Signed:</b> [Redacted]</p>							
<p><b>Name:</b> [Redacted]</p>							
<p><b>Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):</b> [Redacted]</p>							
<p><b>Address:</b> [Redacted]</p>							

\*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.