

Safari (SCIO) Chairpersons Annual Report 2024 - 2025

Introduction to Safari

Safari (SCIO) is a small Scottish charity based in Dundee, working with vulnerable groups including adults with learning disabilities and autism. We use creative and leisure activities to enable participants to develop skills, experience success, and take part in community-based opportunities where they can enjoy empowered roles and gain recognition for their positive contributions.


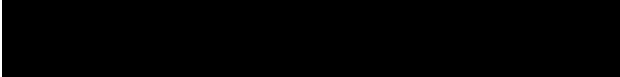
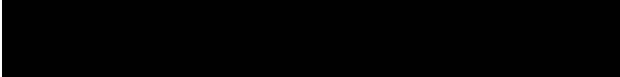
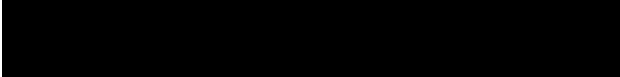
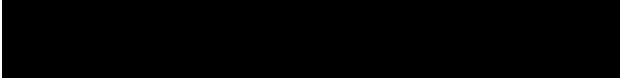
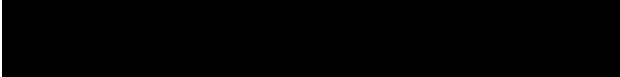
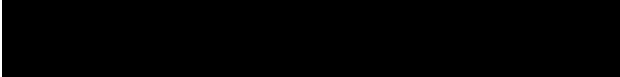

Our focus on the arts reflects the unique opportunities creative activities offer for self-expression, confidence building, and inclusion. In art, there is no right or wrong — difference is celebrated as a strength. Our activities bring diverse art forms together and support individuals to engage meaningfully, regardless of cognitive or physical ability.

Through this work we:

- Increase public exposure to, and appreciation of, the arts.
- Provide opportunities for participation by people who might otherwise be excluded.
- Encourage high standards by nurturing talent and raising artistic skills.
- Develop a hub of recognised artists within Dundee and surrounding areas.
- Preserve and promote traditional crafts and skills, including storytelling and oral history.

Safari's community activities also support experiential learning and pre-vocational skills such as communication, teamwork, timekeeping, problem-solving, and confidence building. These skills help participants move forward on their life journeys, with creativity as the starting point for adventure.

Trustees

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Registered Office

Wallace White 2nd Floor, 22–24 Blythswood Square Glasgow G2 4BG

Structure, Governance & Management

Safari is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), registered on 7 November 2019. It has a two-tier constitution based on the SCVO model, giving members important rights including the appointment of trustees at the AGM.

The management committee, which normally meets monthly, are the charity's trustees. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in advancing Safari's purposes. Trustees are elected annually, with a minimum of three and maximum of seven serving at any time.

Charitable Purposes

Our purposes are to:

- Promote Scottish heritage, culture, and the arts through storytelling, theatre, visual arts, dance, music, and creative writing.
- Provide recreational activities that improve wellbeing and reduce social isolation.
- Support education by offering inclusive learning and skills development opportunities, including horticultural and nature-based creative activities.

Financial Review

Safari's activities during 2024–25 were supported by partnership funding and community contributions. Funding enabled us to deliver workshops, performances, and social events, while maintaining our commitment to inclusion and wellbeing.

Chairperson's Report Annual General Meeting

Over the past twelve months, our members have taken part in a wide range of workshops and performances, each designed to encourage self-expression, build confidence, and support wellbeing.

ACTIVITIES

2024–25 has been a year of growth, creativity, and connection. Highlights include:

- **Dance workshops** led by [REDACTED], encouraging fun, movement, and creative self-expression. These sessions also included drama games, improvisations, and preparations for our own version of *Hansel and Gretel*, planned as a pantomime for Christmas 2025.
- **Scottish Learning Disability Week (Sept 2025):** Safari hosted a workshop with artist [REDACTED] from Lung Ha Theatre Company, Edinburgh. This inclusive taster session was shared widely across social media and NHS Tayside partner channels as part of the *Across Scotland* initiative.
- **Performance project (May–July 2025):** *Dennis the Menace and Gnasher Visit Dundee V&A*, facilitated by Abigail Underwood, was a highly successful creative venture.
- **Visiting facilitators:** We welcomed [REDACTED] (Jan 2025) and [REDACTED] (Oct 2025), Occupational Therapy students from Robert Gordon University. Their workshops explored creative engagement with nature, using natural materials,

storytelling, and nature themed drama games to highlight the health benefits of connecting with our environment.

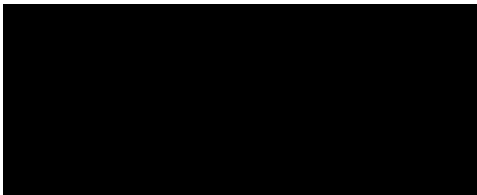
- **Wellbeing block:** An eight-week summer programme led by external facilitator [REDACTED] focused on diet, activity, and social connection, using creativity to explore ways of looking after health and wellbeing.
- **Social highlights:** Halloween and Christmas party nights, complete with games, treats, and karaoke, were popular events that strengthened friendships and community spirit.

Highlights included dance workshops led by [REDACTED], a special taster session with Lung Ha Theatre Company during Scottish Learning Disability Week, and our successful performance of *Dennis the Menace and Gnasher Visit Dundee V&A*. We also welcomed visiting facilitators who explored creative ways of engaging with nature and ran an eight-week wellbeing block with external facilitator [REDACTED].

Alongside these creative opportunities, our social events — Halloween and Christmas parties with games, treats, and karaoke — were much-loved highlights, strengthening friendships and community spirit.

At our AGM members expressed strong positive feedback for the year's work and a unanimous commitment to continue developing our range of creative opportunities. We are proud of the progress made since our last AGM in October 2024 and look forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead.

Signed



Chairperson

Plans for Future Activities

Looking ahead, Safari will continue to expand its creative programme, with a particular focus on:

- Delivering our pantomime *Hansel and Gretel* in Christmas 2025.
- Strengthening partnerships with NHS Tayside and national organisations to promote inclusion.
- Offering more nature-based creative opportunities to support health and wellbeing.
- Building on our reputation as a hub for accessible arts in Dundee.

Safari remains committed to supporting individuals to thrive through creativity, connection, and community.

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
SAFARI (SCIO)
Charity Registration Number SC049710**

SAFARI (SCIO)

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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SAFARI (SCIO)

**Charity Information
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

TRUSTEES:

SECRETARY:

REGISTERED NUMBER:

SC049710 (Scotland)

ACCOUNTANTS:

Wallace White Accountants
2nd Floor
22-24 Blythswood Square
Glasgow
G2 4BG

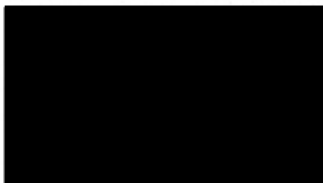
SAFARI (SCIO)

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Trustees

The Trustees shown below have held office during the whole of the year ended 31 March 2025 to the date of this report.



The trustees hold no beneficial interest.

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

Structure, Governance, and Management

Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 7th November 2019. It has a two-tier constitution, based on the SCVO SCIO two tier model constitution and as such, members have a range of important rights including the right to appoint people to serve on the board at the annual general meeting.

Appointment of Trustees

The management committee, which normally meets monthly, are the charity's trustees. Membership of the management committee is open to anyone with an interest in promoting the advancement of the organisation's purposes. Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting which is held in April. There must be a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 7 trustees.

Charitable Purposes

The organisation's purposes are:

- To promote the advancement of Scottish heritage, culture, and the arts; specifically, the organisation shall undertake activities which develop storytelling, theatre arts, visual arts, dance, music and creative writing.
- To provide recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for individuals of all ages and backgrounds to encourage participants to take up pastimes that will be beneficial to their health and wellbeing whilst reducing social isolation.
- To support the advancement of education by offering opportunities for learning and skills development, including horticultural activities with a shared creative focus.

Activities

Safari has continued to provide a service to its membership in the post Covid phase of recovery that has dominated the organisations work during 2023/2024. We have enjoyed a return to face-to-face community-based group activities, including drama and multi-sensory storytelling, which are regularly attended by up to 20 participants. Volunteer trustees have been supported to access additional relevant training to up-skill themselves and offer additional opportunities to participants. Training undertaken by volunteer trustees has included; Facilitation Skills, Wellbeing Champion, Suicide Prevention & Safety Planning, and attendance at the National Storytelling Centre.

We have also engaged with a range of freelance artists, including movement/dance specialists and theatre based creative practitioners, who through their sessional activities, have offered enhanced learning and enjoyment for participants across the spectrum of creative arts. Safari has continued to maintain personal contact with all of its membership through regular phone calls, text messages, online group activities and a vibrant presence on its Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SafariTayside> as it is recognised that for some, returning to face to face contact has not yet been possible. There are a number of factors which influence this situation including the issues of individual social anxiety, which as an organisation; we take a proactive supportive approach to overcoming.

We have relocated the majority of our group activities to Douglas Community Centre where additional concierge services can be accessed to ensure the wellbeing and engagement of all participants, and our sessions have been delivered in the evening to accommodate availability of facilitators and also to offer social opportunities to our participants out with office hours. We also enjoyed a return to social activities, including a Christmas Disco, buffet and sharing performances by our storytellers, Timeless Tales, and our drama group 'Illuminate Ensemble'.

Safari have continued to work in close partnership with colleagues from NHS Tayside Learning Disability service, sharing key information on how to keep safe, and maintain both physical and psychological wellbeing through targeted information and suggested activities. The role of disseminating accessible information remains a key objective during the past year and our ongoing relationship with Scottish Commission for people with Learning Disabilities (SCLD) <https://www.sclld.org.uk/> enables us to remain current and share easy read information and guidance in a timely fashion.

Financial Review

Income for the year totals £1,350 (2024: £1,822) whilst expenditure totals £1,348 (2024: £2,521) resulting in a surplus of £2 (2024: £699 deficit).

Plans for Future Activities

Plans are in place for our storytelling apprenticeship scheme to restart, and a program of recruitment will follow in the coming months. It is planned that over the next 12 months, further advancements will be made within the storytelling apprenticeship scheme in collaboration with participants, and it is hoped that we will shortly return to face to face storytelling performances in small group settings. Discussions have also begun in preparation for a return to performance opportunities both for drama productions and interactive storytelling events.

The full impact of Covid 19 on individuals' wellbeing has yet to be fully assessed, however Safari determines the need to focus on maintaining and improving the health and wellbeing of our participants through continued access to creative arts, leisure and learning opportunities in the forthcoming year. Specifically, we hope to explore opportunities to develop a friendship network and talks are underway with befriending schemes led by other 3rd sector organisations in the local community with experience of setting up a befriending project.

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES:

Chair

Date: 4th Dec 2025

SAFARI (SCIO)

Statement of Receipts and Payments
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds General	Year Ended 2025	Year Ended 2024
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grants	1,350	-	1,350	1,800
Amazon	-	-	-	22
Total Receipts	1,350	-	1,350	1,822
Payments				
Sessional Workers	900	-	900	1,800
Other Expenses	208	-	208	481
Accountancy	240	-	240	240
Total Receipts	1,348	-	1,348	2,521
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	2	-	2	(699)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	2	-	2	(699)

SAFARI (SCIO)

Statement of Balances
As at 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds General	Year Ended 2025	Year Ended 2024
Opening cash at bank	1,441	-	1,441	2,140
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	2	-	2	(699)
Closing cash at bank	1,443	-	1,443	1,441

SAFARI (SCIO)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. 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).

2. 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.

3. Related Party Transactions

No remuneration was paid to the trustees or any connected persons during the year (2024: Nil).

4. Grants

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds General	Year Ended 2025	Year Ended 2024
Tayside Health Board	-	1,350	1,350	1,800
	-	1,350	1,350	1,800

SAFARI (SCIO)

**Report of the Accountants to the Trustees of
SAFARI (SCIO)**

I, Martin White IFA FIPA FFTA, report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages one to six.


Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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 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.



Wallace White Accountants
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22-24 Blythswood Square
Glasgow
G2 4BG

10th September 2025