

Stonehaven Folk Festival SCIO

Scotland · Charity number SC049859

Details

Known as	Stonehaven Folk Festival
Status	Active
Legal form	SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Registered	2020-01-15
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address	Broomlea Glenbervie Road Drumlithie Stonehaven AB39 3YU
Website	www.stonehavenfolkfestival.co.uk

Activities

Activities: 'It makes grants, donations, loans, gifts or pensions to individuals','It makes grants, donations or gifts to organisations','It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the advancement of education','the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science'

What the charity does: Stonehaven Folk Festival's purposes are to promote, maintain, improve and advance education particularly by promoting and encouraging the study, practice and knowledge of the arts, especially folk music. In relation to these objects, SFF organises and promotes a festival of traditional and contemporary music each year during July in and around Stonehaven, as well as a ceilidh each Hogmanay. From time to time, as decided by the board of trustees, it may award scholarships, sponsor or otherwise support individuals or organisations in the community, in the furtherance of its purposes.

Beneficiaries: 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community'

Objectives: 4 The organisation's purposes are: 4.1 The purpose and objectives of the Organisation shall be to promote, maintain, improve and advance education particularly by promoting and encouraging the study, practice and knowledge of the arts, especially folk music. 4.2 For these purposes the Organisation shall:- Organize, promote, manage and conduct a Festival of traditional and contemporary music each year during July in and around Stonehaven. said festival would typically include but would not necessarily be limited to 4.2.1 a range of concerts lectures and workshops on various "folk music" related activities 4.2.2 Informal "sessions" where singers, musicians and the public can meet and play together, thereby raising the public's awareness of "folk music" and fostering good relations with the citizens of Stonehaven 4.3 From time to time,

as decided by the management committee, award scholarships, sponsor or otherwise support individuals or Organisations in the community in the furtherance of the purpose and objectives. 4.4 These activities will serve to: 4.4.1 promote the appreciation and preservation of folk music. 4.4.2 encourage youth participation in, and attendance at, the Festival. 4.4.3 promote new talent. and 4.4.4 encourage active participation in musical activities.

Geography

- **Main operating location:** Aberdeenshire
- **Geographical spread:** Wider, but within one local authority area

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	-	-	-	-
2025-10-31	£65,560	£57,487	-	0
2024-10-31	£59,020	£57,088	-	0
2023-10-31	£40,260	£35,880	-	0
2022-10-31	£36,903	£36,558	-	0
2021-10-31	£3	£1,041	-	0
2020-10-31	£0	£6,108	-	0

Stonehaven Folk Festival SCIO

Scotland - Charity number SC049859

Accounts

APPENDIX 1



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	01	11	2024	To	31	10	2025

Reference and administration details

Charity name	Stonehaven Folk Festival SCIO	
Other names charity is known by		
Registered charity number	SC049859	
Charity's principal address	Broomlea	
	Glenbervie Road	
	Drumlithie	
	STONEHAVEN	Postcode AB39 3YU

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	David Bliss	Chair		
2	Susan Briggs			
3	Margaret Findlay			
4	Andrew Harding			
5	Martin Kasprowicz			
6	Anna Matheson			
7	Louise Park			
8	Blythe Primrose			
9	Diane Reid	Secretary		
10	Garry Sutherland	Treasurer		

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
George Kenneth Clark	
James Thomson	
Ann Reid	01.11.24 – 10.04.25
John Crawford	01.11.24 – 10.04.25

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The charity is a SCIO registered on 15 January 2020. The governing document is a constitution adopted on 2 February 2020, and subsequently amended on 9 May 2024 and 11 July 2025.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Prospective trustees are recruited from amongst existing members. They can then either be elected at the AGM, or co-opted by the existing board at other times during the year.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes

Stonehaven Folk Festival's (SFF) purposes are to promote, maintain, improve and advance education particularly by promoting and encouraging the study, practice and knowledge of the arts, especially folk music.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

- SFF organises and promotes a festival of traditional and contemporary music each year during July in and around Stonehaven.
- From time to time, as decided by the board of trustees, SFF may award scholarships, sponsor or otherwise support individuals or organisations in the community, in the furtherance of its purposes.
- By these activities, SFF aims to promote the appreciation and preservation of folk music; encourage youth participation in, and attendance at, the festival; promote new talent; and encourage active participation in musical activities.

Achievements and performance

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

The 2025 Festival was an outstanding success. This was due – in no small part – to the success of the board of trustees who have proved themselves, once again, to be a very effective management team helping to ensure that the organisation of the festival runs smoothly, whilst dealing with changing conditions, missed flights, frantic bus bookings and much, much more.

The line up for the 2025 festival continued to emphasise its commitment to bringing high quality acts to Stonehaven, as well as highlighting local talent. The workshop programme demonstrated one of the ways that we promote learning and understanding of traditional music and song.

Financially, 2024 – 25 saw the festival achieve a stable base from which to continue this championing of folk music for the foreseeable future and the statement of accounts bears this out. Our finance model is such that we are not currently dependent on outside organisations to keep us afloat. The planned development of sponsorship packages will only enhance the festival's financial stability and help it to achieve its educational aspirations.

The board of trustees are developing a set of policies and procedures to enhance the organisation and to ensure the safety of all those who attend festival.

The SFF social media presence has been much improved over the last two years, and the short films produced by one of the trustees are increasingly being recognised for their clarity and strong production values.

The organisation is managed and run by volunteers. Without them, the Stonehaven Folk Festival would not happen. Their contributions have ensured the success of the festival and the organisation's achievements in meeting its purposes.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Stonehaven Folk Festival's policy is to hold reserves to:

- meet contractual obligations if the festival is cancelled at short notice,
- provide financial resilience against unforeseen events such as extreme weather or public health emergencies, and to
- support continuity of charitable activities and protect the charity's reputation.

Details of any deficit

The festival's aim is always to break even and to create a small surplus to reinvest to maintain the ongoing development of the organisation. In 2024 - 25 the festival generated a surplus.

Donated facilities and services (if any)

The festival did not receive any donated facilities or services during 2024 - 25.

Other optional information

The 2025 festival featured a fantastic line-up including Mànrán, The Henry Girls, Ally Forsyth, Old Blind Dogs, Tom Campbell Trio, Ellie Beaton, Fiddlers Bid, Fell Line, Pete MacCallum as well as El Pony Pisador all the way from Spain! Their journey to the festival was not without its challenges as their late arrival into Edinburgh airport meant that they missed their train to Stonehaven. They were re-booked on to the Ember Bus and two hours later disgorged on to the side of the A90 at Fordoun where a mini-bus met them and brought them on to the Town Hall. It was well worth it as their performance at the closing concert was the highlight of the festival.

In addition to the main concerts, there were 53 fringe events over the weekend - 22 workshops, 16 sessions and 15 other events. As part of the festival's commitment to retaining musical culture, the Tradition Bearers Concert welcomed stalwarts from across the UK including Paddy Buchanan (Scotland), Susie Kelly (Scotland), Rosie Upton (England) and Denis McGonigle (Ireland).

2025 marked the first Stonehaven Bothy Ballad Competition, which was run in conjunction with TMSA, and replaced the Falkland Competition, which has been hosted in Stonehaven for the last few years. There were 17 entries, and the winner of the brand-new cup was Paddy Buchanan.

Another new event in 2025 was the children's Scottish poetry and music recital that was run in conjunction with the Burns Club who were very happy with the inaugural event and are working hard to encourage more participation in 2026.

The free Concert in the Square is always a big draw over the weekend and in 2025 was blessed with fantastic weather. Normally relying on a marquee, the event became an open-air concert as temperatures soared!

The contribution of the hard-working board throughout the year and of all the volunteers over the weekend of the festival itself to ensure the smooth running of all the events, are thoroughly appreciated. Without them the festival would simply not happen.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) <i>OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures</i>	<i>David Bliss</i>	
Full name(s)	David Bliss	
Position (e.g. Chair)	Chair	
Date	13 May 2026	

Stonehaven Folk Festival SCIO

Scotland - Charity number SC049859

Accounts

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Full name(s)	David Bliss	
Position (e.g. Chair)	Chair	
Date	13 May 2026	

Stonehaven Folk Festival SCIO

Scotland - Charity number SC049859

Accounts

Charity Registration Number: SC049859 (Scotland)

**STONEHAVEN FOLK FESTIVAL
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024**

Profit and Loss

Stonehaven Folk Festival

INCOME

Income

Previous Year Late Payments	368	2,000	
Fundraising	9,838	8,422	1
Personal Donations	1,021		
Direct Sponsorships		4,509	

Sales

Tickets	30,347	17,573	
Adverts in Programme	1,200	1,350	
Workshops	3,908		
Raffle	1,470		
Fringe	576		
Merchandise	4,186		
Bar	4,760		
Ice Cream	925		
Weekend Income		10,055	

Total Sales	47,372		
Interest Income	422	212	

Total Income	59,020	44,121	
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INCOME	59,020	44,121	
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GROSS PROFIT	59,020	44,121	
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EXPENSES

Expenses

Artist Fees	(22,815)	(19,590)	
Artist Workshop Fees	(2,260)	00	
Insurance Expense	(1,340)	(1,205)	
Sound & Light	(3,200)	(2,200)	
Publicity	(1,337)	(1,764)	
General Administration	(2,631)	(1,589)	
Artist Travel, Accommodation & Meals	(6,148)	(4,248)	
Venues	(3,887)	(1,052)	
Bar Supplies	(2,377)	(807)	
Ice cream	(249)		
Fundraising	(2,657)	(2,664)	
Merchandise	(3,761)	(761)	
Card Payment Fees	(792)		
Bank Charges	(28)		

Ringfenced Projects

Prior Year Late Bills	(3,606)	(141)	
Ringfenced Envirocups		(2,860)	
Schools Projects		(1,379)	

Total Expenses	(57,088)	(40,260)	
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TOTAL EXPENSES	(57,088)	(40,260)	
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SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	1,932	3,861	
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Note

1 FUNDRAISING

Category	Sum of Credit	Sum of Debit
Hogmanay Ceilidh	4,695.00	
Cabrach		-1,400.00
Hogmanay Expenses		-1,187.06
Dark Island Trust	100.00	
Wordpress Plugin		-30.00
MSBH	2,000.00	
Celtic Chords	100.00	
Lions	250.00	
Late Summer Ceilidh	150.00	
Campsite Donation	76.76	
Clarsach Society	150.00	
Hogmanay Ceilidh Income (Cash)	1,346.90	
Hogmanay Ceilidh Income (SumUp)	1,149.10	
Grand Total	9,837.76	-2,617.06

Balance Sheet

Stonehaven Folk Festival

2023-2024

Cash Funds

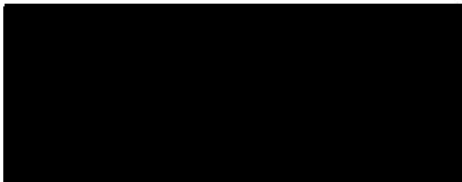
Opening Balance as of 01/11/2023

Treasurers Account	12,412
Business Bank Instant Access Account	31,064
Petty Cash	160
Total Opening Balance	43,635

Closing Balance as of 31/10/2024

Treasurers Account	16,316
Business Bank Instant Access Account	22
Fixed Term Deposit	20,000
Unity Bank	9,135
Petty Cash	94
Total Closing Balance	45,567

Net increase (decrease) in cash funds	1,932
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Date 12/02/25

Stonehaven Folk Festival

SC049859

Receipts and payments accounts

Society Charity Register

For the period from				to			
	01	November	2023		31	October	2024

Section A Statement of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds current period to nearest £	Total funds last period to nearest £
A1 Receipts						
Donations	1,021				1,021	
Legacies					-	
Grants					-	7,009
Receipts from fundraising activities	9,838				9,838	5,922
Gross trading receipts	47,740				47,740	20,923
Income from investments other than land and buildings	422				422	212
Rents from land & buildings					-	
Gross receipts from other charitable activities					-	10,055
					-	
A1 Sub total	59,021	-	-	-	59,021	44,121
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	59,021	-	-	-	59,021	44,121
A3 Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities	2,617				2,617	1,764
Gross trading payments	54,471				54,471	28,191
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities					-	9,100
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts					-	
Legal costs					-	
Other					-	1,205
					-	
A3 Sub total	57,088	-	-	-	57,088	40,260
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
A4 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	57,088	-	-	-	57,088	40,260
Net receipts / (payments)	1,933	-	-	-	1,933	3,861
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds						
					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	1,933	-	-	-	1,933	3,861

APPENDIX 3

Scottish Charity Registrar

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

v2

Report to the trustees/members of

Charity name

Stonehaven Folk Festival

Registered charity number

SC SC049859

On the accounts of the charity for the period

Period start date

Period end date

Day Month Year
01 Nov 2023^{to}

Day Month Year
31 Oct 2024

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*]

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 Regulations

have not been met, or

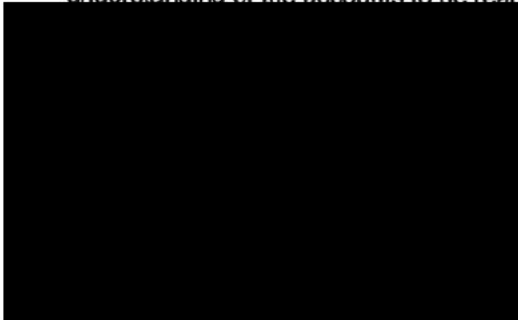
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:**

Name:

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

Address:



Date: 12/02/2025

*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.