

THE BRIDGE 19-40 UNION CANAL SOCIETY (SCIO)
(Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024

Charity No SC052003

THE BRIDGE 19-40 UNION CANAL SOCIETY

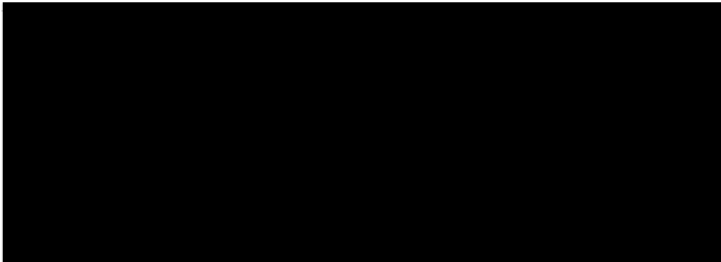
TRUSTEES REPORT

YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024

Trustees

The trustees of the Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation are trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

The trustees serving during the year ended 30th September 2024 were as follows:



All trustees were appointed by the Members of the Society at the Society's AGM on 5th December 2023 in accordance with its governing document – the Constitution of an incorporated body having charitable status under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Charitable Purposes

To advance heritage by promoting awareness of the Union Canal and its benefits and helping people to understand the canal's history.

To provide recreational activities facilities and activities for our members with the primary aim of improving their conditions of life through social interaction and leisure time activity and to the public at large, by encouraging them to experience the tranquillity of the canal from the water on our passenger boat.

To promote, encourage and assist in the restoration, maintenance and use of the Union Canal particularly around Broxburn, Winchburgh and Philpstoun as an amenity, and recreational waterway, and to do all things necessary to that end including but not limited to litter picking, trimming vegetation, and removing obstacles from the water using our workboat.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

To work with all relevant organisations (particularly Scottish Canals, local and national government) to keep the waterways' infrastructure well maintained, clear and accessible to all.

To work with all volunteering groups, boating groups, charitable societies, and others with an interest in the heritage and on-going sustainability of the canal network in Scotland.

To maintain the canal and its immediate environment particularly the stretch between Bridges 19-40.

To acquire, preserve and restore to original condition wherever possible our vessels, and other equipment.

To enable the direct involvement of members in all decisions affecting their lives and activities on the canal.

To encourage the involvement of volunteers in the restoration and maintenance of the canal.

To run low-cost boat trips for the public, so that they can experience the tranquillity of the canal.

To share canal heritage and local history on our boat trips.

To promote the need for more and better facilities for canal users, including moorings, and services for canal users.

To continue to give social and educational support about the heritage of the canal to communities on and beside the canal through events, communications, and involvement with relevant organisations.

To raise funds by way of subscription, donation or otherwise to support our activities.

To use any income received by the Society only for the purposes indicated above.

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

Undoubtedly the high point of the Society's year was when we were able to announce that – with the help, kindness, and generosity of people who attended our fundraising events and grants from a number of private funders we had reached our funding target which enabled us to purchase a replacement passenger boat.

The procurement of the Society's new passenger boat including agreeing her specification, sourcing a builder, and contract negotiation, all to ensure that the Society achieved best value which aligns with our business needs.

Regular visits to the builder's yard in to check on progress. All those who have visited the yard have been impressed by both the build quality and the builder's attention to detail.

The money raised through grants from among others the National Lottery Fund Scotland, Edinburgh Airport Community Fund and the High Fraser Foundation on the Society's behalf by our fundraiser [REDACTED] and the additional funding provided through others including Broxburn and Uphall Town Management Group, Probus and Thomas Brown Funerals Broxburn.

In December, the Society took part the Broxburn Parish Church Christmas Fayre as a continuing mark of appreciation to the church ladies who had greatly assisted the Society at its fundraising launch.

In May the Society attended the official opening ceremony of Winchburgh Marina. The Society was well represented with many members in attendance and accompanied by the boats Millie and Roseann.

In September, members agreed that a final decision on the name and the colour of the new boat would be made at its October meeting. Subsequently members unanimously agreed that the name of the new boat would be Heatherbell, following the Society tradition of naming its boats after flowers, and heather being both Scottish and purple.

Members confirmed the decision reached at the August meeting that Naming Parties should be held at both Port Buchan and Winchburgh.

During the course of the year representatives of the Society attended Broxburn and Uphall Town Management Group, Uphall Community Centre Management Group, and Lowland Canals User Group.

The undoubted low point of the year was the sad passing of Sylvia Thompson who had greatly assisted the Society in its Fundraising Launch for our new passenger boat in conjunction with Flotilla 200. A donation was made in Sylvia's memory in accordance with her family's wishes.

Looking Ahead

Heatherbell is scheduled for delivery in November. Following her official launch in Easter 2025 naming parties will be held at Port Buchan and Winchburgh to which funders, representatives from the local community, and other canal users will be invited.

Immediately following Heatherbell's delivery work will start on fitting her out to prepare her for carrying passengers by Easter 2025.

The Society aims to engage with all sectors of the disadvantaged in the community including unpaid and young carers, the elderly, the terminally ill or those in hospice care.

We will re-activate our water safety programme especially for young people, as with the closure of ever more swimming pools and leisure facilities, the dangers of going into open water is becoming acute.

We will establish a permanent presence at Port Buchan although this will have to wait until the work on Heatherbell is fully completed. We will also look to establish a more prominent presence in Winchburgh

We will continue to build our relationships and look for further opportunities to work closer with other canal group and the local community more generally.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have agreed that the reserves policy of the charity should be £1000 to cover running costs for six months. For the period covered by the Report this was maintained in the accounts operated in the name of the Bridge 19-40 Union Canal Society, Charity No SC023110 for the reasons stated in the Additional Information below.

Risk Management

The trustees are assessing the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those relating to its operations and finances, in order to put systems in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Details of any deficit

No deficit is operated.

Additional Information

The Bridge 19-40 Union Canal Society (SCIO) was incorporated as a Scottish Charitable Organisation (SCIO) on 13 September 2022. However, due to mistakes and delays on the part of the Society's bank the new bank account was not opened until September 2023.

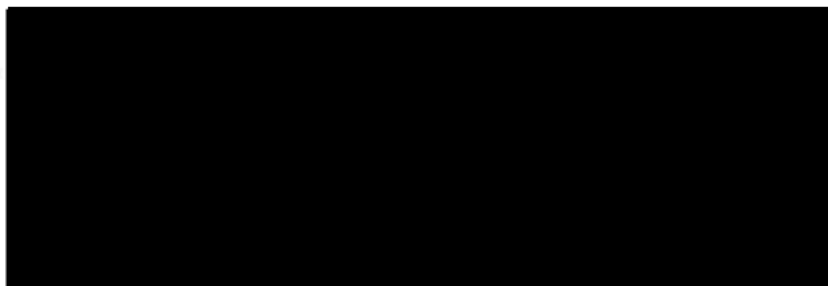
The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature(s)

x

Full name(s)



Position (e.g. Chair)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	3/5/25	3/5/25

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BRIDGE 19-40 UNION CANAL SOCIETY (SCIO)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

I report on the financial statements of the above charity for the year ended 30th September 2024 which comprise Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Balances, and related notes.

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) Act 2005 and Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10 (1) (a) to (c) of the 2006 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.

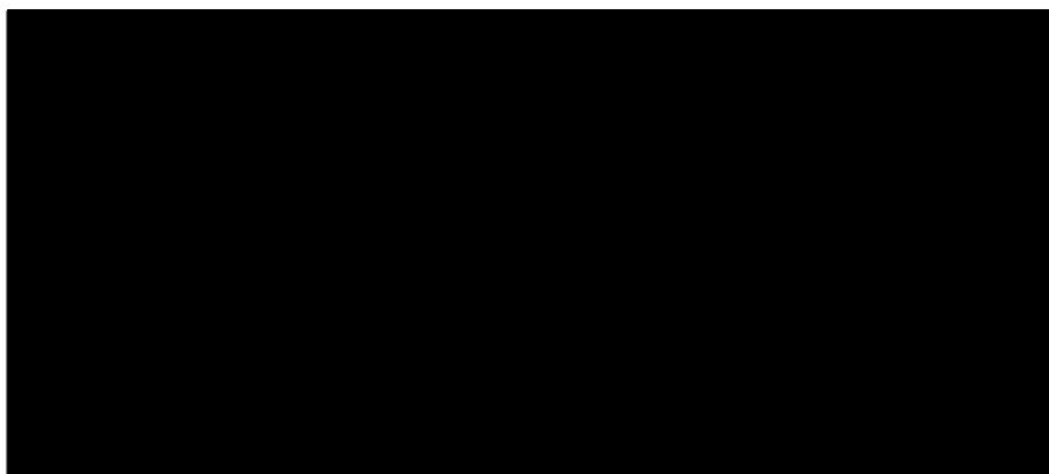
Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations for the trustees concerning 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:

- (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.



THE BRIDGE 19-40 UNION CANAL SOCIETY (SCIO)
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
for the period 1st October 2023 to 30 September 2024

The items shown reflect those shown in the Financial Accounts for The Bridge 19-40 Union Canal for the year ended 30th September 2024

	Unrest'd £	Restricted £	01.10.23 - 30.09.24 £
Receipts			
Membership Fees (note 1)	576	0	576
Fundraising Income	0	8,000	8,000
Easyfundraising	0	0	0
Christmas Fair	155	0	155
Miscellaneous Income	0	0	0
Interest Received	210	0	210
	941	8,000	8,941
Payments			
Boat Maintenance	0	0	0
Boat Equipment	0	0	0
Marketing	0	0	0
Hall Rental	64	0	64
Public Liability Insurance	0	0	0
Christmas Fair	0	0	0
Boat Insurance (Roseann)	119	0	119
Fundraiser Fees	79	0	79
Website Costs (old)	180	0	180
Setting Up New Website	145	0	145
Online Filing Companies House	0	0	0
Navigation Licence	0	0	0
Petrol for Roseann	0	0	0
Sundry Expenses	46	0	46
Postage	4	0	4
Purchase of chairs for new Boat	60	0	60
Cost of new Narrowboat (Heatherbell)	0	30,720	30,720
	697	30,720	31,417
Net surplus/(deficit) for the period	244	(22,720)	(22,476)
Funds transferred from West Lothian 50+ Network	1,403	47,889	49,292
Closing Funds	1,647	25,169	26,817

THE BRIDGE 19-40 UNION CANAL SOCIETY (SCIO)
STATEMENT OF BALANCES
at 30 September 2024

	31.09.24 £
Bank and Cash In Hand	
Funds brought forward (transferred from old Network)	49292
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	<u>-22475</u>
	26,817
Spilt Between Funds	
Unrestricted Funds	1,648
Members' Funds	0
Restricted Funds (note 4)	<u>25,169</u>
	26,817
Made Up As Follows:	
Bank Current Account	1,648
Bank Savings Account	25,169
Cash In Hand	<u>0</u>
	26,817