



Founded 1962



# Breadalbane Heritage Society



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<https://breadalbane-heritage.org.uk>



Finlarig Castle

## **Annual Report and Accounts for the Period Ended 31 August 2023**

**Breadalbane Heritage Society**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

### **For the Period Ended 31 August 2023**

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements and the independent examiner's report for the period 1 September 2022 – 31 August 2023.

### **Reference & Administrative Information**

#### **Charity Name**

Breadalbane Heritage Society

#### **Charity Number**

SC049382

#### **Address**

[REDACTED]

#### **Address for correspondence**

*as above*

#### **Trustees during the period**

Frances Stamford Gillespie

Ian Nicholas Grant

Mary Katrina Minett McDougall

Harriet Sarah Rose

Ian Alistair Stewart

Lesley May Whitwood

Neil Hooper (Honorary President)

#### **Bankers**

Bank of Scotland

PO Box 1000, BX2 1LB

#### **Independent Examiner**

Mrs Linda El-Ghorr, ACMA, MBA

[REDACTED]

## Trustees' Annual Report

### Structure Governance & Management

#### Constitution

Breadalbane Heritage Society's governing document is a Constitution. It was established formally on 13 June 2019 as a SCIO in terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

#### Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees of the Society (listed above) were appointed at the inception of the SCIO and formed the Interim Board during the first period. The Trustees on the Interim Board retired at the first Annual Members' Meeting (AMM) in March 2021, and all were re-elected. As it is set out in the Constitution one quarter of the Trustees are required to retire each year, therefore, at the third AMM in March 2023, Harriet Rose and Ian Stewart retired. Both were re-elected for a second term, and continued in office along with the other four Trustees.

#### Management

The Society is managed by the Board of Trustees who meet six times a year. During the pandemic the Board meetings took place on Zoom however they have all taken place "in person" during the year 2022-2023. During this period individual Trustees have undertaken the following roles:

**Chair:** Lesley Whitwood

**Past Chair:** Nicholas Grant

**Treasurer:** Harriet Rose

**Programme Secretary:** Ian Stewart

**PR & Media:** Fran Gillespie

**Society Liaison:** Mary McDougall

#### Objectives & Activities

##### Charitable purposes

The charitable purposes of the Society are to advance education, heritage and culture by:

- promoting and encouraging an interest in the study of the archaeology, history, antiquities, folklore and natural history particularly concerning the Breadalbane and Upper Tay area of Perthshire;
- preserving, conserving, understanding and interpreting, within the national context, the historical and cultural heritage of the area;
- providing a community resource through the collection, classification and conservation of items of local historical interest;
- promoting and advancing heritage in the area as a source of pride and to address heritage issues affecting the area.



## Trustees' Annual Report

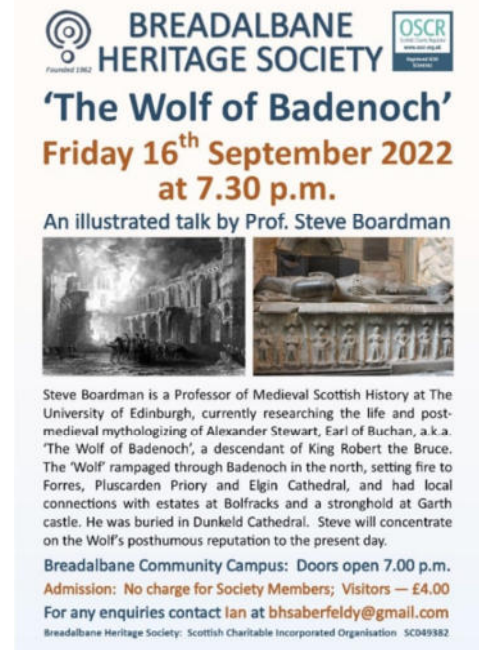
### Chairman's Report

Membership numbers have remained steady over the past three years, with a total of 113 members in March 2023, of whom 20 are individuals joining the Society for the first time.

Winter meeting attendance varied between 37 and 63 individuals (members/visitors) with the highest attendance for the two meetings held in January / February on Zoom (see below).

Trustees' bi-monthly meetings are preceded by a programme group meeting at which responsibilities for the organisation of each activity are agreed. The Society is most grateful to Ian Stewart for his tireless work and imaginative programming.

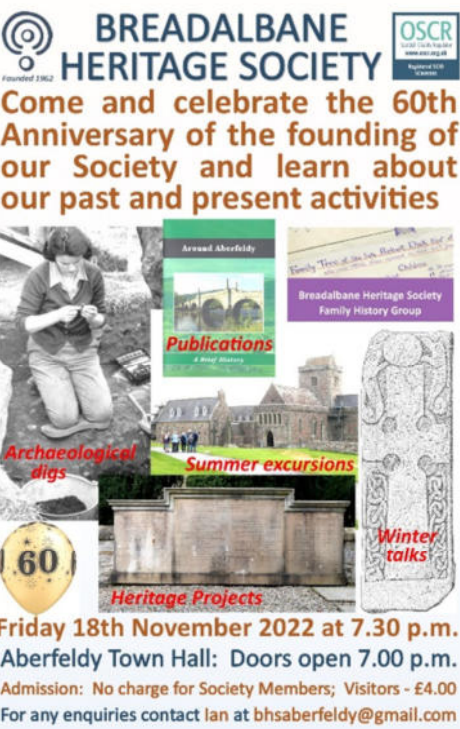
The winter meetings began with a talk on the Wolf of Badenoch, followed in October by a talk on the Hillforts of the Tay.



**BREADALBANE HERITAGE SOCIETY** OSCR  
 'The Wolf of Badenoch'  
**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022**  
**at 7.30 p.m.**  
 An illustrated talk by Prof. Steve Boardman

Steve Boardman is a Professor of Medieval Scottish History at The University of Edinburgh, currently researching the life and post-medieval mythologizing of Alexander Stewart, Earl of Buchan, a.k.a. 'The Wolf of Badenoch', a descendant of King Robert the Bruce. The 'Wolf' rampaged through Badenoch in the north, setting fire to Forres, Pluscarden Priory and Elgin Cathedral, and had local connections with estates at Bolfracks and a stronghold at Garth castle. He was buried in Dunkeld Cathedral. Steve will concentrate on the Wolf's posthumous reputation to the present day.

Breadalbane Community Campus: Doors open 7.00 p.m.  
**Admission: No charge for Society Members; Visitors — £4.00**  
 For any enquiries contact **Ian** at [bhsaberfeldy@gmail.com](mailto:bhsaberfeldy@gmail.com)  
 Breadalbane Heritage Society: Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC049382



**BREADALBANE HERITAGE SOCIETY** OSCR  
 Come and celebrate the **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of our Society and learn about our past and present activities**

Archeological digs  
 Publications  
 Summer excursions  
 Heritage Projects  
 Winter talks

**Friday 18th November 2022 at 7.30 p.m.**  
**Aberfeldy Town Hall: Doors open 7.00 p.m.**  
**Admission: No charge for Society Members; Visitors - £4.00**  
 For any enquiries contact **Ian** at [bhsaberfeldy@gmail.com](mailto:bhsaberfeldy@gmail.com)

November saw our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary party where we heard talks about the history of the Society, and were joined by the Aberfeldy Museum group for an item about their research.

January and February meetings were broadcast on Zoom to avoid travel in bad weather. January's talk was on Culloden and February on regeneration at Mar Lodge Estate. The March meeting was back in person with Christopher Dingwall talking about Old Ways, New Roads.



**BREADALBANE HERITAGE SOCIETY** OSCR  
**FORTHCOMING WINTER TALKS**  
**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023**  
**Culloden Presented on Zoom** by Caitlin Greig, NTS Culloden  
**Friday 17th February 2023**  
**Mar Lodge Estate Regeneration Presented on Zoom** by Andrew Painting, Conservation Officer at NTS Mar Lodge  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023**  
**Old Ways, New Roads Presented by Christopher Dingwall.**

The winter talks are held in the Breadalbane Community Campus Aberfeldy, commencing at 7.30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

We continued our summer visits going to Killin to see the Moirlanich Longhouse and Finlarig castle (*below left*).



There were also visits to the Moncrieff Hill forts, Kenmore Arboretum and a day trip to Mar Estate (*right*).





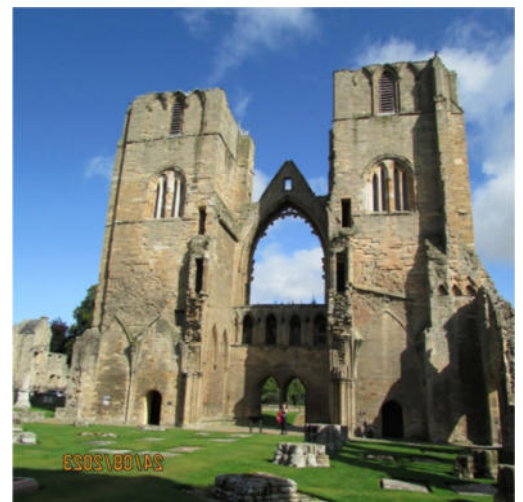
The residential trip this year was to Forres and the area around. On the way there we saw the Highland Folk Museum (*right*) with its exhibits through the ages and called in at Ruthven barracks. From the Ramnee Hotel in Forres we could visit Nelson's Tower and Sueno's Stone.

Day two was a guided tour of the Culloden battlefield (*below*) with extra information about the regeneration of the site. We also visited Clava Cairns (*below right*) on the way back to the hotel.



Day three was spent at Cawdor Castle (*left*) and gardens, Spynie Palace and Kinloss Abbey.

Our final day started with Elgin Cathedral (*right*) with options to visit Burghead and the ancient well before travelling home.



Yet again Ian Stewart's organisation meant that the visit went without any problems and was enjoyed in splendid weather.

**Other activities this year included:**

- The creation and installation of interpretation boards at Killiechassie Burial Ground.
- The addition of QR codes to the information posts on the Aberfeldy Heritage Walk
- Further development of the BHS website and response to queries received through the website "contact us" facility
- Assistance with family history research, in response to queries on the website or through Perth & Kinross libraries.
- Creation and installation of "Slow Down, Red Squirrels" notices
- Support for the formation of a "Friends of Wade's Bridge" Group

## Trustees' Annual Report

### Financial Review

The Society's annual income derives mainly from membership subscriptions, income from book sales and donations. Regular expenditure consists of: payments for room hire for meetings; fees paid to speakers; administrative expenses relating to the running of the Society; subscription to the online platform for hosting meetings; subscription to the video platform for making recordings of meetings; and IT costs related to the website management. These costs are met broadly by the annual income.

The deficit in the **General Fund** for the period ended 31 August 2023 was £773, whereas in the period ended 31 August 2022 there was a surplus of £1787. This deficit arose due to the fact that £772 was spent on the installation of information boards at Killiechassie Burial Ground, using most of the £1000 donation received from the Dunard Fund in the previous year ended 31 August 2022. Funds were also used for the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party, creating a deficit of £389.

The deficit in the **Restricted Fund** in the period ended 31 August 2022 was £144, whereas in the period ended 31 August 2021 this deficit was £555. This £144 was spent on "Slow Down, Red Squirrels" notices to be used at key locations on roads throughout the Aberfeldy area.

### Restricted Funds

As explained in previous Annual Reports Breadalbane Heritage Society and the Aberfeldy Museum Group agreed in 2021 that the money in the "Museum Fund" (Restricted Fund) should be used on joint projects which further the two organisations' charitable objectives. As reported last year, during 2022 members of the two groups and the Upper Tay Paths Group collaborated on the production of a heritage map of Aberfeldy, which is now available, and provides information for visitors and members of the community.

**POINTS OF INTEREST**

- 1. **THE SQUARE** - many things to find such as the former Congregational church, the memorial fountain and the site of the old manse.
- 2. **TOWN HALL** built 1889
- 3. Former **ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH**, United Free parish church built 1865 and closed in 2009.
- 4. **THE BERKS** - a walk to the Women's Burns, noted in a poem by Burns and featuring a 19th century tree collection.
- 5. **MONESS HOUSE**, built 1753, now a hotel and resort.
- 6. **FORMER COTTAGE HOSPITAL**, built on the site 1913 closed 2015.
- 7. **FORMER WEE FREE CHAPEL** built 1907, now the drama club premises and the fire shed.
- 8. Site of the first **INDEPENDENT CHURCH** chapel in the town built 1817, closed 1876.
- 9. **THE WATERMILL** - former oatmeal mill, now a book shop, gallery and cafe. Built 1825.
- 10. **PARISH CHURCH** - built 1863 as a Free Church on land granted by the Marquis of Breadalbane.
- 11. **BREADALBANE ACADEMY** opened in 2010 on the site of the former school.
- 12. **ST. MARGARET'S** former Episcopal Church built 1907, closed 1976.
- 13. **BLACK WATCH MEMORIAL** - unveiled in 1987 by the Marquis of Breadalbane to commemorate the first number of the Regiment in May 1746.
- 14. **GOLF CLUB** - a 9 hole course founded in 1895.
- 15. **WADE'S BRIDGE**, erected 1733 by General Wade as he built roads across the Highlands to enable troops to reach the black.
- 16. **WEEEM PARISH CHURCH** consecrated 1865 as an Episcopal Church, now the Church of Scotland.
- 17. **MENZIES MAUSOLEUM**, The Auld Kirk of Weem on the site of an early medieval foundation, now the family mausoleum.
- 18. **MENZIES CASTLE**, site of an early castle razed in the 16th century and the seat of Clan Menzies.
- 19. One of only 3 **ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH** on the site of the original site, built in 1860.
- 20. Once the **SITE OF THE RAILWAY STATION** which was the terminus of the first of the four railways.

**ABERFELDY TIMELINE**

- c.700 BC onwards First Iron Age hill forts built above Tay valley.
- c.74 AD Romans arrive in Tay valley.
- mid 15th century Auld Kirk, near a mausoleum, built at Weem.
- 16th century Castle Menzies built at Weem.
- 1733 General George Storer's Bridge built over River Tay, designed by William Adam.
- 1740 Black Watch regiment founded near Woods Belbig.
- 1753 Moness House built by Fanning, Earl of Moness.
- 1746 Bonnie Prince Charlie stays at Castle Menzies.
- 1754 Hated Scottish Borders and refused to attend services, born at Weem near Aberfeldy.
- 1787 Robert Burns visits Moness and writes song 'The Birkie o' Aberfeldy'.
- 1787 The Earl of Breadalbane acquires the land where Aberfeldy now is from the Penningy, Scourie and Morcay family.
- 1795 First cotton mill set up on Moness Burn and plans for a village drawn up.
- 1797 Mills built at Weem.
- 1797 First school, a Free Church, built in Aberfeldy.
- 1825 Aberfeldy Watermill built.
- 1829 Haggis to acquire a textile mill in the town.
- 1842 Queen Victoria and Prince Albert visit Aberfeldy.
- 1865 First train arrives at Aberfeldy Station, but only in 1865.
- 1863 Loch Tay Steamboat Company launches to connect Aberfeldy and Killin rail services.
- 1866 Queen Victoria visits Aberfeldy.
- 1867 Black Watch Memorial unveiled.
- 1889 Aberfeldy Town Hall, designed by James Matheson, built.
- 1890 Aberfeldy Town Council established, closed 1925.
- 1896 Aberfeldy Distillery opened by John Dewar.
- 1909 Aberfeldy Cottage Hospital opens.
- 1909 The 2nd Cinemas opens, closes 1962.
- 1965 Aberfeldy railway station closed.
- 1976 Aberfeldy 7th Flare begins its competition between Altona Dragger & Conwell's Police, closed 1992 in 1992.
- 1992 Workers first to organise in the town, form 'Tay' in Aberfeldy to enter the golf course in 18 holes, now 18 holes.
- 2010 Breadalbane Community Campus opens.
- 2013 Re-designed River Green opens.
- 2015 Aberfeldy Cottage Hospital closed.

**ABERFELDY & WEEEM HERITAGE WALK**

Visit sites of historical interest around Aberfeldy & Weem. Use the QR codes to investigate the details.

QR codes are now on display at various sites to link to the historical information that the Society and the Museum Group have put on the Visit Aberfeldy website.

In 2023 £144 from the "Museum Fund" has been spent on "Slow Down, Red Squirrels" notices to be used at key locations on roads throughout the Aberfeldy area.



## Trustees' Annual Report

### Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that reserves of £3000 are needed to cover annual costs for a period of two years (£1500 pa) in order to provide financial stability, supporting the operation of the Society and enabling it to continue to work towards its core purposes in the event of a reduction of annual income. This continues to be important given the uncertainty of future income from membership subscriptions in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. These costs include: hosting of meetings (venue charge and speaker fees); IT and administration costs; website maintenance; annual subscriptions to the online meeting platform and to the video platform for access to recorded meetings; and annual subscriptions to national heritage bodies.

During 2023/2024 the Trustees intend to use the surplus in the General Fund (£4,700) to support the following:

**Archive storage facilities:** While at present the Society has been allocated archive storage space within Aberfeldy Town Hall, for an annual charge of £360, the future availability of this space is uncertain. The Town Hall Trustees are in the process of considering development options for this space and it may therefore become necessary for BHS to find alternative storage facilities.

**Around Aberfeldy booklet:** The stock of this popular publication is running low and one of the Society's members is currently revising the booklet. Once this review is complete it is the Trustees' intention to have the booklet reprinted which will involve a considerable outlay. This money will be recouped gradually through ongoing sales of the booklet.

**Wade's Bridge Conservation:** Concerns have been raised regarding the current condition of the historic Wade's Bridge and what is needed to preserve it. Breadalbane Heritage Society is supporting the formation of a "Friends of Wade's Bridge" Group and Trustees may consider it appropriate to provide some financial support for this project.

**Restoration of Black Watch Monument:** BHS has been approached by the Black Watch Association regarding a proposal for a joint venture, along with Perth & Kinross Council, to produce costings for repairs to the monument site. The intention is to approach funding bodies for support with a view to complete works in time for the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Black Watch in 2027. Trustees may consider it appropriate to provide some financial support for this project.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



H S Rose (Trustee & Treasurer)



L M Whitwood (Trustee & Chairman)

Date: 2 November 2023

## Trustees' Annual Report

### Statement of Receipts and Payments for the period 01 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

	Notes	General funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Current Period £	Total Funds Last Period £
<b>Receipts</b>					
Subscriptions		1,192		1,192	1,196
Visitors' fees		56		56	60
Donations	<b>4</b>	174		174	1,198
Anniversary party don.		215		215	0
Fundraising	<b>5</b>	171		171	255
Outing & trip fees	<b>6</b>	190		190	0
Killiechassie	<b>7</b>	262		262	573
		2,260		2,260	3,282
<b>Payments</b>					
Event expenses	<b>8</b>	402		402	273
Anniversary party exp.		604		604	0
Fundraising expenses	<b>5</b>	0		0	0
Outing & trip expenses	<b>6</b>	160		160	135
Killiechassie expenses	<b>7</b>	1,014		1,014	218
Museum expenses	<b>9</b>		144	144	555
General expenses	<b>10</b>	803		803	819
Governance Costs	<b>11</b>	50		50	50
		3,033	144	3,177	2,050
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>		<b>(773)</b>	<b>(144)</b>	<b>(917)</b>	<b>1,232</b>



## Trustees' Annual Report

Statement of Balances as at 31 August 2023

	Notes	General funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Current Period £	Total Funds Last Period £
<b>Funds reconciliation</b>	<b>2</b>				
Opening cash & bank balance		8,515	3,597	12,112	10,880
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(773)	(144)	(917)	1,232
<b>Closing cash &amp; bank balance</b>		<b>7,742</b>	<b>3,453</b>	<b>11,195</b>	<b>12,112</b>
<b>Assets</b>					
Recoverable grant re Killiechassie	<b>7</b>	242		242	218

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form an integral part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 2 November 2023 and signed on their behalf.



H S Rose (Trustee & Treasurer)



L M Whitwood (Trustee & Chairman)

## Trustees' Annual Report

### Notes to the Accounts for the period 01 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

#### 1. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts & 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. Restricted funds are those where a grant has been awarded for a specific purpose.

	At 31 Aug 2023 £	At 31 Aug 2022 £
General Funds	7,742	8,515
Restricted Funds	3,453	3,597
	<b>11,195</b>	<b>12,112</b>

All funds detailed in these notes are general funds unless otherwise indicated.

#### 3. Assets

Breadalbane Heritage Society has no assets with a value greater than £500.

## Trustees' Annual Report

### 4. Donations

	General funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Current Period £	Total Funds Last Period £
General donations	174		174	1,198
<b>Total</b>	<b>174</b>		<b>174</b>	<b>1,198</b>

### 5. Fundraising

	Receipts £	Payments £	Surplus Current Period £	Surplus Last Period £
Book Sales – around Aberfeldy	122		122	180
Book Sales – Cup Marked Stones	49		49	75
	<b>171</b>		<b>171</b>	<b>255</b>



## Trustees' Annual Report

### 6. Outings & trips

	Receipts £	Payments £	Net Current Period £	Net Last Period £
Outings	190	160	30	(135)
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>(135)</b>

### 7. Killiechassie Burial Ground

Grants totalling £10,000 were awarded to BHS in 2013 for the preservation and maintenance of the Killiechassie Burial Ground. This Fund is managed by Foundation Scotland and BHS draws down monies from the Fund retrospectively to cover the annual maintenance costs. The Fund value at 31 August 2023 was £6,770.46.

During the year ended 31 August 2023 the total Killiechassie expenses were £1,014, however £242 of this amount related to maintenance and this is the amount that will be drawn down from the Foundation Scotland Fund. The remaining £772 was spent on the creation and installation of information boards at the Burial Ground, and these have been paid for from the Dunard Fund grant received in the previous financial year, as explained above.

### 8. Event expenses

	Total Current Period £	Total Last Period £
Speakers' expenses and gifts	272	213
Hire of Hall	130	60
	<b>402</b>	<b>273</b>

## 9. Museum

The payment of £144 in the current financial year related to “Slow Down, Red Squirrels” notices. See notes above under Restricted Funds section of Financial Review.

## 10. General Expenses

	Total Current Period £	Total Last Period £
Insurance	0	0
Marketing	0	0
Subscriptions	165	104
Administration expenses	638	715
	<b>803</b>	<b>819</b>

Administration expenses include £360 which is the annual charge payable to Locus Breadalbane for storage facilities in the Town Hall.

## 11. Governance Costs

	Total Current Period £	Total Last Period £
Independent Examination	50	50
	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>

## 12. Related party transactions

No remuneration has been paid during the year to any Trustee or connected person.

A total of £580 was paid to Trustees as reimbursement of expenses relating to purchase of IT related items and subscriptions, signage for Killiechassie Burial Ground, and expenses related to the Anniversary party.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE TRUSTEES OF BREADALBANE HERITAGE SOCIETY**  
**FOR THE PERIOD 01 September 2022 TO 31 AUGUST 2023**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period 01 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 13.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The Trustees of Breadalbane Heritage Society 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 trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) 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 (as amended). 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 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.

Mrs L El-Ghorr, ACMA, MBA

Date: 2/11/2023