

GALLOWAY CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For the Year Ended

31 December 2025

Scottish Charity No SC021787

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

CONTENTS

Trustees' Annual Report.....	3 - 5
Independent Examiner's Report.....	6
Statement of Receipts & Payments.....	7
Statement of Balances.....	8
Notes to the Accounts.....	9

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements and the independent examiner's report of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Reference & Administrative Information

Charity Name

Galloway Conservation Society

Charity No

SC021787

Address

Lucewater House
New Luce
DG8 0AW

Current Trustees

Mr A Buckoke	Chairperson
Dr D Steel	Vice-Chair
Mrs M Broom-Smith	
Dr D Hannay	
Mr J Maitland	

Other Trustees who served throughout the year

Mr A Richardson – resigned 1st January 2025
Mrs J Richardson – resigned 1st January 2025
Mr W Peto – appointed April 2025, resigned 31st January 2026

Website

www.gallowayconservationsociety.org

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
PO Box 1000
BX2 1LB

Independent Examiner

Jenny Milby
Kirkcudbright Development Trust
The Johnston
St Mary Street
Kirkcudbright
DG6 4EG

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Structure Governance & Management

Constitution

The Charity is an unincorporated organisation. It was registered in its current legal form on 23rd January 1978. Formerly known as Galloway Preservation Society, the society changed its name on 17th October 2023.

Appointment of Trustees

The Executive Committee shall consist of their Office Bearers and a maximum of six other members. Nominations for the election of members to the Executive Committee shall be made at or before the Annual General Meeting. They must be in writing supported by a seconder and the consent of the proposed nominee must be obtained. Members, like the Office Bearers, shall relinquish their office every year and shall be eligible for re-election for a further period.

Objectives & Activities

Charitable purposes

The Galloway Conservation Society is a non-profit voluntary Society which **aims** to:

1. Stimulate public interest and participation in the care for the beauty, history and character of Galloway
2. Encourage the preservation, development and improvement of features of general public amenity or historical interest
3. Encourage high standards of architecture and town and country planning in Galloway.

Achievements & Performance

Chairman's Report

The season began with lunch and the AGM at the Creebridge Hotel in Newton Stewart in April, followed by a visit to The Museum, a fascinating Aladdin's Cave of local artefacts and memorabilia. We reflected on the important role of Helen Drew in founding both the museum and the then Galloway Preservation Society.

In May we paid a visit to Kildale Farm near Whithorn and learned much about new directions in arable farming. Though not an organic farm, we particularly noted the benefits of a low-till regime in reducing Nitrogen fertiliser use and nearly eliminating the use of Potassium and Phosphate fertilisers, a subject we were to encounter again at Rainton Farm near Gatehouse. Also visited were questions about game control, markets, diversification, public access and cultural heritage, enjoying both the weather and the fine coastal location. Many thanks to Chris Nicholson for giving up his time to take us around the farm.

In early July we visited a variety of venues at New Abbey, which included the Sweetheart Abbey and a tour of village architecture courtesy the guide written by Martin Robertson. After a good lunch at the Abbey Café, we were treated to a fascinating tour of the New Abbey Corn Mill, one of the very few water-powered mills restored to full working order. For some the day concluded at Shambellie House and the walled garden below, now a private garden. Especial thanks go to Mary Broom-Smith for organising a very pleasant day.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Chairman's Report cont.

At the end of July we were able to visit Rainton Farm near Gatehouse of Fleet, an organic dairy farm which has been a hub of innovation in the industry. The farm has addressed the question of the welfare of dairy calves through a looser breeding programme which permits a dual stream of calf production into the dairy herd and into a beef production herd; and a stock handling regime which allows calves to remain with or in proximity to their mothers for much longer than is normally the practice. The farm now benefits from a steep learning curve for not only the handlers but also for the herd itself; milking cows are now amenable to a system where they can feed their calves *and* give milk to the farm. The produce is diverted mainly to a cheese production unit which has been invested in on the farm, allowing some flexibility away from a yield-focused regime. The farm has a digester, and spreads slurry on the fields, but uses no artificial fertilisers. As at Kidsdale, reseeding is done with very low tillage, meaning that Phosphate and Potassium are only minimally leached. The farm was featured on the BBC news late last year. Many thanks to David Findlay for giving up his time to be a very informative host.

August was scheduled for a boat trip to Ailsa Craig, which can be a magical experience, but unfortunately the operator was not able to provide the service which has long been available. It is hoped that a new operator will emerge in due course, and that this trip can again be scheduled.

In September there was a memorable visit to Dalswinton House, Dalswinton Barony Church, and the unexpected splendours of Durisdeer Parish Church, with a pleasant lunch at Thornhill included. While the translation from corrugated iron to far-eastern trading to finely carved marble was perhaps stretching sensibilities, the related historical and economic contexts explored furnished a rich background to what we saw. Many thanks to Jane Maitland for organising a fine day.

We were finally able to accomplish the postponed visit to Roman Carlisle in October, consisting of a talk on Roman Carlisle by Tullie House Museum staff, enjoying the newly refurbished facilities at the Museum, followed by lunch at the Cathedral Cafe, and then a walk around Roman Carlisle in the afternoon, including the Roman glass urn in the Cathedral Crypt Museum, the new Cricket Ground Baths site and the site of Stanwix fort. Being able to explore the Roman basis for the layout of the city centre areas was particularly rewarding, and provoked speculation about much which remains undiscovered.

This was a particularly good season of events, showing that the Society is able to provide a very good product. What it is less good at is drawing in a wider membership to appreciate what is on offer.

Financial Review

Total Income of the charity was £525 (2024: £980). Expenditure was £864 (2024: £646), resulting in a deficit of £339 (2024: £334). Income is predominantly received from membership subscriptions.

Approved by the trustees at their AGM on 23rd April 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Alistair Buckle

Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Galloway Conservation Society

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025 which are set out on pages 7 to 9.

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 the 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 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.

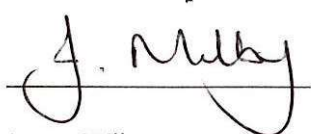
Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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
 - 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.



Jenny Milby
Kirkcudbright Development Trust
The Johnston
St Mary Street
Kirkcudbright
DG6 4EG

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTSFor the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Receipts	Notes	2025	2024
		£	£
Membership Subscriptions	3	475	480
Refunded Donations		-	500
Members' & Visitors' Donations		50	-
Total Receipts		525	980
Payments <i>(relating to charitable activities)</i>			
Donations	4	50	20
Subscriptions/Memberships		50	
Website Costs		101	591
Gov. Costs – Room Hire/AGM		-	35
Bookkeeping/Admin Support		567	
Bank Charges		46	
Independent Examination		50	
Total Payments		864	646
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(339)	334

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

As at 31st December 2025

Funds Reconciliation	Note	2025	2024
		£	£
Cash at Bank 01/01/2025		5,123	4,789
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		(339)	334
Cash at Bank & In Hand – 31/03/2025		4,784	5,123
Bank & Cash Balances			
Bank of Scotland Current Account		4,784	5,123
Outstanding Cheques		-	-
		4,784	5,123

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

As at 31st December 2025

1. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) regulations 2006 (as amended).

2. Transactions with Trustees and Related Parties

- a) No remuneration was paid to the trustees during the year (2024: Nil)
- b) No Expenses were paid to trustees during the year (2024: Nil)
- c) There were no transactions with related parties

3. Membership

There were 63 members of the Society at the end of the year of which 25 were Life Members.

4. Donations

	<u>2025</u>	2024
	£	£
Newton Stewart Museum	50	-
Protection of Rural Scotland Trust	-	20
	<u>50</u>	<u>20</u>

Approved by the trustees at their AGM on 23rd April 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Alistair Buckale

Trustee