

# FIRECLOUD TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT



01.07.24 - 30.06.25

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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## **CHARITY TRUSTEES**

- Zoe Jarvis (Chair)
- Luisa Campbell (Treasurer)
- Michelle Lang (Secretary)
- Joanna Sweeney (Trustee)
- Suzanne Green (Director)

## WELCOME

2024–25 has been another extraordinary year in the life of FireCloud.

When I look back over the past twelve months, I am struck by the sheer breadth of what has been achieved. Thousands of people encountered, hundreds of opportunities and events delivered, the hours of volunteer commitment offered so generously, and the countless quiet moments of encouragement, faith and friendship that will never appear in statistics but, nonetheless, matter deeply.

This year, 4,734 people engaged with FireCloud's work. Behind that number are real stories: young people discovering confidence, children deepening their understanding of faith, adults finding renewed purpose, teachers feeling supported, families feeling encouraged, and volunteers courageously offering their gifts. It is a privilege to witness how our mission continues to take root in so many lives.

FireCloud's mission remains simple and bold: to use every imaginative means to live with faith, purpose and joy, and to inspire others to believe that their lives matter. Throughout this past year, we have seen this lived out in classrooms, parish halls, retreat spaces, rehearsal rooms and community gatherings across the central belt of Scotland and sometimes, further afield. Whether through retreats, creative arts, music, discussion, outreach or vocational development, FireCloud continues to create spaces where people are welcomed, nurtured and empowered to share their gifts.

None of this would be possible without our volunteers. Sixty-six individuals gave over 4,300 hours of their time this year. That represents not only extraordinary generosity but also deep commitment to our shared vision. FireCloud is not simply an organisation that delivers programmes but more importantly, it is a community of people who believe in one another and in the transformative power of faith expressed creatively. On behalf of the board, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to every volunteer, staff member and sessional worker who has contributed this year. Your dedication is the foundation of everything we do.

I am also grateful to my fellow trustees for their thoughtful governance and steady oversight. As a Board, we continue to focus carefully on sustainability, growth and long-term resilience. Over the past year, we have reviewed our strategic priorities, attended closely to the resources keeping this good work working, and strived to strengthen the structures that will allow FireCloud not just to continue, but to flourish.

Looking ahead, 2025–26 will mark a significant transition. The need to move from our current premises presents both challenge and opportunity. While it is

never easy to leave a place that has held so much history, prayer and creativity, we trust that this next chapter will open new possibilities for growth, outreach and deeper impact. We approach this change with realism, courage, hope and the reassurance of a strong FireCloud community that has more than proven our ability to weather every storm.

As Chair, I remain continually inspired by the spirit of FireCloud: the warmth of welcome, the courage to try new ideas, the commitment to excellence, and the unwavering belief that faith can be joyful, creative and transformative. In a world that can often feel fragmented or uncertain, FireCloud offers something steady and life-giving; it offers; community rooted in love, purpose grounded in faith, and imagination directed toward hope.

Thank you to every participant, partner school, parish, supporter and friend who has walked with us this year. Your trust, prayers and encouragement mean more than you know.

I look forward with confidence to the year ahead and to continuing this journey together.

To God be the glory,

Zoë Jarvis  
Chair, FireCloud Trustees

**Welcome to our annual report for 2024-2025.**

## **OUR MISSION**

We use every imaginative means to live with faith, purpose and joy. We inspire those we encounter to believe their lives matter and we invite them to use their God-given talents to build a more courageous and loving world.

***“The leadership team at FireCloud are very talented and each brings something different to the table.”***

Salt, Leaven and Light Participant

## **OUR CHARITABLE PURPOSES**

### **Advancing Religion (we call this ‘Celebrating Faith’)**

*We advance religion in accordance with Catholic beliefs and values through the provision of faith formation and learning; we provide opportunities for prayer, devotion and creative experiences that share and celebrate Christianity.*

### **Advancing Education (we call this ‘Inspiring Giftedness’)**

*We advance education through the provision of learning opportunities that grow self-esteem, develop giftedness and inspire vocational confidence. In particular, but not exclusively, we build community participation and development through creative and performing arts.*

***“Thank you so much for delivering this fantastic programme. It has been a lovely way for the children to finish their preparations for Confirmation and hopefully an experience they will remember!”***

Teacher from a Priest, Prophet and King Retreat

## HOW WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**We create a vibrant community of love, friendship and joy and we encourage people to believe their lives matter**

**What this means** - Everyone is welcomed and nurtured within the FireCloud community. We work hard to help people feel loved, be confident of their own goodness and be assured of others around them who care. Our feedback shows this is the thing people value most highly about FireCloud and one of the areas in which we are most effective.

**How we do it** - Through our projects and events, we create regular opportunities to provide a warm welcome, convey a sense of care and belonging, and give people genuine chances to build new, joyful friendships. We actively build relationships with people of all ages and backgrounds by inviting wide participation in everything we do.

***“This experience has opened up my heart - thank you!”***

Salt, Leaven and Light Participant

**We help people grow in faith**

**What this means** - Through our work, we help people to become increasingly open to God, able to learn about Catholic faith, encouraged to pray, given the opportunity for faith formation and to recognise God at work in everyday things.

**How we do it** - We make faith-filled creative content such as retreats, workshops and performance pieces that share and celebrate the Catholic faith. We pray often and have a group of dedicated intercessors who meet regularly.

***“I have felt very welcomed. This has been a wonderful experience. I feel truly fortunate to be part of it.”***

Salt, Leaven and Light Participant

**We empower people to find their sense of purpose, potential and vocation**

**What this means** - Through our work, people can use their talents, be empowered in their gifts, discover or remember their vocational purpose and feel more confident to pursue their deepest hopes for their own lives.

**How we do it** - We provide ongoing development opportunities for all volunteers or participants in the FireCloud community. People tend to stay with us for several years and we always encourage intentional learning and reflection on how they use their gifts and what they feel called to do with their lives.

**We develop self-esteem, confidence, and talent so those we work with can transform the world for good**

**What this means** - We do things to encourage people to act with courage and love, to empower them to challenge hopelessness and to animate the world and make it better. This is about our values and the ethos which underlies all our community engagement.

**How we do it** - we explore the issues and questions that people find difficult and work to create positive, hopeful examples that can encourage people in the face of their own struggles. Our projects and events are designed to share and learn from the real-life stories and experiences of people in our community who have found ways to live hopefully.

***"I can't thank you all enough for the encouragement you give my son. He loves coming to FireCloud."***

Parent of a Youth Academy participant

***"The purpose of the retreat was explained to a high standard. The team was full of kindness, energy and passion throughout. All activities were engaging and delivered at an appropriate level."***

Teacher from a Priest, Prophet and King Retreat

## **OUR SCOPE AND REACH IN 2024-25: IN SUMMARY**

A total of **4734 people benefited from FireCloud's charitable work in 2024/25**. We worked with **4690** people in-person and a further **44** people made use of the audio, video, or livestream resources we provided digitally online.

In this year, we worked with **2635 young people (aged 10-18) across 42 schools** encompassing seven local authority areas and **22 parishes** in two dioceses. We also worked with **2099 people up to 90+ years of age**. We worked across the central belt of Scotland and beyond.

**FireCloud has two charitable purposes with eight programmes of work:**

**Celebrating Faith**

- Prayer & Music Ministry
- Faith Discussion & Exploration
- Retreats & Workshops
- Relationship Building & Outreach

**Advancing education & giftedness**

- Music, Song & Dance
- Art, Craft & Design
- Stories, Words & Drama
- Vocational Development

In 2024/25, we ran **32 projects** to deliver on our charitable purposes. These projects **offered 281 opportunities and events for people to engage** and participate in what we do.

We had a total of **66 volunteers** in the year ending June 2025 **who donated more than 4367 hours of voluntary time** to FireCloud's mission. Even a very prudent estimate would give this an equivalent market value of **more than £80,000 of gifted labour** to help people in our local community.

Eleven people also worked for FireCloud on a sessional basis in 2024/25 to help deliver our programmes. Together they made up **just over 1.85 full time equivalent staff time**.

***“This is my third year being involved and I think it's fantastic. All the children are involved, enjoying themselves whilst having their faith truly deepened.”***

Teacher from a High School Retreat

**WORKING TOWARDS OUR GOALS: FIVE BIG THINGS IN TEN YEARS**

In 2017, FireCloud's volunteers identified five big things we want to achieve by 2027. Meeting these strategic goals will allow us to bring about the many dreams, hopes and ideas we have for how FireCloud can grow to support more local people and reach those who need us most. These strategic priorities guide our work in any given year:

1. Grow and strengthen our community of volunteers.
2. Make sure our charity is sustainable for the long term.
3. Get better at sharing information about our mission, projects and events so more people can participate.
4. Grow our provision for children, schools and young people aged 16-24.
5. Develop our outreach to engage with a wider range of participants and beneficiaries in new and different ways.

Watch our summary of how we delivered on these priorities in 2024/25.

[FireCloud Annual Report 2024-2025](#)

***“I was impressed at the amount of care and preparation that went into the planning and delivery of the course. It appeared that all of the handouts were prepared in advance of the course; well researched; and of a consistently high quality.”***

Salt, Leaven and Light Participant

***“Great night, bringing everyone together in one big community while having fun and celebrating our faith.”***

Hope Kitchen Attendee

# YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS

## YOUTH ACADEMY

We worked with 50 young people across four schools in the 2nd year of our youth academy. Our young people built their confidence with their first two live performances



## PRIEST, PROPHET AND KING

Our retreat team worked with 886 (10-11 yr. olds) and 51 staff across 25 primary schools inspiring love, courage and service for others

## HIGH SCHOOL RETREATS

Our high school retreat team worked with 564 (11-14 yr. olds) helping them to explore and encounter the voice of God in their lives



## SUPPORT

We provided strategic support, facilitation and leadership advice for several Scottish youth agencies. We also led music and prayer at the ACN youth rally for hundreds of teens

# CREATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

## BIG HAPPY NOISE

Our community choir continued to be the heart of FireCloud with weekly singing, laughter and a warm welcome



## MONDAY TEAM

Our resourceful Monday team work year-round creating beautiful crafted items to help us fundraise and to develop and share their creative skills

## AN EVENING WITH FIRECLOUD

It was a joy to have all our FireCloud musicians and singers in one room for a music-packed evening to round up the year



## HOPE KITCHEN

Our thoughtful bistro evenings of community learning provided food for body and soul again in 2024/25. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row we took our Hope Kitchen "on tour" to other parishes

# FAITH HIGHLIGHTS

## PASSION PLAYS

During Lent 2025, we saw 775 people with 11 performances of our musical Passion Plays.

We toured three different productions to 350 (S1-6) pupils and 5 parishes across Glasgow



## ADVENTURE

Our Lucens singers led parish 'ADVENTure' evenings of prayer, reflection and music for Advent

## SALT, LEAVEN & LIGHT

We launched our evangelisation course for lay people. We had 17 participants in our first cohort, who undertook the full seven-month course and designed a new evangelisation initiative for their parish



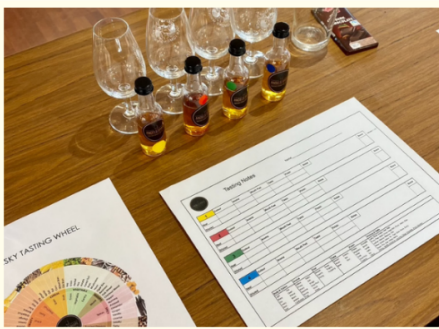
## ONGOING FORMATION FOR LAY PEOPLE, STAFF & CLERGY

We provided a range of presentations, workshops, formation sessions and inset days for more than 260 lay people, clergy and staff

# COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

## NATIVITY

500+ people came to our musical nativity "One Extraordinary day." For the second time, we took our nativity to two parishes



## ANGELS SHARE

Our whisky club returned. Friendships and support between these enthusiasts continue to deepen every year.

## WHOLLY CRAFT

Our annual craft fayre was a big hit, with lovingly crafted gifts and cards as well as our tearoom, tombola and a very warm welcome.



## CAROL SINGING

One of the highlights of our year is to spread a little Christmas cheer by bringing our carol singers to Clydebank Health Centre. Sleigh bells ring!

When it comes to sustainability, our volunteer community is the backbone of FireCloud. Without these passionate, creative souls FireCloud simply would not be what it is. Our volunteers contribute to everything including designing and co-ordinating our work, making key decisions, composing brand new music, making the tea, designing retreats, keeping the books, planning, crafting, directing, producing, creating social media content, filming, taking pictures, baking, building and most of all, looking after the people who come through our doors. We are profoundly grateful for their efforts.

Our sustainability also depends on having a strong board, staff and partners. In February 2024, we made dedicated time to review our progress against our own strategic hopes and set priorities for the years ahead.

### **LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025/2026**

As we look to the year ahead, we will keep making every effort to grow our provision for children, schools and young people, to reach out to new and different people who could benefit from our work, to grow our presence in the local community, build sustainable infrastructure, and continue to support our growing community of volunteers, participants and beneficiaries.

Throughout the last year, it has sadly become apparent that the buildings which we currently operate from are deteriorating and the time has come for us to find new premises for FireCloud. We have already moved most of our community groups out of the building into new venues and the search is underway to find a new home for FireCloud in 2025-26.

We are excited to see where this move will take us as we begin to create the next chapter for FireCloud in 2025!

***“Such a warm welcome and a very joyful, thought provoking and entertaining evening.”***

Community event attendee

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Type of governing document** We have a constitution.

### **Trustee recruitment and appointment**

New trustees are approached by existing board members and invited to attend our meetings and undergo an induction process, until they understand the commitment and are ready to commit themselves as trustees. No external organisations can appoint charity trustees at FireCloud.

### **Statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

The trustees hold a minimum of three months running costs (approximately £9,000). The trustees regularly monitor the level of unrestricted reserves along with 6 months' cash flow and will, if appropriate, amend the minimum to reflect the development of the charity.

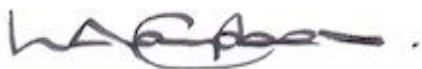
**Details of any deficit** There is no deficit in our funds.

### **Donated facilities and services**

Our office and operating space is donated by our local Catholic church, St Margaret's and Our Holy Redeemer parish, Clydebank. We are incredibly grateful for their support in helping us operate.

## **DECLARATION**

**Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:**



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Print name: Luisa Campbell

Designation: Treasurer

Date: 19th March 2026

[www.fire-cloud.org](http://www.fire-cloud.org)

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation No. SCO47509