



Supporting the Art Galleries and Museums in Glasgow since 1944

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2025/2026

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Friends of Glasgow Museums is an association founded in 1944 by Dr Tom Honeyman. Its original name was Glasgow Art Galleries & Museums Association.

It is a charity registered in Scotland, number SC052547.

Its activities are open to all, and its funds are raised by members and friends, from subscriptions, events income and through donations and bequests kindly given in support of the Friends' objectives which are 'primarily for the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science and to provide public benefit'.

Friends of Glasgow Museums, c/o Turcan Connell, 180 St Vincent St, Glasgow, G2 5SG

Contact: admin@friendsofglasgowmuseums.org

A Member of the British Association of Friends of Museums

REPORT & ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Executive Committee, who are the trustees of the charity, are pleased to present their report and financial statements together with the independent examiner's report for the year to 31 March 2026.

ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS and PLANS: CHAIR'S REPORT

During 2025/26, our membership numbers remained healthy, in the region of 550 Friends, each one of whose support is greatly valued.

2025 saw the 850th anniversary of Glasgow's founding, and the society marked and celebrated this important milestone for our city in a variety of ways throughout the year.

The Committee agreed that the Grant Award programme for the financial year 2025/26 would continue to offer the same level of funding opportunities as for the previous year, with applications for 5 individual grants of £1000 and 3 individual grants up to and including £5000 being invited. In special circumstances and for exceptional applications, awards of more than £5000 were considered.

FoGM's focus for grants in 2025/2026 was to: mark the celebration of Glasgow 850, sponsor young students on creative arts courses by awarding end-of-year prizes and travel bursaries, support new initiatives, support new research/publications into artists, designers or collectors who have not been published before, look at ways to make artworks more accessible to all FoGM members, use new technology to widen interest in culture and the arts; and to fund competitions for young people.

In 2025/26 FoGM awarded grants totalling £10,768. As in 2024/25 the standard of all applications was high, the use of the grant funding has been imaginative and in accord with our charitable aims and objectives, and relationships with institutions new and old have been developed and reinforced.

In 2025/26 we once again awarded funding towards the medals, prizes and prize-giving ceremony for the Glasgow Museums Annual Young Persons' Art Competition.

In 2025 two special FoGM prizes were again awarded to students on the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's Production Arts and Design course:

- The **FoGM PAD Showcase Awards**: awarding prizes to two first-place winners (Promise and Excellence) and two runners-up, one in each category.
- The **FoGM 80th Anniversary Bursary**, awarded to one or two BA Production Arts and Design student(s) following an application process.

The Committee agreed that in 2026 a further RCS PAD award would be offered, the **FoGM Camphill Fund Award for Costume Construction**, using funds from FoGM's Camphill Appeal Fund which is directed specifically towards grants for projects involving textiles and costume.

In 2025 we awarded an additional grant to the RCS to fund the publishing of *Historic Musical Instruments in the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland: Catalogue of the John Webb Collection and other Historic Musical Instruments*, edited by Professor Arnold Myers, and I am happy to report that this work came to publication in July 2025.

In 2025, FoGM also gave a grant towards publishing costs for the book *Tea for Two/Cha para Dois* by Graeme Nicholls, which accompanied the exhibition of the same name hosted by the Charles Rennie Mackintosh Society at Queen's Cross Church, Glasgow.

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In 2025 we collaborated with the Glasgow School of Art to pledge an award of three consecutive annual amounts of £5000 towards the cataloguing and archiving of the GSA's Helen Cargill Thompson Bequest. FoGM is delighted to be one of the keystone supporters of this exciting project, which will record and highlight this vast and important collection of fine silver artefacts, many of which are examples of work of the highest quality selected from GSA graduation shows over several decades.

In 2025 we also agreed a new Friends of Glasgow Museums bursary with the University of Glasgow which will allow up to 10 individual grants of £500 each to be awarded to eligible postgraduate students on the University's Museums Studies (Masters Level) courses. These awards will help to broaden the scope of the recipients' final dissertations/research projects.

In 2025 FoGM also gave a grant to horticulture students at Glasgow Clyde College for the renovation and replanting of the Tom Honeyman Memorial Garden in Kelvingrove Park. The garden was established in 1972 in memory of FoGM's founder Dr Tom Honeyman and is part of Glasgow City Council's parks estate. As the garden required attention beyond the current budget and remit of the parks department, FoGM initiated, organised and supported this meaningful project to mark our 80th anniversary year in 2024 and the City of Glasgow's 850 celebrations in 2025. Further collaborations with Glasgow Clyde College are planned for the coming year, including a proposed design competition using the Honeyman Garden as inspiration. Our thanks to Grant Findlay, Course Leader at GCC and his talented and enthusiastic student cohort, and to FoGM Honorary Secretary Carol Hamilton for taking the lead on this project.

2025/26 FoGM highlights included: an in-person lecture at the Kelvin Hall from Neil Baxter, discussing his book *The City of Glasgow in Four Chapters*; a book-signing event at Kelvingrove to mark the publication of *A Glasgow Memoir* featuring the works of 97-year old Glasgow artist Tommy McGoran, who was joined 'in conversation' by Lost Glasgow's Norry Wilson, a visit and tour of the GSA archives at the Whisky Bond, a private viewing at Lyon and Turnbull's Glasgow showroom of some stunning pieces from the Helen Cargill Thompson bequest, accompanied by a talk from artist and silversmith Bryony Knox, a tour of the moving exhibition *Views of Glasgow* at the Hunterian Art Gallery, a visit to the Burrell Collection for a fascinating illustrated talk by Julie Chambers on the history of the Boppard Windows, followed by a viewing of the beautifully conserved examples on display in the gallery, a very lively Christmas Lunch for 100 Friends at Kelvingrove in December and a trip to the Willow Tea Rooms in Sauchiehall Street, recently acquired by the National Trust for Scotland, to enjoy a tour of the building and its on-site exhibition, a very enjoyable stencil-making workshop, and, of course, a refreshing cup of tea.

Also included in FoGM's activities in 2025 were our Glasgow 850 celebratory Summer Lunch in July and a special Glasgow 850 Organ Recital in August, both held at Kelvingrove. The recital was organised and programmed by Dr Jim Hunter, Kelvingrove's Honorary Director of Music, and featured the prodigious talents of Finlay and Angus Donohoe, aged 12 and 10 respectively. FoGM was absolutely delighted to be able to respond to Jim's request for support in staging this recital with a grant for the young musicians' travel and expenses. It was with much sadness that we learnt of Jim's death in March 2026. Jim was made an Honorary Friend of FoGM in 2019 in recognition of his wonderful work at Kelvingrove and the generous assistance he gave our society over the years in all things musical. To celebrate our 75th Anniversary, he composed and gifted us our own air, 'The Friends of Glasgow Museums', and this beautiful tune has been performed and enjoyed at many FoGM events and celebrations since. We were extremely privileged to have had Dr Jim Hunter as an Honorary Friend. He will be greatly missed by us all.

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FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026

In November 2025, Friends of Glasgow Museums were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Dr Elspeth King, a uniquely talented and truly world-class curator, social historian and fearless champion of the arts, whose contribution to Glasgow's culture and heritage was immeasurable. We were proud to have Elspeth as a Friend and were privileged to have her as a guest lecturer on many occasions, most recently in January 2025, when she gave a fascinating talk on the Scottish Temperance Movement, her rigorous research woven with understanding and humanity, as was Elspeth's hallmark. Elspeth had such depth of knowledge and experience which she so generously shared, even in retirement, and her legacy will endure in the works and collections of the many artists, curators, museums, galleries and societies she nurtured and steered over the years with consummate flair, vision and integrity, and we will miss her very much indeed.

Our 2025 Zoom Lecture Series was a great success and to date the 2026 talks have been equally well received. We are as ever extremely grateful to all our guest speakers for providing the Friends with such a rich and varied programme of lectures. Special thanks to Ailsa Turner for the enthusiasm, imagination, and great depth of knowledge she has brought to the role of programming the lectures since joining the Executive Committee in 2025.

FoGM's 2025/26 Independent Examiner Janice Alexander CA, Partner at Robb Ferguson Chartered Accountants, has kindly agreed to be reappointed to this role for 2026/27. Many thanks to Janice for her continued assistance and expertise in this area.

We continue to employ a 'hybrid' method of communication (emailing Friends wherever possible) which has been effective in reducing both paper usage and postage costs. However, the Committee is aware that many Friends still prefer to be contacted by post and where this is the preference, we will continue to do so.

We have responded to requests to share news and events information from partner charities and organisations with our membership wherever possible, for example: Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Charles Rennie Mackintosh Society, Friends of Glasgow Royal Infirmary, Hunterian Art Gallery, The Tall Ship Glenlee, The Glasgow Art Club, The Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow Museums, and the Maclaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle, Ayr.

Our website www.friendsofglasgowmuseums.org gives online access to the latest FoGM news and information about our activities, events, aims and objectives, and attracts new membership applications and correspondence from Friends in all parts of the world, and its associated Instagram account has been highly effective in building connections with the wider museums, galleries and heritage community.

FoGM intern, Rebecca Marciano, who has been enhancing Friends' events and online and social media communications with her photographic talent and writing flair, has now moved to London to embark on the next phase of her career in the museums and galleries sector. We wish Rebecca every success and are pleased to report that she will continue to lend us her invaluable assistance remotely.

In 2025/26 Barbara Daly, FoGM Vice-chair, has once again taken the lead on our very successful grants application process, and oversees our vibrant and attractive website with artistic flair and attention to detail.

Julie Chambers, our Finance Convenor, continues to run all FoGM's administration, finances, protocols and procedures with skill and precision.

Many thanks to Barbara, to Julie, and to the entire Executive Committee for their many contributions, individually and as a team, to all FoGM's endeavours over the last year.

REPORT & ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026

In conclusion, I am very happy to be able to give such a positive account of 2025/26 and to report that Friends of Glasgow Museums continues to thrive as a society.

Caroline Robertson

Chair

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

The accounts are for the year to 31 March 2026.

We have had another good year financially despite the value of our investments having decreased due to world events. We show an operating surplus of £3,654, having claimed Gift Aid on subscription and donations of £2,140; many thanks to our members for their continued support and especially for kind donations made.

We have continued to subsidise some of our events, particularly the lunches held at the Kelvingrove Café, as a way of thanking members for their support.

The year's Receipts and Payments are set out on page 9.

Grants totalling **£10,768** were made during the year as follows:

- Glasgow School of Art Helen Cargill Thompson Collection: £5,000.00
- Glasgow Museums' Annual Art Competition 2025 (50%): £1,883.00
- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Student Prizes: £1,500.00
- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Publication: £1,000.00
- G Nicholls/CRMS Tea for Two Publication: £ 795.00
- T Honeyman Garden Project: £ 360.00
- Travel expenses for organ recital: £ 230.00

These payments were made from our investment funds, with units in the Anne Maclean Fund being sold to cover the Annual Art Competition and the RCS student prizes, units in the Violet Denholm Fund being sold to cover the support for the GSA Helen Cargill Thompson Collection Project, units in the General Investment Fund sold for the RCS publication and the other smaller grants. £200 was taken from the Gail Bones Fund for the prize awarded in her memory at the Annual Art Competition.

REPORT & ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026

Continuing Funds

The continuing funds of the Friends as at 31 March 2026 total £267,389 as set out on page 10. This includes surpluses achieved over the years by the Friends' programmes of events, lectures, excursions and guided tours. It also includes the current balance of bequests kindly made by donors in support of ongoing activities.

After being managed for three years by CCLA Investment Management Ltd (CCLA), the valuation of our investment funds was £229,790. These are held in Accumulation Units as no income is required at this time. After realising £12,292 on the sale of investment units, the market value of investment funds decreased by £27,102 on the previous year end. This is reflective of the overall market trends due to global events at the year-end date.

Julie Chambers

Finance Convener

CHARITABLE PURPOSES

Friends of Glasgow Museums is an independent charity established in 1944, 'primarily for the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science and to provide public benefit'. Its activities are all charitable. It cultivates interest in the activities – artistic, historical, educational and scientific – promoted by art galleries and museums in Glasgow.

The Friends' activities include lectures, excursions, guided tours and events with the aim of enhancing and improving the enjoyment of visitors to art galleries and museums in Glasgow and their collections. By the fundraising of its members, and by receiving donations and bequests, it is also able to award grants to support and promote collections.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is governed by its constitution. The registered SCIO number is SC052547.

Appointment of members of the Executive Committee

The committee consists of members of the Friends and their appointment is voted upon by the general membership at Annual General Meetings in accordance with the constitution.

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name	Friends of Glasgow Museums
Charity Number	SC052547
Principal Address	c/o Turcan Connell, 180 St Vincent St, Glasgow, G2 5SG
Website Address	www.friendsofglasgowmuseums.org
Current Trustees	Caroline Robertson, (Chair), Barbara Daly, (Deputy Chair) Carol Hamilton, (Hon. Secretary), Julie Chambers, (Finance Convener) Marlene Anderson, Ailsa Bhattacharya, Belinda MacDonald, Caroline Stroud

REPORT & ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026

APPROVAL

This report was approved by the Executive Committee on 19th May, 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Caroline Robertson
Chair



Julie Chambers
Finance Convener

REPORT & ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent Examiner's Report to the Executive Committee of the Friends of Glasgow Museums

I report on the Accounts of the charity for the year to 31 March 2026 which are set out on pages 9 to 12.

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.

Signed:

Janice Alexander.

Janice Alexander CA
Partner
Robb Ferguson Chartered Accountants
Regent Court
70 West Regent St
Glasgow
G2 2QZ

19th May, 2026

REPORT & ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	<u>2025/26</u>	<u>2024/25</u>
Receipts	£	£
Membership Subscriptions	9,140	8,445
Donations (restricted)	0	4,000
Donations (unrestricted)	2,124	3,289
Sale of Investment Funds (restricted)	5,267	13,905
Sale of Investment Funds (unrestricted)	7,025	0
Events Income	11,878	10,165
Investment Interest Income	852	1,334
Gift Aid	2,140	0
TOTAL RECEIPTS	38,426	41,138
Payments		
Grant Payments (unrestricted funds)	7,385	6,633
Grant Payments (restricted funds)	3,383	13,905
Purchase of Investment Funds (restricted)	0	4,000
Events Payments	14,892	11,858
Accounting Fees	702	966
Post, Printing & Stationery	3,161	4,035
Website Maintenance	720	720
Office Eqpt, Insurance, Other	3,219	3,439
Social Media Costs	1,180	0
Membership Fees	130	130
TOTAL PAYMENTS	34,772	45,686
Surplus/Deficit for the year	3,654	-4,548

The notes on page 12 form an integral part of these accounts.

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FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Funds Reconciliation

	£
Continuing Funds	
Balance as at 1st April 2025	290,836
Surplus for the year	3,654
Decrease in Investment Valuation	-27,101
Funds as at 31 March 2026	267,389

Investment Funds

Market valuation of funds managed by CCLA Investment Management Ltd as at 31 March 2026	229,790
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Bank and Cash Balances

Virgin Money Current Accounts	12,597
CCLA Charity Deposit	24,802
Cash	200
Total bank and cash as at 31 March 2026	37,599

Funds as at 31 March 2026	267,389
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Representing:

Unrestricted Funds	182,976
Restricted Funds	84,413
	267,389

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FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026

CCLA Investment Management Limited continues to manage investment funds on behalf of the Friends with a view to achieving medium capital growth.

The investment portfolio consists of a holding of units in the COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund (the Ethical Fund). The Ethical Fund is an entity in its own right, in which the assets of charities with shared objectives are pooled and managed collectively by the fund's manager, CCLA. The principal cost incurred by the fund is CCLA's annual management charge, which is 0.60% p.a. Third party fund management costs are approximately 0.08% p.a. These include the fund's audit fee and other governance and professional services. Additionally, the costs associated with some of the Fund's underlying investments are approximately 0.17% p.a. Hence the Ethical Fund's 'ongoing charges figure' is approximately 0.85% p.a.

No costs are incurred directly by fund unit holders. All costs are met from the fund's capital and are therefore reflected in the valuation of fund units, which in turn determines the value of the charity's holding in the fund.

The trustees have selected accumulation units in the Ethical Fund, which means that there is no entitlement to an income distribution.

The further notes on page 12 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts were approved by the Executive Committee on 19th May, 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Caroline Robertson
Chair



Julie Chambers
Finance Convener

REPORT & ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2026

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1. Basis of Preparation

These accounts have been prepared on the receipts & payments basis in accordance with:

- (a) The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005
- (b) The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The activities of the Friends of Glasgow Museums are all exclusively charitable activities.

2. Continuing Funds

The Friends continuing funds are held in support of its ongoing charitable activities.

- (a) Unrestricted funds are those that can be used at the discretion of the Executive Committee in the furtherance of the objects of the Friends.
- (b) Restricted funds are those that shall only be used for the purposes specified by the donor or trust deed.

Funds considered as restricted, their purposes and their valuation as at 31 March 2026 as estimated by CCLA Investment Management Limited are as follows:

£39,668	Anne MacLean Bequest	For the education of young people
£29,731	Camphill Fund	Promotion of Costume & Textile Collection
£11,608	Evelyn McNab Bequest	Acquisition of any picture or sculpture
£3,406	Gail Bones Fund	GM Annual Art Competition Prize
<u>£84,413</u>	<u>Total Restricted Funds</u>	

3. Taxation

- (a) The charity is not liable to income tax nor capital gains tax.
- (b) The charity is not registered for VAT; all costs are shown inclusive of VAT charged.

4. Transactions with Trustees and related parties

No remuneration was paid to Trustees or any persons connected with them during the year.