



Keith & District Silver Band

Trustees' Annual Report

1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

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Charity Contact Information

Keith & District Silver Band

Scottish Charity Number: SC015416

Address: c/o Thornbank, Auchleven, Inch, Aberdeenshire

Postcode: AB52 6QD

Telephone number: 01464 820939 (Steve Page, Secretary)

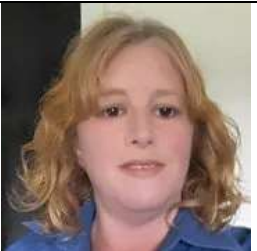
Email Contact Form: Keithsilverband.org/contact

Website: Keithsilverband.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/278879672144737/

Charity Trustees

1. George Brown - Chairperson & Event Coordinator
2. Lesley Watt - Vice Chairperson & Uniform Coordinator
3. Janet Winterbourne - Librarian
4. Stephen Page - Secretary and Treasurer
5. Shuna Dicks - Equipment Coordinator
6. Christine McKay - Safeguarding Officer
7. Hazel Wright - Committee Member
8. Anne Edward - Committee Member

			
George	Lesley	Janet	Steve
			
Shuna	Christine	Hazel	Anne

Objectives and Activities

Aims

The association's purposes are:

- Create Sustain and nurture an active brass group in the Keith and District area and strive to improve standards of individual and group playing through public performance.
- To be an active organisation in the local community.
- Unconditionally, promote a safe, welcoming and friendly environment for all members during rehearsals, engagements and other events.

What We Do

- Hold regular rehearsals to improve the standard of the band and prepare for engagements.
- Encourage and support members in improving their standard of musicianship.
- Provide instruments, music and other equipment (without further charge over and above the standard subscription) to members as required.
- Provide uniforms to members.
- Arrange concerts for the entertainment of the public.
- Play an active part in community events and fundraising activities.
- Support selected charities (as agreed by the members) by fundraising through performance and other means.

Who We Help

We help:

- Local, national and international charities in their fund raising efforts. Examples include Keith Men's Shed, The Loft Project in Keith, Famine Relief for Orphans in Malawi, Scott's Hospital Huntly, Christian Aid, The British Legion, etc.
- Local Community Events. Examples are Keith Show, The Maggie Fair in Garmouth, etc.
- Local churches (e.g., for carol and special commemorative services, etc). We have a special relationship with St. Rufus Parish Church in Keith, holding fund raising concerts and playing at services there.
- Aspiring musicians. All are welcome at rehearsals, regardless of their standard of musicianship. We also provide instruments, equipment and uniform to all band members as required. We now run a training band for learners, young and old.

Structure, Governance and Management

We are governed by our constitution. In 2023 a new constitution was adopted at the AGM. This document is based on the SCVO template approved by OSCR. The following additional policy and guidance documents have been drafted and approved for use by the committee:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Whistle-blowing Policy
- Code of Conduct

The band is run by a committee of 8 trustees, including 6 Officers.

Committee meeting minutes are distributed to all members for information and comment. The band encourages all members to contribute to the day to day running of the group and to get involved in matters such as music selection, etc.

Trustee Recruitment and Appointment

The trustees above were appointed at the AGM on 28 April 2025. The appointments are approved by a poll of members attending the AGM.

Achievements and Performance

Activities During 2025

29 Jan	Have a go session at the Loft Youth Project in Keith
13 Feb	Weston View Care Home concert
28 March	Taylor Court Sheltered Housing, Keith, concert
26 April	Parklands Care Home, Buckie, Concert
9 May	Keith Kilt & Textile Centre 20 th Anniversary event
25 May	Mortlach Kirk, Dufftown, Concert
29 Jun	St Rufus Church, Keith, Service
16 Aug	Premnay Village Fete
27 Sept	Laigh O'Moray Charity Day 2025, Keith
2 Nov	Open Afternoon and Taster Session, Keith
9 Nov	Remembrance Service, Keith
9 Nov	Inaugural Training Band session
14 Nov	St Rufus Church, Keith – Tower repairs fundraiser
30 Nov	Aberlour Kirk, Christmas Concert
2 Dec	Mortlach Kirk, Christmas Service
13 Dec	Carols at Tesco, Keith
14 Dec	Keith Rotary Carol Service
19 Dec	Old Comrades Club, Lossiemouth, concert
22 Dec	Taylor Court Sheltered Housing, Christmas Entertainment

Achievements

The Roots Project was inaugurated in November and is now well established with free tuition being given to training band members and lapsed players coming back to make music again.

Financial Review

Table 1 shows the balance sheet on 31 December 2025.

KEITH & DISTRICT SILVER BAND				
STATEMENT OF BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2025				
			2025	2024
CASH FUNDS				
Cash and bank balances at 1 January 2025			£ 5,793.16	£ 10,529.29
Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account			£ 1,223.10	-£ 4,736.13
Cash and bank balances at 31 December			7,016.26	5,793.16
OTHER ASSETS				
Instruments at valuation			£ 24,395.56	£ 21,921.73
Other Equipment at valuation			£ 1,204.88	£ 135.26
Assets Total			£ 25,600.44	£ 22,056.99

Table 1

Statement on reserves policy

The charity has no formal written policy on reserves, but the level shown is considered to be sufficient to cover expected contingencies based on past history.

Details of any deficit

Figure 1 shows 2025 income, expenditure and year end cash balance since 2015.

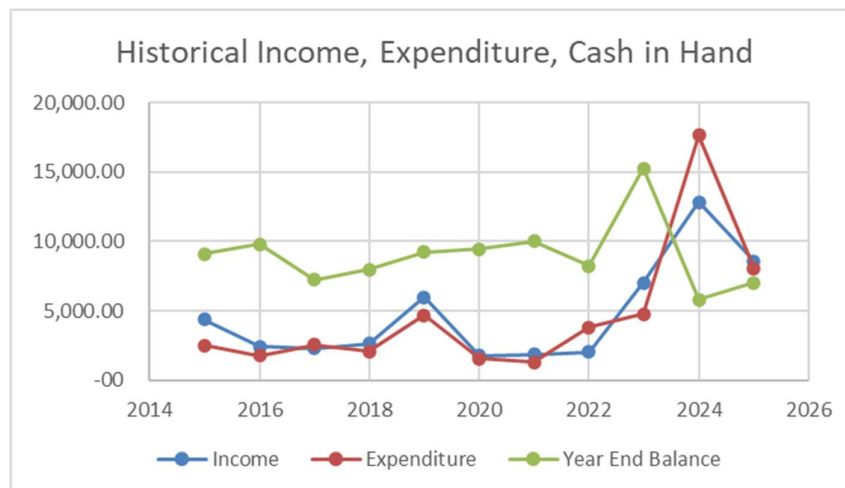


Figure 1

Income in 2025 was boosted by a grants of £4000 from the Towie Wind Farm Fund for the purchase of a new Tenor Horn and £972 from the Edintore Wind Farm for the purchase of instruments for the Training Band. In addition, £704.87 gift aid was

successfully claimed from HMRC. The year-end balance is substantially better as a result but still must be watched as we expand the training band initiative which is free of charge to members.

Figures 2 and 3 show income and expenditure breakdowns for the year.

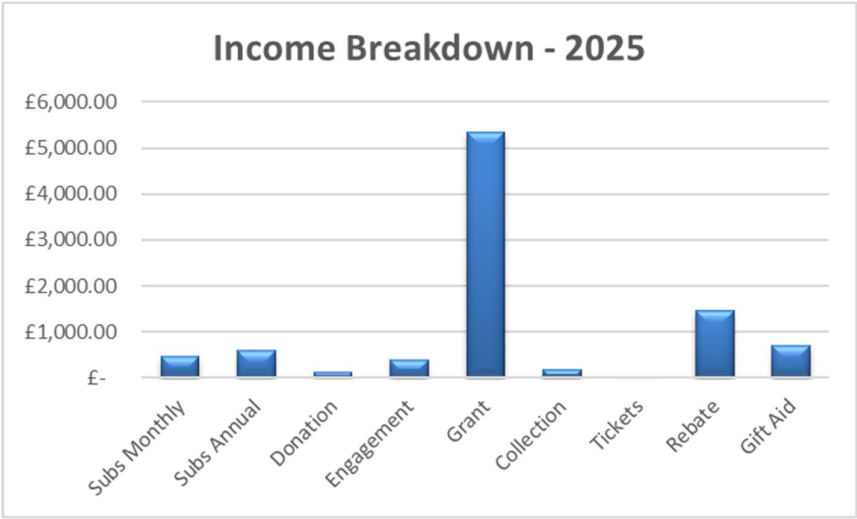


Figure 2

Figure 2 shows that most income in 2025 (apart from the REAP grant) was derived from subs. There was no ticket income for the year because the band did not carry out a formal engagement specifically to raise funds for the group and the concerts held were in aid of other organisations. Engagement income was from donations from the organisations that we helped.

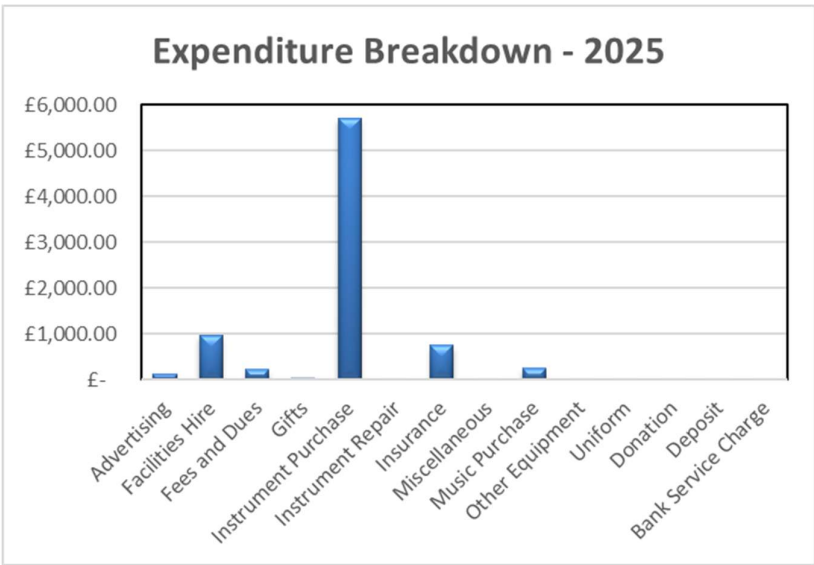


Figure 3

Figure 3 shows the expenditure break down. The details are:

- 1. Advertising is the cost of running our website, in this case the hosting fee.

2. Facilities hire is the cost of using the Longmore Community Hall for rehearsals, committee meetings and the AGM. The expenditure for rehearsals has now doubled due to hall use in support of the training band and other tuition.
3. Fees and Dues are royalty payments to the Performing Rights Society, the cost of formal scrutiny of accounts by Gardner and Partners.
4. The instrument purchase is the cost of a new Tenor Horn and training band instruments funded by REAP grants.
5. Insurances for the year covered instrument insurance and also personal accident insurance for the band.
6. Music purchase includes tutor books for the training band.

Chairperson's Commentary and Future plans

It gives me great pleasure to present this year's Chairman's Report. Overall, it has been a highly positive and rewarding year for the band, marked by steady musical progress, strong engagement with our community, and encouraging growth in membership.

Musical Progress and Development

Over the past year, I have been extremely encouraged by the band's continued commitment to improving both individual and ensemble playing standards. Rehearsals have been well attended and focused, with noticeable enthusiasm and musical confidence across the band.

One of the most significant developments this year has been the introduction and growth of our "Roots" project.

"Roots" Project

The Roots initiative was established to support and develop beginner and intermediate players, and it has already proven to be a great success. The aim of the project is to provide a structured, supportive pathway for players at earlier stages of their musical journey, allowing them to build confidence, technique, and ensemble skills.

I am delighted to report that:

- Participation in Roots has been strong and consistent
- Players have shown impressive progress over a relatively short period
- Several members have already begun integrating more regularly into main band rehearsal settings
- Confidence levels—particularly in reading music, listening within the band, and maintaining rhythm—have noticeably improved

Most importantly, the enthusiasm and enjoyment shown by those involved has been excellent to see. This initiative is not only strengthening the future of the band musically, but also helping to build a welcoming and inclusive culture.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed their time and support to make Roots a success. In particular I would like to give a big shout out to Angie, who has been utterly committed to the project. Without her it would not be the success it has been.

Performances and Engagements

This year, the band has maintained a strong presence within the local community through a variety of performances.

Band Engagements

We have been privileged to perform at a number of church services and other events (e.g. Premnay) throughout the year. These performances have been well received and provided an opportunity to present a broad and reflective repertoire. As always, the band demonstrated musical sensitivity and professionalism in these settings. I'd like to particularly highlight the performance at St Rufus, when we played alongside two highly talented organists - it was truly spectacular.

Christmas Season

The Christmas period was, as ever, one of our busiest and most visible times of the year. Our carol performances were particularly rewarding, with a number of well-attended engagements that created a festive atmosphere and strengthened our community connections.

The band rose to the occasion admirably, delivering confident and enjoyable performances despite the challenges of winter conditions and demanding schedules.

Care Home and Sheltered Housing Performances

A smaller group drawn from the band also undertook performances at local care homes and sheltered housing. These visits are always special, and I would like to highlight the impact these performances had on residents.

The feedback we received was extremely positive, and it was clear that these performances brought genuine enjoyment and comfort. I would like to commend those players who gave their time for these events—your contribution makes a real difference and reflects the very best of what community music-making can achieve.

Looking Ahead

As we move into the next year, I would like to build on the strong foundations we have established. Key areas of focus will include:

- Continuing to develop the Roots programme and encourage progression towards joining the main band.
- Expanding our repertoire and further improving musical standards
- Seeking out varied and engaging performance opportunities
- Maintaining the welcoming and supportive environment that has been so evident this year

Thanks

Finally, I would like to thank all band members for their commitment, positivity, and hard work. Your dedication is what keeps the band moving forward. I would also like to extend thanks to the committee and volunteers whose efforts behind the scenes make everything possible. There is a lot of hard work put in by a lot of people. In particular I'd like to highlight Lesley who has done such an amazing job of getting donations from local businesses. Absolutely awesome work!

It has been a pleasure to work with you all this year, and I look forward to what we can achieve together in the year ahead.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Print name

George Brown

Designation

Chairperson

Date

20 May 2026