LOCH SHIEL SPRING FESTIVAL

ANNUAL REPORT

and

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended

31 JULY 2025

Charity Number SC037196

LOCH SHIEL SPRING FESTIVAL

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

For the year ended

31 JULY 2025

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LOCH SHIEL SPRING FESTIVAL

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

For the year ended

31 JULY 2025

Charity Information

Charity number	SC037196		
Contact Address	Maiviken Torr an Eas Glenfinnan PH37 4LS		
Email	info@shielfestival.com		
Website	www.lochshielfestival.com		
Trustees	Rachel Spencer Stephen Carruthers Steve Taylor John Dove Ian Strachan Stuart Moralee Paul Barnes	Chair Secretary Treasurer	Appointed November 2024 Appointed November 2024 Appointed 7 November 2014
Artistic Director	Duncan Strachan		
Promotions Manager	Rachel Walker		
Independent Examiner	Marie McMillan		
Bankers	Bank of Scotland 62 High Street Fort William PH33 6AE		

LOCH SHIEL SPRING FESTIVAL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended

31 JULY 2025

Structure, Governance and Management
The Loch Shiel Spring Festival association was established under a trust deed dated May 1997, subsequently amended on 20 May 2005.

Trustees/Committee members comprise a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and four others who are elected annually at the AGM. The committee met three times in 2024/5.

Objectives and Activities
The association exists to promote, improve and advance public education in and appreciation of the arts, including the arts of drama, music and singing in and around the area of Loch Shiel in the West Highlands of Scotland.

Achievements and Performance
The 2025 festival ran from Thursday 1 May to Sunday 4 May. The theme was “The Big Music”, focussing on Highland traditions. Our artistic line-up consisted of the Maxwell Quartet, smallpipes player Brighde Chaimbeul, Lochaber Schools Pipe Band, fiddle and accordion duo Roo Geddes and Neil Sutcliffe, and Gaelic singer Kristine Kennedy, alongside Lochaber Writers Group, author Kirsty Gunn, visual artists from Resipole Studios and ethnomusicologist Frances Wilkins. Performances took place at a range of venues around Loch Shiel: the Viaduct, Church, Stagehouse B&B, and Jetty Hut in Glenfinnan; the Ariundle Centre, Resipole Studios and Roshven Boathouse.

Highlights of the festival included Thursday’s opening event: an outdoor performance from the Lochaber Schools Pipe Band, in the stunning setting of Glenfinnan Viaduct. The audience was invited to walk closer to the viaduct to hear a reading from author Kirsty Gunn’s novel “The Big Music”, following which we heard a pibroch performed by band leader Margaret MacMaster. The Maxwell Quartet performed three times, including a sell-out performance at Resipole Studios with Q&A from local visual artists, and a collaboration with Brighde Chaimbeul which brought a large audience with many local young people. We also had our most popular family workshop in many years, with Live Music Now Scotland duo, Roo and Neil at the Ariundle Centre on Saturday morning. 18 young people attended, plus their parents and carers. In addition to our ticketed events, this year we held a free folk session on the Friday night, which was hugely popular and gave audience members of all ages the opportunity to mix with festival artists in more friendly and relaxed surroundings.

All our events were well attended this year, and with the support of the grant from the Ward Discretionary Fund, we were able to reach a total of 391 audience members over four days. These were people from the local area, from further afield in Scotland, from the wider UK, and even from mainland Europe. We had lots of very positive audience feedback on many elements of the festival, including the wide-ranging musical programme, the interesting and evocative settings, the appeal to all ages, and the range of thought-provoking cross-arts events on offer.

Financial Review
The festival made an operating loss of £3866.06. The bank account retains a small surplus of £2305.11 as of 31.07.25.

Reserves Policy
It is the policy of the trustees to maintain reserves at a level equal to the basic cost of running the next year's festival

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
The Trustees must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Charity during the financial year. The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which must reflect the financial position of the Charity at any time. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/or detection of fraud or other irregularities.

Signed by one trustee on behalf of all



Date: 3rd February 2026

LOCH SHIEL SPRING FESTIVAL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

31 JULY 2025

Independent Examiner's Report on the financial statements of Loch Shiel Spring Festival

I report on the financial statements of the Loch Shiel Spring Festival for the year ended 31 July 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts in accordance with the Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the Act) and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the Charities and Trustee Regulations, as amended).The trustees consider that the audit requirements of regulation 10(1)(d) of the Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the financial statements as required under S44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

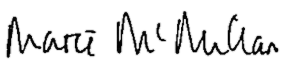
My examination was carried out in accordance with regulation 11 of the 2006 Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and the seeking of explanation 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 financial statements.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
   (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Regulations, and
   (b) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of Regulation 9 of the 2006 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 financial statements to be reached.



Marie McMillan Cert Acct (Open)
Voluntary Action Lochaber
An Drochaid, Claggan Road
Fort William
PH33 6PH

Date: 3rd February 2026

LOCH SHIEL SPRING FESTIVAL

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

	Notes	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Receipts					
Fundraising activities	2	0	8010.55	8010.55	30981.08
Donations & sponsorship	4	0	2547.30	2547.30	790.00
Grants	3	0	0	0	0
Interest		0	0	0	0
Total incoming resources		0	10557.85	10557.85	31771.08
Payments					
Charitable activities	5	0	14423.91	14423.91	30384.88
Total resources expended		0	14423.91	14423.91	30384.88
Deficit/surplus for the year		0	-3866.06	-3866.06	1386.20

The notes on page 7 form an integral part of these accounts

The statement of receipts & payments includes all gains and losses in the year and all derive from continuing activities.

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the deficit/surplus for the year

LOCH SHIEL SPRING FESTIVAL

STATEMENT OF BALANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	Restricted Funds **2025** **£**	Unrestricted Funds **2025** **£**	Total Funds **2025** **£**	Total Funds **2024** **£**
Bank Balance				
Brought forward at 31 July 2024	0	7571.17	7571.17	6184.97
Movement in Year				
Outstanding income	0	0	0	0
Outstanding payments	0	-1400.00	-1400.00	0
Excess of receipts over payments	0	-3866.06	-3866.06	1386.20
Bank Balance				
Carried forward at 31 July 2024	0	2305.11	2305.11	7571.17
Other Assets at valuation Banners		250	250	250
		250	250	250

The notes on page 7 form an integral part of these accounts

The accounts were approved by the Trustees

For and on behalf of the Trustees of the Loch Shiel Spring Festival

Steve Taylor (Treasurer)



LOCH SHIEL SPRING FESTIVAL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 July 2025

1 **Basis of accounting.**

In accordance with OSCR rules and having income less than £100,000 the Trustees have prepared these accounts on a receipts & payments basis.

		2025	2024
2	**Fundraising activities**		
	Unrestricted funds	£	£
	Ticket sales, merchandise, programmes advertising & corporate sponsorship	8010.55	13445.90
	Creative Scotland	0	17535.18
3	**Restricted funds**		
		0	0
4	**Sponsorship & subscriptions**		
	Unrestricted funds		
	Donations and sponsorship	2547.30	790.00
		10557.85	**31771.08**
5	**Charitable activities**		
	Unrestricted funds		
	Directors' payment/expenses	3283.01	3194.71
	Artists' fees and expenses	7552.15	21772.32
	Artists' accommodation	1514.61	2053.03
	Venue hire & costs	330.00	1735.20
	Advertising & promotion	795.00	669.00
	Printing & postage	221.07	270.97
	Insurance, royalties and licences	430.07	459.65
	Float	50.00	50.00
	Other payments	248.00	180.00
		14423.91	**30384.88**
6	**Governance costs**		
	Trustee remuneration	£0	£0

7 **Acknowledgement**

During the year many members and friends gave freely of their time, expertise and resources to advance the objects of the charity. Whilst not quantified in these accounts, those efforts are gratefully received and hereby acknowledged.