

Prisoners Week Trust

Scottish Charity Number SC043431

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2026

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31 March 2026

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements and the independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Reference & Administrative Information

Charity Name

Prisoners Week Trust

Charity No

SC043031

Address

C/o Rev Dr Sheena Orr, Coalheughhead Farmhouse, Harburn, West Calder EH55 8RT

Current Trustees

Rev Graham Bell, Rev Douglas Creighton (from 3 March 2026), Mr Mark Hamid, Rev Kenneth McGeachie, Mr John Nonhobel, Ms Karen Norrie, Rev Dr Sheena Orr, Mrs Marilyn Stenhouse, Mr David Strang, Mr John Thomson

Other Trustees who served during the year

None

Structure Governance & Management

Constitution

The Charity was set up by a Deed of Trust and registered on 21 September 2012.

Appointment of Trustees

The Board of Trustees, which normally meets four times a year, is the charity's trustees. Membership of the Board is by invitation and approval of the Trustees.

Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting which is normally held in September or October.

Management

The trustees are responsible for the support and development of an annual event called Prisoners Week which intends to encourage people to remember in their thoughts and prayers prisoners and their families, the victims of crime, prison staff and all those working in the criminal justice community. Matters of finance are reported to each meeting by the Treasurer and appropriate consideration and oversight are delivered by the trustees. Accounts are maintained on a Receipts and Payments Basis.

Objectives & Activities

Charitable purposes

Our purposes, as recorded in our constitution, are: -

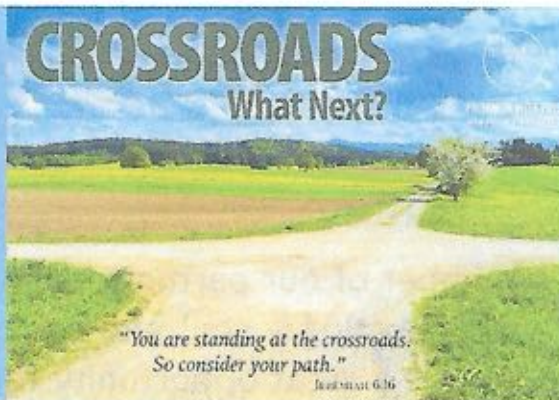
The relief of those in need by virtue of imprisonment; the advancement of conflict resolution or reconciliation, the advancement of citizenship and the advancement of religion, and in furtherance of these objects shall:

- i) Promote for the public benefit greater awareness of the needs and circumstances of prisoners in Scotland through events associated with "Prisoners Week" and otherwise.
- ii) Promote rehabilitation and pastoral care for prisoners in Scotland.
- iii) Highlight the public benefit of both encouraging prisoners to maintain family relationships while imprisoned and promoting family contact.
- iv) Promote for the public benefit various forms of restorative justice which seek simultaneously to consider the needs, rights and interests of both offenders and crime victims.
- v) Encourage prisoners to reflect responsibly on the harms caused to themselves and others by their offending.
- vi) Encourage debate in communities around matters to do with imprisonment.
- vii) Work in collaboration with the Scottish Prison Service and other providers of custodial services in Scotland to further the objects of the charity.
- viii) Promote opportunities and provide resources for religious worship based on the Prisoners Week theme liaising with Prison Chaplains and other religious representatives.

Achievements and Performance

Prisoners Week 2025

CROSSROADS What Next?



Theme: Crossroads: What Next?

Life can be full of decisions – we make hundreds every day. Some of these are pretty trivial, others can be momentous and have long-lasting implications. At times like this we can feel paralysed, not knowing which way to turn. Life at the Crossroads.

For many in prison, this also can be a time of Crossroads in their lives. Do they change direction? Reconsider where they are wanting to go? Do they stick to the familiar trails, or venture down an unknown path?

Our Criminal Justice System is also at Crossroads. Faced with stubbornly high prison numbers, and a system that seems to be broken, what is the right path for the policy makers to take? Do they stick to the familiar trails, or venture down an unknown path?

This year's Prisoners Week theme invites us all to consider our paths. We are standing at the Crossroads – what is the right way to turn?

Launch Service Sunday 16 November 2025

Over 150 attended the National Launch service at Letham St Mark's Church of Scotland in Perth. We were welcomed by the CEO of the Scottish Prison Service, Theresa Medhurst. As this would be Theresa's last PW service, she was presented with a bouquet of flowers from one of the Prison Week Trustees, Kenny McGeachie, to acknowledge and thank her for her years of encouragement and support.

Natalie Beal, Divisional Head of Operational Support for the SPS, gave the keynote address, urging for a full overhaul of the system rather than temporary makeshift fixes.

Our patron, Barbara Dickson, sang her iconic hit-song *Caravan*, which speaks of not knowing where we are going - but still going!

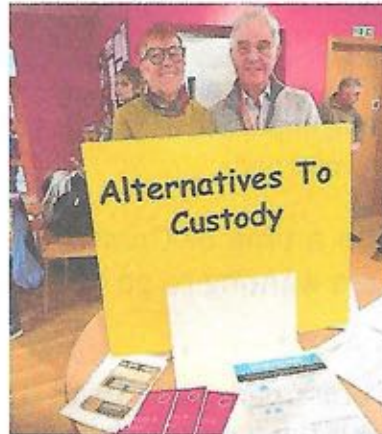
Prisoner voices were heard through giving the Scripture reading in person, as well as through video and audio recordings, as they spoke about what was next for them at their particular crossroads, and leading the service with their prayers.

The full event can be viewed online [here](#).



Marketplace

A number of our partner organisations joined in with our Marketplace event, hosting a stall and engaging with those attending the service. This was a great opportunity for showcasing the good work that takes place through the voluntary and third sectors, as well for networking and build bridges.



Parliamentary Reflections and School Webinar

On the Tuesday of Prisoners Week Prof. Fergus McNeil led the Scottish Parliament in their weekly reflections, with his Prisoner Week themed reflection. To listen to the reflection click [here](#).

On Thursday a Schools Webinar took place for senior phase pupils, mainly studying Advanced Higher Modern Studies, with the module on Crime and Punishment. The panel included Graham Bell (Chaplaincy Advisor), Karen Norrie (Prison Governor), Yvonne Ewing (FLM) and a serving prisoner from HMP Low Moss. 38 schools attended this online event, with over 650 pupils coming along to hear first-hand what life in prison is like, and gaining an understanding of why prisons are at a crossroads.

Events in prison



Barry Woodward, author of *Once an Addict*, and a keen supporter of Prisoners Week, visited HMPs Edinburgh, Glenochil and Kilmarnock, as well as the Lilies Centre in Glasgow, to speak to the women there.

In HMP Edinburgh Chaplaincy worked with the VICSO Stuart Wright to host a veteran who now works for Vector24 and who spoke about the many crossroads he stood at while captaining a chinook during active conflict in Afghanistan, and subsequently when he was medically discharged.

An awareness and support session was shared with HMP Edinburgh Chaplaincy, Barnardo's, Shared Parenting Scotland and SACRO for families of residents.



MP Barlinnie had a full week of events. These included a visit from the *Amazing Life Gospel Choir*, which sang at the Sunday service at which Barry Woodward spoke.

On Monday afternoon prisoners were entertained by *A Close Shave Chorus*, a Barber Shop Acapella singing group of men, singing some old classics.



Then on Wednesday the prison hosted a concert by *Jill Jackson*, a Scottish singer song writer. A country singer, Jill has previously been No. 1 on the Apple Tunes Country Charts. In the early 2000s she was in the band Speedway and even appeared on Top of the Pops. Jill not only sang, but shared openly about her own mental health struggles throughout her life, and how she has learned to overcome these.



In the Community

Many churches had Prisoner Week focussed Sundays, using materials and downloads available from the Prisoner Week Website

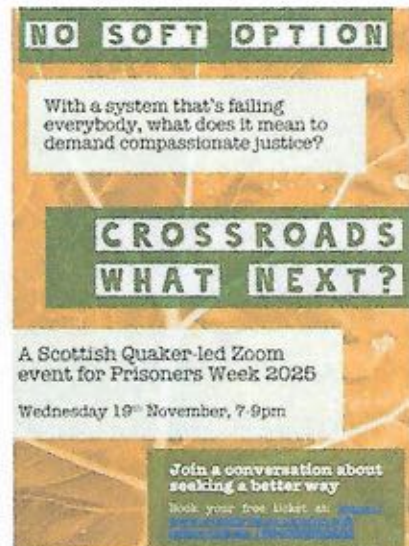
One of our trustees, Kenny McGeachie spoke at an event hosted by the Friends of St Mary's RC Cathedral in Edinburgh, while Natalie Beal, Divisional Head of Operational Support, was interviewed about her work and faith at a church service at St Serf's Church of Scotland, Tullibody.

Graham Bell, chair of the trustees, was interviewed by UCB radio, on his own faith journey, prison ministry as a chaplain for nearly 20 years, and Prisoners Week 2025.

The smallVOICE podcast also had a Prisoners Week focus.

The Scottish Quaker Community Justice Working Group and Network hosted an online event, entitled No Soft Option, under the Prisoner Week theme, as they discussed what a compassionate justice system may look like, including non-punitive approaches.

The event was chaired by Andrew McLellan, former Chief Inspector at HMIPS, and the keynote address was delivered by Emma Jardine, of Howard League Scotland.



Planning for Prisoners Week 2026 has now started.

This will take place on 15-22 November 2026. Please keep the date!

Look out for the release of the 2026 theme in Spring!

Financial Review

Trustee remuneration and expenses

All trustees provided their service on an entirely voluntary basis. The trustees did not receive any remuneration or expenses during the year.

Plans for Future Periods

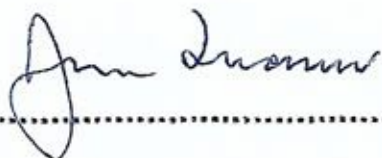
The Board of Trustees has appointed a Patron, Ms Barbara Dickson and aims to continue to develop its activities in the coming year.

Approved by the trustees on 3 September 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Graham Bell, Chair and Trustee


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John Thomson, Treasurer and Trustee


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PRISONERS WEEK TRUST

SCOTTISH CHARITY Number SC043431

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

	2026	2025
	£	£
Donations - General Fund	968	750
Donations - Dignity Fund	5693	15
Charter Contributions (see Note 1)	1382	369
Bank Interest	10	0
Total Receipts	8053	1134
Charitable Expenses (see Note 2)	-2139	-1588
Surplus/Deficit for Year	5914	-454
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2025	1953	2407
Balance of Funds at 31 March 2026	7867	1953

Note 1 (2026)

Charter Contributions were allocated 100% to General Fund

£

Note 2 (2026)

Prisoners Week Launch Expenses	426
Prisoners Week Publicity Expenses	712
Meeting & Hospitality Expenses	259
Website Fees	58
Payments from Dignity Fund	684
Total	2139

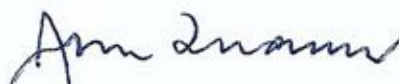
BALANCE SHEET as at 31 Mar 2026

	2026	2025
	£	£
Current Assets		
Bank Balances		
Current Account	857	1953
Savings Account	7010	0
	7867	1953
Funds		
Restricted - Dignity Fund	6235	1215
Unrestricted - General Fund	1632	738
Total Funds	7867	1953

Approved by the Trustees on 3 September 2026 and signed on their behalf by



Graham Bell, Chair & Trustee



John Thomson, Treasurer & Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Prisoners Week Trust

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026 which are set out on page 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

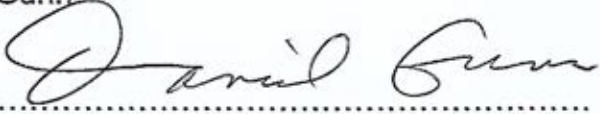
In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

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.

Name: Daniel Gunn

Signature

Relevant Professional qualification/professional body: M.A., M.Soc.Sc, M.Sc.

Address: Woodbank, Doune Road, Dunblane FK15 9AR

Date15 June 2026.....
