

Report of the Trustees of Falkirk Fiddle Workshop Sep 2026

Falkirk Fiddle Workshop has been running for over 28 years. The aim of the club is to promote learning and playing fiddle music with an emphasis on Scottish fiddle styles. Adults of all ages and abilities can come together and learn tunes led by an experienced tutor. The lessons are taught in groups and currently we have an intermediate, and an advanced class running. The club is occasionally asked to perform at small local events and take part in major events such as the Inverness Annual Scottish Fiddlers Rally, held in March each year.

The cost of Arnotdale House, owned by the Cyrenians, has not been increased due to the Cyrenians offering us the facility of being keyholders which has been accepted. This eliminates the cost of one of their staff being present until 2200 each Tuesday evening. The Society maintains a good relationship with the Cyrenians and we still use the Orchard Hotel for our members' nights, which happen one week in four. The Orchard Hotel in Falkirk has always welcomed us and this venue is free, although parking can be difficult. We have also been able to reduce costs by not having tutors on these evenings. Numbers attending the Club have remained steady over the year, and a beginner's class was run over part of the year although none of the people attending decided to stay and become members. This beginners' class has not been continued so far this session.

Financially, the bank balance has remained steady, with money raised from the annual Ceilidh as well as generous individual donations. The charity has made use of the Gift Aid facility from HMRC and usually makes one claim per year. The cost of the newly introduced day Workshop, held in September 2025, made a healthy profit due to the large numbers attending and costs of hiring tutors also decreased. The annual Ceilidh also proves to be a good fund raiser.

One of our long-standing tutors retired at the end of the 2025-26 session in June but has been replaced by another tutor starting in August 2026.

Wilma Baillie, Chairperson

Mary McElroy, Vice Chairperson (Trustee)

Sandy Harvey, Secretary (Trustee)

Hamish Baillie, Treasurer (Trustee)

L. M. Fuller

TREASURER