

Room 13 International

Charity number SC040509

Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 Dec 2025

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The Trustees of Room 13 International are pleased to present their report together with the annual financial statements for the year ended 31.12.2025. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Legal and administrative information

Charity number **SC040509**

Principal Address

Upper Floor
Caol Community Centre
Glenkingie Street
Caol
Fort William
PH33 7DS

Trustees

Mr Thomas Coston (Chair)
Dr Jakki Spicer (Treasurer; resigned, 30 April 2026)
Ms Louise Kernaghan (Secretary)
Mr Stewart Tonks (Resigned, 20 January 2025)
Mrs Viv Macdonald (Treasurer, appointed 30 April 2026)
Ms Patricia Allan (Appointed 27 October 2025)

Key Staff

Fiona Madonald, General Manager
Richard Bracken, Lead Artist

Independent Examiner

Mr David Govan
Chartered Accountant
5 Pobs Drive
Corpach
Fort William
PH33 7JP

Charitable Objectives and Activities

Room 13 is a visual arts studio for young people based in Caol, Fort William, where we have been part of the community since 1994. We are the only Highland based art organisation focused exclusively on providing free, high-quality visual arts experiences for young people aged 8-25.

From our purpose-built creative studios in Caol Community Centre, we provide materials, equipment and the support of professional artists in a safe and welcoming space where young people pursue their own ideas at their own pace, all year round. In this space, and through our interactions with young people and the surrounding community we aim to:

- Provide young people across Lochaber with consistent access to creative opportunities shaped by their own ambitions and collective decisions
- Enable young people to gain confidence and skills through engaging with the creative process - from experimentation to presentation, as individuals and in collaboration with peers, adult artists and the wider community
- Promote the value of creativity in education and support the development of creative practice in educational and community settings.

With an emphasis on the everyday-ness of creativity and its importance, we take a long view, focusing on consistency of access and approach. Like an open-ended art-school for young people, Room 13 is there to support them to set their own creative direction; to experiment and express themselves through art-making, have confidence in their own abilities, take responsibility, build skills for their futures and belong to a creative community as they grow.

The young people we work with include those with additional support needs, care-experienced young people, young carers, young people referred from schools - often those struggling in structured education, as well as those who just love art; most of our participants choose to come to Room 13 themselves.

Room 13 International was formed as a charity in 2009 to protect and promote the ideas and values of the Room 13 studio concept as it spread from its origins in Caol to take root in schools and communities in many countries around the world. The core charitable objectives of Room 13 International are: Advancement of Education; Advancement of Citizenship or Community Development; and Advancement of Arts, Heritage, Culture or Science.

Structure, Governance & Management

Room 13 International is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Scottish Charity No. SC040509) registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Room 13 has a Board of Trustees which provide strategic oversight and direction to the charity. New Trustees are appointed via advertised vacancies, or through nominations from existing Trustees. A formal application and on-boarding process is currently being devised as part of our efforts to improve ongoing Board development and governance. We aim to appoint a representative and diverse Board of Trustees with relevant skills and experience. Trustees are encouraged and supported to access training and development opportunities on a needs-led basis.

There is no set term of office for Trustees. As a small charity, we encourage Trustees to be hands-on and involved, therefore we value the continuity afforded by a stable quorum of Trustees who understand the charity, and work well

together. While we encourage long term service for this reason, we strive to balance this with regular introduction of new members bringing fresh perspective and variety. Trustees are active members of the wider Room 13 community, our foremost advocates and supporters. The names of those who served on the Board of Trustees during the year are listed on page 1.

The charity's board of voluntary trustees met five times in 2025 in online and in-person blended meetings. The trustees work closely with the charity's staff team to develop the Room 13 studios as a shared resource that supports learning and creative education. During 2025, the work of the charity was delivered by one part-time employee (0.6 FTE) in the role of General Manager and one Lead Artist contracted an average of 20 hours per week on a self-employed basis. This small team was responsible for delivering the work of Room 13 Studios, Caol, as well as progressing the development opportunities and future prospects of the charity.

Risk Management

The trustees have a duty to review the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity faces and to ensure adequate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error, and consequently any potential impact on the charity.

To this end we are in the process of setting up a policy and risk management sub-committee who will undertake an annual review of operational and strategic risks faced by the charity. Scheduling dedicated meetings to address risk management will allow for adequate focus and more substantive discussion. The committee are tasked with creating and maintaining a risk register to be reviewed by the Trustees at regular clearly defined intervals. In addition, regular updates from the committee will ensure Risk Management is routinely discussed by members at all meetings of the Board.

Achievements and Performance

Our creative delivery during 2025 centred on our More Mountains programme, aimed at helping young people find ways to grow their creative ambitions and broaden their perspectives through different experiences and opportunities such as:

- Engaging locally based artists, selected by young people, to learn and share new skills
- Increasing the available time for young people to access Room 13
- Developing longer term enterprise activity in the community
- Sharing learning with each other.

The following Creative Activities took place between January - December 2025:

- 33 Monday Young Adults Group (ASN) Sessions; 20 attendees (young adults & carers)
- 15 Padlet Sessions (Online); 1 ASN young adult
- 33 Wednesday Evening S1-S6 Drop-in Sessions; 21 attendees
- 32 Friday Afternoon S1-S6 Drop-in Sessions; 41 attendees
- 1 Class Visit to the Studio, P6; 29 young people
- 4 Connecting Young Carers Sessions; 20 young people
- 1 High School Transition Group Session; 5 young people
- 4 Studio Time for P5-7 (Summer Drop-in Sessions); 20 young people, 3 adults
- 9 Photography Skills Workshops; 15 young people
- 5 Portfolio Sessions (After-school/Summer Holiday); 5 young people

- 3 Family & Friends End-term Drop-in Events for the Monday, Wednesday & Friday Groups; circa 47 young people & adults
- 1 Making Day: Sun Prints – cyanotype photography held outdoors, open to the community; 21 young people & 13 adults
- 1 Mini Exhibition & Art Market: exhibition of work made since February, sale of finished works; funds raised = £155
- 3 Peer-to-Peer Workshops: Crochet with Iona; Digital Art with Marcus; Expressionism with Hannah
- 1 Creative Gathering: 5 local artists met with and talked about making artwork with 4 young people from Room 13
- 11 LHS/NHS Group sessions; 20 participants
- 1 Artist Selection Session (for Micro-Projects); 7 participants
- 11 training sessions for the Caol Primary School Photography Project; 9 participants
- 1 Micro-Project Look Walk Create with artist Louise Kernaghan; 9 participants
- 1 Festive Art Fair (raised £210); 31 participants
- 1 Clay workshop by Emma and Marcus for members of Alzheimer Scotland support group; 10 participants.

We recorded 293 unique individuals engaging with Room 13, many attending regularly, generating over 200 hours of direct engagement during 170 creative sessions and 3 showcasing events open to the surrounding community. All our sessions were delivered free.

- Young people 8 – 17 came to Room 13 from Lochaber High School, 6 local primary schools, the Fort William campus of UHI North, West and Hebrides, and from home-educated backgrounds. They included young carers, care experienced young people and those experiencing challenges in attending school
- Participants age 18+ included Additional Support Needs (ASN) young adults, adult volunteers, visiting artists, parents, carers and the wider community
- We engaged 4 Visiting Artists to deliver micro-projects and supported 5 young people to deliver creative workshops to their peers and to an external group (Alzheimer Scotland)

We greatly appreciate that young people and their parents/carers are willing to travel significant distances across this rural area to attend Room 13 creative sessions.

Room 13's work was supported by the assistance of a growing team of volunteers; their involvement makes a huge difference to everyone's experience of Room 13. We recognise the enormous value in having young people and adults volunteer with us and can see the difference they make to growing a creative, supportive community.

Partnership Working

Room 13 thrives on partnerships, and our More Mountains programme enabled us to connect with a number of organisations who are providing either creative or support services to young people in Highland:

- Room 13 is a partner in a young people's mental health pilot project NHS Charities Together with NHS Highland and Lochaber High School; we are working with pupils referred to us for early intervention support
- Artwork made by young people is for sale in Collective Goods & The Good Gallery, a High Street shop and gallery space where Room 13 participants have exhibited work on three occasions
- The West Highland Museum, Fort William hosted an exhibition of work by young adults with additional support needs which featured in local news publications
- Room 13 is a member of Planet Youth Lochaber, a new, local chapter of a data-driven organisational model originated in Iceland for involving young people in defining the issues they want support with and the solutions.

Safeguarding

Room 13 is regularly asked to provide increased access for young people, and for bespoke services for young people with specific education challenges. Our Safeguarding Policy is reviewed regularly. Staff and volunteers are vetted via Youth Highland/Disclosure Scotland scheme membership and attend regular Safeguarding sessions, recently: Trauma Informed Practice, Suicide Prevention & Awareness.

Charitable Donations & Fundraising

Room 13 continues to fund its services from a number of funders, in 2025 our key funders were: The Highland Council, National Lottery Community Fund/Young Start, TBWA Worldwide, The Garfield Weston Foundation, The Hugh Fraser Foundation and Foundation Scotland. We also raised additional funding from providing bespoke creative services, and from the generous donations of our community.

Room 13 greatly appreciates the donations from our community along with the generosity of the trusts, foundations and businesses who fund us. We are especially grateful for the ongoing in-kind contribution from Highland Council, which has given us excellent studio-space from which to reach Lochaber's young people.

Along with the Highland Council, TBWA\ Worldwide continues to be one of the principal supporters of Room 13 making an annual contribution towards administration and development. Their long-term support has been integral to the success of the charity, for which we give our sincere thanks.

All our funders contribute to the young people in Caol and wider Lochaber having a safe space to develop creative skills and confidence, and from where Room 13 can continue to share its remarkable story.

Our thanks too, to the Room 13 team - trustees, artists and staff, and to the community of Caol and all who support Room 13 with their time and skills, and especially our young studio-users, their enthusiasm and energy make Room 13 the vibrant creative space it is. We are grateful to Mr David Govan for his work in preparing this report.

The charity is registered for Gift Aid which boosts the value of independent donations.

Plans for the Future

2026 will be a year of transition for Room 13 as Richard Bracken, our lead artist of 15 years, will leave in the autumn to pursue new opportunities. The relationships he built within the community have been integral to the function of the studio, and we realise we cannot easily replace him with another individual to carry things on in the same way.

Through the More Mountains project, we have discovered a new generation of young artists, some of whom came to Room 13 as young people and are now art-school trained, who are keen to take the studio forward as a collaborative effort. Over the next year we plan to facilitate the crossover between pro-active volunteers, studio users and young people, putting creative collaboration at the heart our development, channelling creative ideas and energy from the studio floor, directly into the leadership and direction of the charity.

As the creative leadership of the studio changes hands, we will strive to first and foremost protect and maintain Room 13 as a safe space for young people to gain confidence and skills through engaging with the full breadth of the creative process; from experimentation to presentation, as individuals and in collaboration with peers, adult artists and the wider community. To sustain this, we are setting out to develop a 'community of practice' surrounding the studio, so that the skills and expertise of artists who lean into this way of working are embedded and nurtured.

Financial Review

At 31 Dec 2025 the charity had total reserves of £23,352 (2024: £5,792) consisting of £6,477 (2024: £1,937) of restricted funds and £16,875 (2024: £3,855) of unrestricted funds.

The free reserves of the charity, defined as reserves not restricted, designated or tied up in fixed assets equals £16,875 (2024: £3,855). The unrestricted funds represent the reserves available to use for the general activities of the charity and are considered satisfactory. This level of reserves is continually reviewed by the Board and efforts are being made to increase the availability of unrestricted funds.

Room 13 continues to work with Highland Council officials towards formalising the charity's occupancy arrangements in the community building. We are active stakeholders, liaising with other user-groups to collaborate on activities, share facilities and equipment and address ongoing building management and maintenance issues.

In March, Room 13 trustees approved an interim pay increase for both the General Manager and Lead Artist, to continue to close the gap in salary/fee levels in line with Room 13's Fair Work First statement.

Reserves policy

The Trustees take account of strategic and operational planning, and our dynamic risk register to calculate an optimal amount of reserves. Amounts are included for known risks as well as contingencies to allow Room 13 to respond to unexpected costs and opportunities. We principally hold reserves to:

- Protect the continuity of core delivery against uncertain future income streams
- Provide funds to replace assets
- Cover specific liabilities and identified risks
- Allow Room 13 to respond to unexpected opportunities that would be beneficial to furthering its mission
- Ensure sufficient funds are in place to meet contractual obligation

The general reserves policy of the charity is to retain sufficient free reserves to ensure that all contractual commitments can be met in the event of winding up the charity. To this end, the Board have agreed that 3 months of operating costs are held as free reserves – with the amount subject to annual review. To ensure compliance, the Trustees have authorised a designated contingency fund be established, to which funds are allocated in accordance with this policy. This is in addition to free reserves, which are available to use for the general activities of the charity.

Trustees' Statement of Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for carrying out the legal duties of the board under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. This includes preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The Office of Scottish Charities Regulator (OSCR) requires Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval of the Trustees' Report

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities and in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities. Mr David Govan was deemed to be appointed as independent examiner.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 7th September 2026 and signed on its behalf by



Viv MacDonald
Treasurer
Room 13 International
7th September 2026

Room 13 International

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees on the unaudited accounts of Room 13 International

I report on the accounts of Room 13 International for the year ended 31st December 2025 set out on pages 9 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and independent 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 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 was carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeking explanations from you as 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, and
 - 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.



David Govan
Chartered Accountant
5 Pobs Drive
Corpach
Fort William

Date: 7th September 2026

Statement of financial activities (incorporating the Receipts and Payments account)
For the year ended 31st December 2025

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 £
Receipts					
Grants	1	14,055	22,181	36,236	18,680
Other Incoming Resources	2	9,900	5,150	15,050	-
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	<u>7,323</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,323</u>	<u>4,605</u>
Total Receipts		<u>31,278</u>	<u>27,331</u>	<u>58,609</u>	<u>23,285</u>
Payments					
Administration and management		11,210	9,002	20,212	18,109
Premises		267	827	1,094	1,987
Core Creative Service Delivery		6,538	12,602	19,140	17,019
Marketing & Communications		243	285	528	393
Capital Costs		-	75	75	16
Other		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total payments		<u>18,258</u>	<u>22,791</u>	<u>41,049</u>	<u>37,524</u>
Net receipts/payments for year		13,020	4,540	17,560	(14,239)
Transfers		-	-	-	-
Total funds brought forward		<u>3,855</u>	<u>1,937</u>	<u>5,792</u>	<u>20,031</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>16,875</u>	<u>6,477</u>	<u>23,352</u>	<u>5,792</u>

The notes on pages 11 and 12 form part of these financial statements

Room 13 International

Statement of Assets and Liabilities As at 31st December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Bank Accounts			
Opening bank balances		5,792	20,031
Receipts		58,609	23,285
Payments		<u>(41,049)</u>	<u>(37,524)</u>
Closing bank balances		<u>23,352</u>	<u>5,792</u>
Funds			
Restricted funds	4	6,477	1,937
Unrestricted funds	5	<u>16,875</u>	<u>3,855</u>
Total funds		<u>23,352</u>	<u>5,792</u>



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Viv Macdonald
Trustee

7th September 2026

The notes on pages 11 and 12 form part of these financial statements

Room 13 International

Notes to financial statements For the year ended 31st December 2025

1 Grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
National Lottery Young Start	-	22,181	22,181	-
TBWA	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
CCAG	-	-	-	1,000
Creative Scotland	-	-	-	3,625
Highland Council	<u>4,055</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,055</u>	<u>4,055</u>
	<u>14,055</u>	<u>22,181</u>	<u>36,236</u>	<u>18,680</u>

2 Other Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Highlands & Islands Climate Festival	-	150	150	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	5,000	-	5,000	-
Hugh Fraser Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	-
Foundation Scotland	<u>4,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,900</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>9,900</u>	<u>5,150</u>	<u>15,050</u>	<u>-</u>

3 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Contracts of Service	3,048	-	3,048	-
Workshops	132	-	132	440
Further Education	75	-	75	-
Sales	1,161	-	1,161	1,115
Bespoke Projects & Commissions	1,161	-	1,161	1,820
Donations & Fundraising	921	-	921	330
Other	-	-	-	900
Life drawing Group	<u>825</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>825</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>7,323</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,323</u>	<u>4,605</u>

4 Restricted Funds

	At 1 st January 2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers	At 31 st December 2025 £
National Lottery/Young Start	-	22,181	17,926	-	4,255
CCAG	1,000	-	1,000	-	-
Youth Highland	937	-	937	-	-
More Mountains	-	150	150	-	-
Hugh Fraser Foundation	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>2,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,222</u>
	<u>1,937</u>	<u>27,331</u>	<u>22,791</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,477</u>

5 Unrestricted Funds

	At 1 st January 2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 st December 2025 £
Unrestricted Funds	<u>3,855</u>	<u>31,278</u>	<u>18,258</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,875</u>
	<u>3,855</u>	<u>31,278</u>	<u>18,258</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,875</u>