

**MUSEUM OF ISLAY LIFE  
TAIGH-TASGAIDH MUINNTEIR ILE  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For year ended 31 December 2023  
Charity No SC048723**



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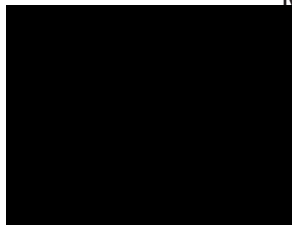
The trustees present their report and unaudited financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2023.

**REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:**

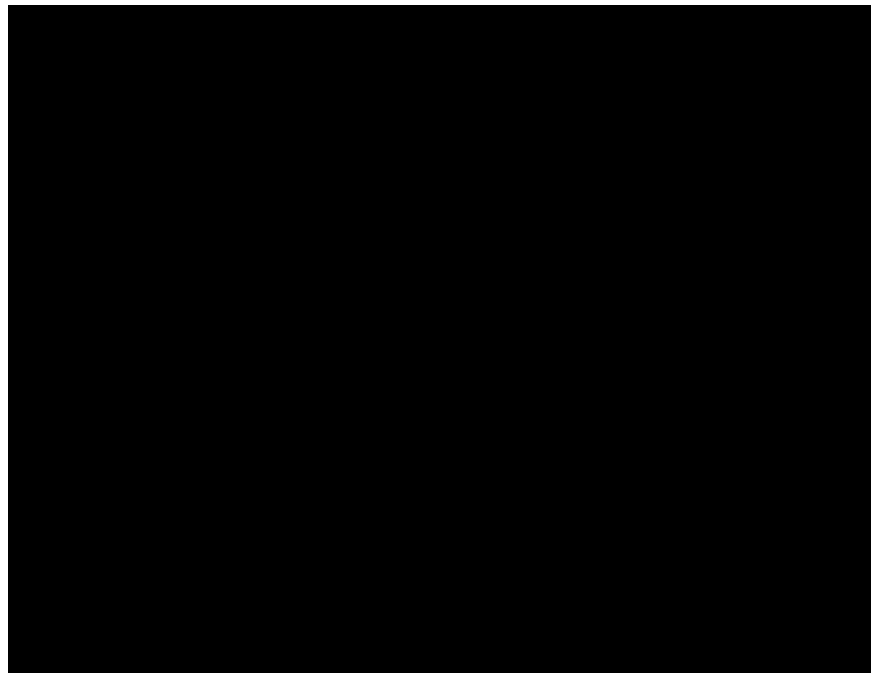
CHARITY NAME: Museum of Islay Life/Taigh-tasgaidh Muinntir Ìle

CHARITY REGISTRATION: SC048723

Museum of Islay Life



**TRUSTEES:**



**BANKERS:**

Unity Trust Bank  
9 Brindleyplace  
Birmingham  
B1 2HB



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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Museum of Islay Life/Taigh-tasgaidh Muinntir Ìle was constituted as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) on 25th September 2018. It is governed by a constitution agreed by OSCR, the Scottish Charity Regulator.

This SCIO was set up to replace the Islay Museums Trust, SC011725, which will be wound up with all assets and liabilities transferring to the Museum of Islay Life/Taigh-tasgaidh Muinntir Ìle, SC048723.

On 30th October 2018 the trustees of Islay Museums Trust, SC011725, agreed that the running of the Museum, all items assessed into the collection or on loan, and all bank accounts and assets, be transferred to the Museum of Islay Life/Taigh-tasgaidh Muinntir Ìle, SC048723, on the night of the 31st October and 1st November 2018.

The trustees, of which there is a minimum of five and a maximum of 15, are responsible for the charity's governance, setting policy and are ultimately accountable for the charity's financial and other affairs. The manager, on delegated authority from the trustees, manages on a day-to-day basis the charity's affairs and is accountable to the trustees.

**RECRUITMENT & APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES**

Up to eight trustees shall be elected by and from amongst the members at Annual General Meetings, with the exact number so elected being sufficient to ensure that this group of trustees represents the minimum number necessary to constitute a voting majority within the trustees as a whole. One third of the trustees elected under this section shall retire each year, but shall not then be barred from re-election.

Up to six trustees may be appointed by the other trustees in office from time to time, generally on the basis that each such individual will be able to contribute specialist knowledge or experience relevant to the Museum's governance. Each trustee appointed under this section shall serve for three years, but shall not then be barred from reappointment.

The manager shall serve as a trustee as an integral part of his/her appointment.

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**TRUSTEE INDUCTION & TRAINING**

Most new trustees are familiar with the practical work of the charity through living within the local community. It is ensured that, if required, new trustees receive the necessary familiarisation.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

The trustees remain confident but not complacent with regard to the current risk management strategy.

**ORGANISATION'S PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES**

The charity's purposes are to advance education, heritage and culture through:

- the operation of the Museum of Islay Life as a museum illustrative of life in Islay from prehistoric to recent times;
- the preservation and conservation of the Museum of Islay Life Collection;
- the protection of the collection from deterioration, damage, loss, accidental destruction or unauthorised disposal, and with there being a strong presumption against the disposal of any item;
- collaboration with other projects and charities on Islay and Jura, and across Scotland, where beneficial to the charity.

The charity will also endeavour to act as a social enterprise working to support both the community and economic development within Argyll through the pursuit of its charitable purposes.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCES**

2023 is characterised by a number of emotions, with frustration and satisfaction predominant in equal measure. The negatives are due to factors outwith the Museum's control: in addition to the lingering effects of Covid, Brexit and the Cost of Living Crisis, the west coast, and the tourism sector in particular, was hit badly by the ongoing problems with Caledonian MacBrayne's ageing ferry fleet,

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which led to a number of cancellations, leaving many holidaymakers stranded on or unable to travel to the island.

Despite this, the Museum held up well with admission numbers for 2023 recorded as 3,351, a slight and very welcome increase on 2022's 3,221. Furthermore, the Museum recorded a surplus of £2,578. Remarkable figures in the face of continuing economic trials. However, with this collective issue potentially continuing into 2024 and beyond, the situation is not desirable in the medium- or long-term for a museum such as ours, dependent as it is on the visitors from outwith Islay as its principal source of funding. With the construction of the two replacement vessels from Turkey now nearing completion it is hoped that 2024 will show a significant improvement in visitor numbers and shop sales.

Additionally, there was a measure of progress on a number of fronts: firstly, the Museum has now completed the last element of the transfer of assets from the old Islay Museums Trust to the Museum of Islay Life—the museum building itself; it has also installed nine uPVC double-glazed windows to replace the rotted single-glazed wooden windows that had been installed in 1977; the Museum also replaced its two wooden front doors with two uPVC equivalents. Finally, a number of recommended repairs to the building structure from 2018's survey were executed leaving the building wind- and watertight.

The Trust was also successful in a number of grant applications from MGS (Museums Galleries Scotland), and a crowd funding appeal, both of which are intended to provide assistance with the installation of thirty-two UV panels on the Museum's SW-facing roof, two storage batteries in the Museum's rear kitchen, and two new air source heat pumps (one to replace the inefficient model in the main display area and the other to be placed in the library to provide a comfortable environment for the books and journals). These will also help with the humidity problems that come with such an old building. Equally, and perhaps most importantly, these will remove one of the Museum's most pressing expenses, the heating costs that have risen ruinously since 2020 and Covid.

The other main capital project, the extension of the mezzanine, was looked at and funding sought. This is a much-needed project that will provide the Museum with double the current dedicated storage space for its collection. It will also provide a more comfortable working environment for the



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staff. It is hoped to begin construction on this in 2024 following assistance from the Ardbeg All Islay Fund and a successful crowd funding appeal.

The last of the capital projects is the installation of 250 mm of insulation in the Museum's lofts. Currently, much of the insulation is old, tattered and only filled to a depth of 60-100 mm. Doing this will of course lessen any heat loss and help to reduce the energy bills further.

The Trust's WW100 project, the installation of 8-10 information boards at historically important sites across the island, has also show significant progress. Following many months of delay through the planning process, the first of the boards has been erected at the Port Ellen Community Gardens. This provides visitors with information on the Lochiel, a much-loved passenger vessel that sailed between Islay and the mainland for many decades. Three boards on respectively the Viking warrior Godred Crovan, to be located near Kintra; one at the Bowmore Square; and one at the East Tower near Bridgend are next in line.

**MAIN OBJECTIVES FOR 2024**

- The consolidation of the Museum's finances and structure following the above economic hardships and continued uncertainty.
- The installation of new roof insulation throughout the entirety of the Museum.
- The installation of thirty-two UV panels, one air source heat pumps in the main display area and one in the library, and two storage batteries in the Museum.
- The replacement of the wooden fire exit door at the NE side of the Museum with a uPVC door.
- The erection of the remaining 7-9 information boards throughout the island.
- The construction of the mezzanine expansion, the installation of new storage racks and shelving, and the installation of a dedicated research facility allowing the public greater access to the collection.
- Continued cooperation with the local schools and Islay Heritage, the local archaeological society run by [REDACTED] of the University of Reading. The latter will focus on a new display of [REDACTED] and his students' recent work at Olistadh, some 2 km west of Port Charlotte, which has been discovered to be a more extensive township than previously thought.

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- More workshops for the public. Will Attard, experimental archaeologist, is already booked for one in mid-2024.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Museum showed a surplus of £2,779 (2022 deficit of £821) for the year. Total funds at the end of 2023 were £73,837 (2022 £71,057), of which £26,615 (2022 £19,289) is restricted and £47,222 (2022 £51,768) is unrestricted, £34,961 (2022 £29,490) of which has been designated.

The restricted funds relate to the WW100 Legacy Fund, and are to be spent on enhancing historical information across the island and ensuring that all schoolchildren and accompanying staff can access the Museum, historic sites, exhibitions and presentations throughout the island on a regular basis.

The unrestricted funds include £34,961 held in the Museum's high interest account, which the trustees have designated as being for the repair, development and upkeep of the museum building. The bulk of this will be used to finance the looming capital projects but £2,000 will be retained to cover future maintenance builds.

**PRINCIPAL FUNDING**

Principal source of funds during the year came from admission fees for entry to the Museum, and a minor component from shop sales. In 2023 the Museum received the final part (£6,198) of the Capital Resilience Fund, which was restricted to the maintenance of the museum, and the initial payment of its second successful application to the Capital and Resilience Fund (£3,500), which is intended to help with the purchase of the roof insulation and the air source heat pumps. These gave the Museum further leeway in its recovery from the effects of the aforementioned economic hardships.

**RESERVE POLICY**

Following the onset of C-19, the trustees' policy is to retain six months' worth of normal running costs in order to meet commitments and to cover any unexpected expenditure. A year's expenditure is c. £20,000 and the Museum's current reserves (excluding the legacy) are £12,261 (2022: £22,278). The trustees are continually looking at ways to replenish the reserves to cover these running costs and safeguard the future of the Museum.

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**INVESTMENT POLICY**

The trustees have considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds and have found that short to medium term investment of funds should be held in current and deposit bank accounts.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of section 10 (1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply.

On behalf of the trustees:

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of the trustee.

Signed.

Date: 18/8/2024



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**EXAMINER'S REPORT**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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.

My examination is 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 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 accounts.

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

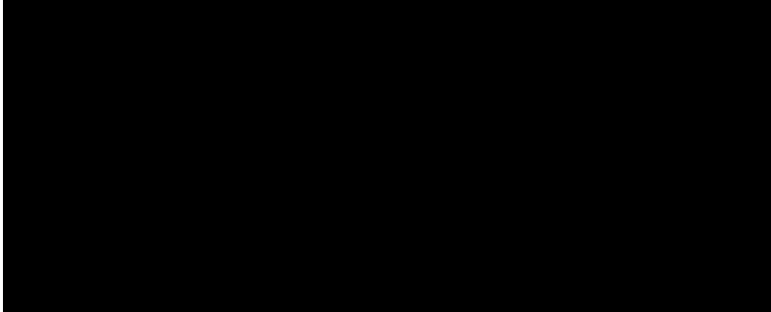
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name:

Date: 26/8/2024 .

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**Museum of Islay Life / Taigh-tasgaidh Muinntir Ile  
Receipts and Payments Account  
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

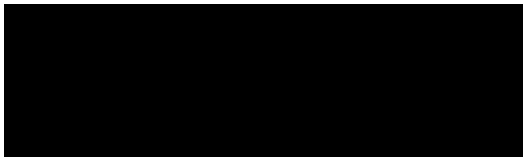
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>2023 Restricted</b>		<b>2022</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations	13,035	9	13,044	3,506
Grants	0	9,698	9,698	12,846
Receipts from Fundraising Activities	11,726	0	11,726	1,959
Receipts from Charitable Activities	13,856	0	13,856	16,857
Receipts from Trading Activities	3,887	0	3,887	3,689
Income from Investments	558	633	1,190	904
	<b>43,061</b>	<b>10,340</b>	<b>53,402</b>	<b>39,761</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Grants and Donations	0	557	557	439
Expenses from Fundraising Activities	0	0	0	0
Expenses relating to Trading Activities	1,317	0	1,317	1,886
Payments directly relating to Charitable Activities	46,157	2,457	48,614	37,023
Governance	133	0	133	1,234
Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0
	<b>47,607</b>	<b>3,015</b>	<b>50,622</b>	<b>40,582</b>
<b>Net Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-4,546</b>	<b>7,325</b>	<b>2,779</b>	<b>-821</b>
Transfer	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-4,546</b>	<b>7,325</b>	<b>2,779</b>	<b>-821</b>

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**Museum of Islay Life / Taigh-tasgaidh Muinntir Ile  
Statement of Balances  
As at 31 December 2023**

<b>Cash Funds</b>	<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>	
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Opening Bank Balance	51,767.92	19,289	71,057	71,877
Surplus/Deficit for Year	-4,546	7,325	2,779	-820
Closing Bank Balance	<b>47,222</b>	<b>26,615</b>	<b>73,837</b>	<b>71,057</b>

Signature:



Date: 18/8/2024

Print:



On behalf of the trustees

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**Museum of Islay Life / Taigh-tasgaidh Muinntir Ile  
Notes to the Accounts  
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**1 Nature and Purpose of Funds**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Unrestricted Funds	12,261	22,278
Designated Funds	34,961	29,490
Restricted Funds	26,615	19,289
	<u><b>73,837</b></u>	<u><b>71,057</b></u>

**2 Trustees Remuneration**

No remuneration was paid to charity trustees during the year.

**3 Trustee Expenses**

No trustees were paid expenses during the year.

**4 Transactions with Trustees and Connected Persons**

The following trustees and connected persons were reimbursed for purchases made on behalf of the organisation or, in the case of M Ogilvie, as a donation.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
[REDACTED] (manager)	1,427	1081
[REDACTED] (desk staff)	230	0
[REDACTED] (trustee)	5,000	0
[REDACTED] project researcher)	0	25
	<u><b>6,657</b></u>	<u><b>1,106</b></u>

**5 Grants and Donations Paid Out**

£557.33 was paid out to assist the local high school and primary schools with travelling costs to the Museum and local visitor attractions.

**6 Fixed Assets**

The trustees have decided to show fixed assets at zero value.

**7 Transfers**

The transfer of £633.60 from Unrestricted to Restricted covers WW100 shop sales from 2022 and 2023. £41.30 was transferred from Restricted to Unrestricted to cover an earlier Unrestricted payment for part of the Information Panels project.

- 8** £100 of the Museum's unrestricted funds are held at the museum for transactions both during and outwith the regular season and are not listed here.

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**9 Restricted Funds**

	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfer from Unrestricted Funds	Closing Balance
<b>Year to 31st December 2022</b>					
<b>WW100 Legacy Fund</b>					
Donations	19,289	9	0	0	
Bank Charges		0	72	0	
Bank Transfer		0	41	0	
Information Panels Project		0	1,669	0	
School Donations for travelling		0	557	0	
Wages		0	676	0	
WW100 Shop Sales - WW100 Legacy		633	0	0	
	19,289	642	3,015	0	16,917
<b>Grants</b>					
<i>Capital Resilience Fund</i>	0	9,698	0		
	0	9,698	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>	<b>19,289</b>	<b>10,340</b>	<b>3,015</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,615</b>

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**Museum of Islay Life / Taigh-tasgaidh Muinntir Ile  
Analysis of Receipts and Payments  
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

	2023			2021
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>Donations</b>				
General Donations	1,885	9	1,894	3,506
Designated Donations	11,150	0	11,150	0
	<u>13,035</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>13,044</u>	<u>3,506</u>
<b>Grants</b>				
MGS: Capital Resilience Fund	0	9,698	9,698	2,066
	<u>0</u>	<u>9,698</u>	<u>9,698</u>	<u>2,066</u>
<b>Receipts from Fundraising Activities</b>				
JustGiving Crowdfunding Campaign	9,763	0	9,763	
Bruichladdich Open Day	1,962	0	1,962	1,959
	<u>11,726</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,726</u>	<u>1,959</u>
<b>Receipts from Charitable Activities</b>				
Admissions	13,081	0	13,081	14,894
Bank Transfer	41	633	674	700
Subscriptions	525	0	525	265
Gift Aid	181	0	181	674
Other (Reimbursement)	28	0	28	1,024
	<u>13,856.11</u>	<u>633</u>	<u>14,489</u>	<u>17,557</u>
<b>Receipts from Trading Activities</b>				
Shop Sales	3,887	0	3,887	3,689
	<u>3,887</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,887</u>	<u>3,689</u>
<b>Investment Income</b>				
Interest Received	558	0	558	205
	<u>558</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>558</u>	<u>205</u>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>43,061</b>	<b>10,340</b>	<b>53,402</b>	<b>28,982</b>

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Analysis of Receipts and Payments  
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	2023			2022
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
<b>Grants &amp; Donations</b>				
Donations to schools for travelling costs	0	557	557	439
	0	557	557	439
<b>Expenses relating to Trading Activities</b>				
Shop purchases	1,317	0	1,317	1,886
	1,317	0	1,317	1,886
<b>Payments directly relating to Charitable Activities</b>				
Advertising	507	0	507	338
Bank Charges	101	72	173	320
Bank Transfers	633	41	674	700
Conservation	265	0	265	0
Display	183	0	183	854
Heat, Light and Power	3,007	0	3,007	1,801
Insurance	1,128	0	1,128	1,569
Licence	192	0	192	0
Maintenance	12,379	0	12,379	6,149
Museum Publications Costs	162	0	162	0
Office Printing, Equipment and Stationery	477	0	477	4,515
Post and Telephone	426	0	426	449
Staff Reimbursements	6,657	0	6,657	1,106
Subscriptions	318	0	318	75
Sundry	0	0	0	30
Projects (Information Panels project)	0	1,669	1,669	1,073
Water Rates	711	0	711	660
Website	271	0	271	396
Wages	18,740	676	19,416	16,998
	46,157	2,457	48,614	37,033
<b>Governance</b>				
Accountancy Fees	133	0	133	1,234
	133	0	133	1,234
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Display Cabinets	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>47,607</b>	<b>3,015</b>	<b>50,622</b>	<b>30,832</b>

