



# MACHRIHANISH SEABIRD AND WILDLIFE OBSERVATORY



## ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

### WHAT NEEDS DOING

The buildings are in desperate need of strengthening and repair to make them windtight and watertight after several years of use with little maintenance.

The main part of the building that takes the brunt of the weather is the front facing wall and the west wall. These walls are breaking down and we have lost some of the wood.

As you can see from these photos the wall has holes and bits missing which allows the wind and rain to blow in causing damp inside. The company we have spoken to would take off the existing wood facing, strengthen the framework to enable it to withstand the wind better, then reclad the side wall and front wall with treated wood to ensure it will last many more years.

We also need to put in a damp barrier and redo the concrete edges the wood will go over as this has broken down due to shifting ground.

It will then be reroofed with a waterproof, hardwearing material that will be better for the building.

The front wall has fared slightly better, but it still needs work. This will be reclad and the door removed as it is no longer needed. This will give us an extra viewing window. We will also reinstate the window blocked off to stop water getting in allowing us to have 2 wheelchair friendly windows for disabled visitors.

Inside we would have to re-panel the inside walls and ceiling and make new weather proof windows that can be opened for viewing. The warden has the skills to do this along with the inside panelling.

The inside walls of the building we are renovating were originally clad in hardboard which is totally unsuitable for the task as it absorbs the rain coming in. All this would need to be ripped out and replaced with hardboard which would be painted. This would provide extra strength to the structure.









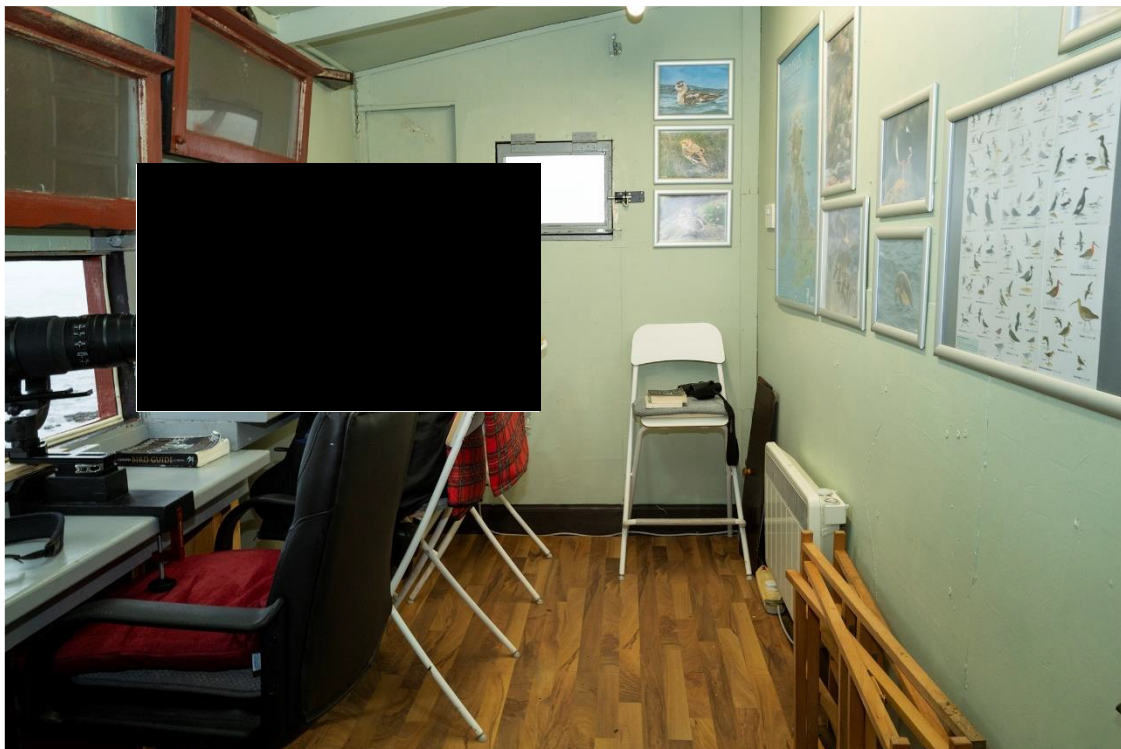






We are looking to obtain approx. £10,000.00 through crowd fundraising and donations which would enable us to refurbish/rebuild the observatory including;

1. A new frontage including 2 more windows. Making a total of 7.
2. Re-cladding and waterproofing/painting as required
3. Windows on the side viewing platform as well as a door.
4. Rewiring to include new sockets, led lighting and a new consumer unit.
5. Reroofing, especially to the west wing.



Last year we refurbished the inside of the main observatory with our own money making the front facing hide more user friendly and pleasant to be in.



We have constructed a kitchen area where we can make teas and coffee's for visitors and ourselves.

We also have a microwave-combi oven to heat up food for ourselves for long days watching.

We have approached a local company "Wee Toon Environmental Services" to do the work as they are used to constructing this type of building. They have given us a quote and have said they can fit us in when the weather is good enough to do the work.

They will take care of the main work and we will do some of it ourselves, especially the inside work. We also have had offers from volunteers to paint the building so we would need paint to complete the job.

Th observatory is an important part of the area and provides a space for locals and visitors alike. Wheelchair users are a big consideration for the future as we want to encourage everyone to experience the fantastic wildlife we see from the observatory. We want to make it so nobody feels excluded, it doesn't matter if you know about birds or if you just want to sit and listen to the sea, it is a safe space for everyone and we feel it is important that it continues.

DATE	INVOICE	REF	TAKINGS	PURCHAS	PETTY CASH		BANKING	
			IN	OUT	IN	OUT	IN	OUT
01/01/23		Carried over - in petty cash tin	£122.00		£122.00			
26/01/23		Cash donations	6.00		6.00			
12/02/23		Cash donations	5.00		5.00			
23/03/23		Cash donations	10.00		10.00			
26/03/23	RSPB	Bird book & posters		20.00		20.00		
26/03/23	Amazon	Tin of sage coloured paint for interior		18.33		18.33		
28/03/23	Jewsons	Wood & insulation		138.52		138.52		
29/03/23	Jewsons	Concrete mix		22.48		22.48		
29/03/23	Huws Grey	Postcrete		7.80		7.80		
29/03/23	Amazon	1 x LED strip light, 3 x LED flat round lights		63.97		63.97		
30/03/23	Amazon	Rustins wood hardener for rotting wood		11.50		11.50		
30/03/23	Huws Grey	Wood		42.60		42.60		
31/03/23	Greenmagic	Aluminium poster/picture frames		126.12		126.12		
01/04/23	Jewsons	wood		6.91		6.91		
01/04/23	Amazon	LED strip light 5"		34.90		34.90		
03/04/23	Amazon	Grey mastic sealant		11.94		11.94		
04/04/23	Amazon	SIRUI tripod extender		32.75		32.75		
05/04/23	lifton Cameras	Hide clamp for telescope		44.95		44.95		
06/04/23		Cash donations	20.00		20.00			
06/04/23	Amazon	Refund for strip light damaged in transit	29.99		29.99			
08/04/23		Cash donations	3.00		3.00			
10/04/23		Request for ground rent for observatory		250.00		250.00		
11/04/23		Ground rent donation from Argyll Bird Club	250.00		250.00			
14/04/23		Cash donations	5.00		5.00			
14/04/23	Forgodo Media	Domain name renewal		19.95		19.95		
14/04/23	Forgodo Media	Hosting for website		40.00		40.00		
15/04/23		Cash donations	10.00		10.00			
17/04/23	Amazon	Fuses		6.25		6.25		
20/04/23		Cash donations	80.00		80.00			
26/04/23		Cash donations	75.00		75.00			
16/04/23		Cash donations	£25.00		25.00			
20/04/23		Cash donations	£6.00		6.00			
12/05/23	Vistaprint	1000 leaflets		28.04		28.04		
04/06/23		Cash donations	6.00		6.00			

05/06/23		Cash donations	35.00		35.00			
06/07/23		Bank donation (BACS)	50.00				50.00	
07/06/23		Cash donations	20.00		20.00			
20/06/23		Cash donations	10.00		10.00			
27/06/23	Amazon	Hook & eye for door		8.99		8.99		
03/07/23		Cash donations	15.00		15.00			
05/07/23		Cash donations	38.00		38.00			
11/07/23	Amazon	Phillips Kettle & small padlock		32.94		32.94		
13/07/23	Amazon	Drawer fixing		12.80		12.80		
13/07/23	Amazon	Lockable outside frame A3		24.99		24.99		
13/07/23		Cash donations	11.00		11.00			
15/07/23		Cash donations	14.00		14.00			
20/07/23		Cash donations	20.00		20.00			
24/07/23		Cash donations	4.40		4.40			
24/07/23		Bank donation (QR)	7.00				7.00	
26/07/23	Amazon	Washing up bowl		9.99		9.99		
29/07/23		Cash donations	18.00		18.00			
29/07/23		Bank donation (BACS)	10.00				10.00	
30/07/23		Cash donations	35.00		35.00			
31/07/23		Cash donations	20.00		20.00			
03/08/23		Cash donations	1.70		1.70			
04/08/23		Cash donations	10.00		10.00			
05/08/23		Cash donations	10.00		10.00			
06/08/23	British Bird Food	Niger Seed 5KG		38.19		38.19		
07/08/23		Cash donations	10.00		10.00			
08/08/23		Cash donations	10.00		10.00			
10/08/23		Cash donations	5.00		5.00			
12/08/23		Cash donations	5.00		5.00			
13/08/23		Cash donations	4.80		4.80			
14/08/23		Cash donations	21.50		21.50			
20/08/23		Cash donations	3.00		3.00			
20/08/23		Bank donation (QR)	20.00				20.00	
23/08/23		Cash donations	5.00		5.00			
25/08/23		Cash donations	7.50		7.50			
25/08/23		Bank donation (QR)	10.00				10.00	
28/08/23		Cash donations	5.00		5.00			
29/08/23		Cash donations	5.00		5.00			



30/08/23		Cash donations	50.00		50.00			
01/09/23		Cash donations	5.00		5.00			
25/09/23		Cash donations	20.00				20.00	
29/09/23		Cash donations	15.00				15.00	
02/10/23		Cash donations	20.00				20.00	
09/10/23		Cash donation(QR)	9.65				9.65	
11/10/23		Cash Donation	6.00				6.00	
19/10/23		Cash donation	17.00				17.00	
26/10/23		Cash Donation	5.00				5.00	
30/10/23		Cash Donation	5.00				5.00	
04/11/23		Cash Donation	5.00		5.00			
11/01/24		Donation	5.00				5.00	
05/02/24		Stripe payment	35.63				35.63	
06/02/24		Stripe payment	9.65				9.65	
07/02/24		Donation	10.00				10.00	
09/02/24		Stripe payment	24.42				24.42	
12/02/24		Stripe payment	9.65				9.65	
15/02/24		Donation	5.00				5.00	
15/02/24		Amazon - cushions, tool blades, display frames		90.96				90.96
29/02/24		Donation - Loch Lomond Group	500.00				500.00	
29/02/24		Donation	500.00				500.00	
04/03/24		Virgin card cash back	0.32				0.32	
04/03/24		Stripe payment	1,038.10				1,038.10	
05/03/24		Stripe payment	195.20				195.20	
06/03/24		Donations	32.00				32.00	
07/03/24		Stripe payment	98.30				98.30	
21/03/24		Amazon - niger seed		8.99				8.99
02/04/24		Virgin card cash back	0.03				0.03	
04/04/24		Donations from Nimble fingers craft group paid in - ch	350.00				350.00	
04/04/24		Donation - Mowi	1,000.00				1,000.00	
08/04/24		Donation	55.00				55.00	
09/04/24		Stripe payment	38.85				38.85	
10/04/24		Donation paid in	12.00				12.00	
19/04/24		Donations	65.00				65.00	
22/04/24		Donations	5.00				5.00	
22/04/24		Donations	15.00				15.00	
22/04/24		Donation - Kintyre club	500.00				500.00	

			£5,755.69	£1,154.86	£1,056.89	£1,054.91	£4,698.80	£99.95

	£4,600.83	£1.98	£4,598.85
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**MACHRIHANISH SEABIRD AND WILDLIFE OBSERVATORY**

SCOTTISH CHARITY No. - SC02524554

ANNUAL REPORT  
AND  
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2024

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of**  
**Machrihanish Seabird and Wildlife Observatory**  
**For the Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

I report of the Financial Accounts of the charity for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024 which are set out on attached pages.

**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 ("the 2005 Act") and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) ("the 2006 Regulations"). The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirements of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the 2006 Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1)(c) of the 2005 Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Statement**

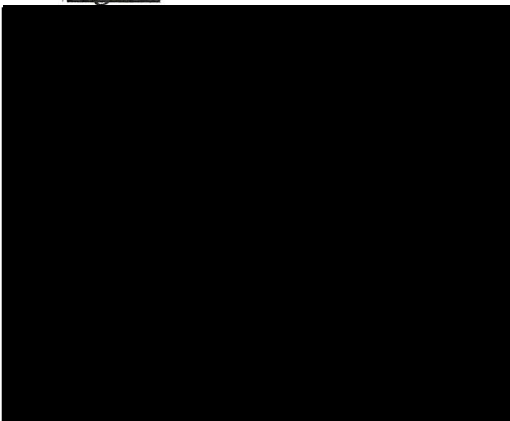
My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of unusual items or disclosures in the accounts 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 opinion on the view given in 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 aspect, the requirements:
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Regulations, and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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 accounts to be reached.

**Signed**



**Dated:** 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2024



**MACHRIHANISH SEABIRD AND WILDLIFE OBSERVATORY**

**SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER - SC02524554**

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2024**

	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>		
Donations		2,258.35
Donation from MOWI		1,000.00
Donation from Kintyre Club		500.00
Donation from Lomond Group		1,000.00
Donation from Nimble Fingers		350.00
Cash Back from Bank		<u>0.35</u>
<b><u>GROSS INCOME</u></b>		<u>5,108.72</u>
 <b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>		
Leaflets	28.04	
Seeds	47.18	
Repairs & Renewals	180.67	
	<u>          </u>	255.89
 <b><u>NET PROFIT FOR THE YEAR</u></b>		<u>4,852.81</u>

**MACHRIHANISH SEABIRD AND WILDLIFE OBSERVATORY**

**SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER - SC02524554**

**STATEMENT OF BALANCES FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2024**

	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Petty Cash Balance at 30.4.23		(251.98)
Bank Balance at 30.4.23		-
Net Profit for Year		4,852.81
		<hr/>
Balance at 30.4.23		<u>4,600.83</u>
Balance per Bank at 30.4.24		4,598.85
Balance per Petty Cash at 30.4.24		<u>1.98</u>
		<u>4,600.83</u>

LOCHGILPHEAD, 11TH DECEMBER, 2024

The foregoing Statement of Balances has been prepared from the records and Petty Cash details supplied.

*EMBAC Accountancy & Taxation Services*

EMBAC ACCOUNTANCY & TAXATION SERVICES