

THE JOHN BUCHAN SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS



31st January 2025

Scottish Charity Number SC006071

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The Council of The John Buchan Society (the "Society") has pleasure in submitting its report and accounts for the year ended 31st January 2025, which complies with current statutory requirements and with the charity's Constitution.

Heading	Disclosure requirement
Reference and administrative information	The John Buchan Society
	Scottish Charity Number SC006071
	The John Buchan Story Museum, 
	The Council of The John Buchan Society during the period, and as at 31 st January 2025, was as follows: 
Structure Governance and Management	The charity is constituted by its Constitution. Potential new members of Council are generally identified by Council and invited to put themselves forward for election at the Annual General Meeting.
Objectives and Activities	The objects of the Society shall be to perpetuate the memory of John Buchan by bringing his achievements to the notice of the general public, and by seeking to promote a greater understanding of his life and works. In pursuance of its objects, it shall be competent for the Society to raise and hold funds; to seek financial aid from such sources as may be available; and to take any other action deemed appropriate for the furtherance of its aims and objects. In addition, the Society supports and promotes the work of the John Buchan Story at the Chambers Institute at Peebles. The main activities undertaken in relation to the above objects are the publication of one learned journal yearly, regular newsletters, an annual dinner with an expert speaker on some aspect of John Buchan, his life and work, a very active website for the promotion and marketing of his works, the production and distribution of publicly available podcasts, and the general promotion of a greater understanding and appreciation of John Buchan and his literary works, and his life.

Heading	Disclosure requirement
Achievements and Performance	The main achievements of the charity during the year have been for the Society and its Members to work diligently in the furtherance of the 'Objectives & Activities', as well as the involvement of Members of the Society in widening knowledge of, and interest in, John Buchan and his literary works, and his life.
Financial Review	The Society's policy on reserves is that, when surplus funds are available, they will be held against the possibility, for example, of expanding the range of methods of engaging with the wider public in the furtherance of the Society's objectives (examples in recent years being the ongoing reconstruction and expansion of the Society's website, and the creation of a series of publicly available Podcasts).
Funds held as Custodian Trustee	The John Buchan Society holds no such funds.

Chairman's Report

The JBS Members' annual gathering and AGM were held in Glasgow in March 2024.

There were talks given by [REDACTED] on her great grandfather, [REDACTED] JB's father, who was a Free Church minister in Glasgow for much of JB's youth; and by [REDACTED] Professor of Scottish Literature at Glasgow University, who focussed on JB's poetry and his connections with [REDACTED]

Visits were made to the extensive Scottish coin collection, donated by the late Lord Stewartby to the Hunterian Museum, and also to the Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery nearby.

The Sunday service took place in a church in a similar neighbourhood to that of The Reverend John Buchan's parish, and was constructed around the life of JB by the minister [REDACTED] a great JB devotee.

The JBS Website, the Members' Newsletter and the JBS Journal continue to spread the word about the Society and about JB. Furthermore, the North American group continues to flourish, with another dinner and talks planned for 2025 in Canada. The website is being updated to reflect this transatlantic activity. [REDACTED] our journal editor for the past four years, and [REDACTED] who has designed, typeset and printed the journal for 31 years, are both standing down. The society owes them both immense thanks and a huge debt of gratitude.

In September 2024, a very successful series of talks were once again given in the biennial Durham conference, this time organised by Ursula Buchan. The theme covered JB's fiction and how he managed to incorporate landscape and weather, the supernatural, politics, and aspects of class and money, into his novels and short stories.

As it is the 150th anniversary of JB's birth in 2025, several activities are being planned to celebrate this event, including the Members' annual gathering and AGM being held in Perth, the city of his birth, and it is hoped that a volume of essays by a variety of contemporary writers and commentators will be published at some point in the next year.

The Society remains in a healthy state financially with a stable membership, which we hope will grow again in response to both the recent and the planned podcasts, and publicity related to the significant 150th anniversary in 2025.

THE JOHN BUCHAN SOCIETY

Date: 21st March 2025

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Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st January 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Receipts		
Membership Subscriptions	6,022	5,818
Legacies/Donations	774	1,878
Gift Aid	2,578	884
Annual General Meeting - 2025	10,266	-
Annual General Meeting - 2024	3,265	7,999
Annual General Meeting - 2023	-	1,506
Sale of Merchandise & JBS Journal	222	112
Advertising	-	-
Durham Literary Weekend - 2024	5,558	-
Runagates Club Surplus (JBS Portion)	-	819
Bank Interest	622	411
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Total Receipts	£29,307	£19,427
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Payments		
Fundraising Expenses:		
Annual General Meeting - 2023	-	4,999
Annual General Meeting - 2024	11,246	750
Annual General Meeting - 2025	50	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Fundraising Expenses	11,296	5,749
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Payments for charitable activities:		
Journal Production and Distribution	3,440	2,925
Newsletter Production and Distribution	1,454	677
Website Expenses	1,128	1,970
Podcast Expenses	2,600	-
John Buchan Heritage Museum Trust	-	2,000
Durham Literary Weekend - 2024	5,924	673
Chairman and Secretaries' Expenses	233	478
Equipment & Merchandise	-	1,101
Miscellaneous	113	111
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Total Payments for Charitable Activities	14,892	9,935
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Governance Costs:		
Subscription	15	15
Postages and Office Expenses	111	106
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Governance Costs	126	121
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Payments	£26,314	£15,805
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Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	£2,993	£3,622
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All Funds are Unrestricted

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Statement of Balances as at 31st January 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank and 'Cash in Hand'		
Opening Balances 1 st February 2024:		
Treasurer's Account	31,486	48,199
32-Day Notice Account	15,372	15,031
Instant Savings Account	20,069	-
Cash-in-Hand	-	75
	<u>£66,927</u>	<u>£63,305</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	2,993	3,622
	<u>£2,993</u>	<u>£3,622</u>
	<u>£69,920</u>	<u>£66,927</u>
Closing Balances 31 st January 2025:		
Treasurer's Account	33,744	31,486
32-Day Notice Account	15,759	15,372
Instant Savings Account	20,304	20,069
Cash-in-Hand	113	-
	<u>£69,920</u>	<u>£66,927</u>
Reserves		
General Funds as at 1 st February 2024	66,927	63,305
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	2,993	3,622
	<u>£69,920</u>	<u>£66,927</u>

All Funds are Unrestricted

Approved by the Council and signed on their behalf

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Notes to the Accounts as at 31st January 2025

1. Council Remuneration and Related Party Transactions.

No remuneration was paid to any Council members during the year to 31st January 2025 (2024 - £Nil).

Certain Council members received reimbursement of expenses during the year to 31st January 2025, totalling £985 (2024 - £1,443).

	2025	2024
Council members receiving reimbursement of expenses	4	5

Other than the following arrangement, no Council member (or a person related to a Council member) had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the Charity during the year:

- Following a formal tendering exercise, a contract (*Podcast Production Agreement*) was entered into with [REDACTED], the son of Council Member [REDACTED] for the provision of professional services for the creation and dissemination of a series of Podcasts covering John Buchan, his life, and a selection of his books. The amounts paid during the year to 31st January 2025, totalled £2,600 (2024 - £Nil).

During the year to 31st January 2025, an estimated total of £4,959 (2024 - £3,493) was received by the Society from, or in respect of, Council Members listed on page 2.

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Council Members of The John Buchan Society

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st January 2025 set out on pages four to six.

Respective responsibilities of council members and examiner

The charity's Council members 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's Council members 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 report

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 seeking explanations from you as Council members 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.

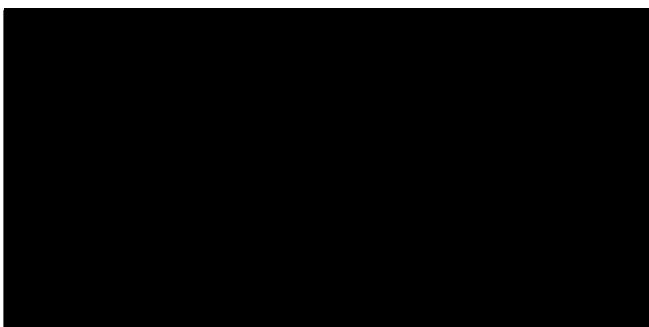
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with 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 8 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.



21st March 2025