

Charity No: SC009877

**THE ROYAL CELTIC SOCIETY
(FOUNDED 1820)**

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE COUNCIL & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025**

The Royal Celtic Society

Annual Report of the Council for the year ending 31 December 2025

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The Royal Celtic Society

Report of the Council for the year ending 31 December 2025

The Council has pleasure in submitting their Report for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Rules

The Society is administered under Trust Deed Rules adopted upon foundation in 1820 and amended since. The last amendment was approved on 17 April 2003.

Object

The primary object of the Society is maintaining and promoting interest in the history, traditions, Scottish Gaelic language, arts and music of Scotland.

Donations Made

During the year:

- annual donation of £100.00 was made to the Argyll Gathering
- annual donations of £200.00 each were made to the following bodies: -
 - (a) **Highland Games** - Glenfinnan Games; North Uist Highland Games
 - (b) **Music** - Northern Meeting Piping Committee; Innerleithen Pipes and Drums
 - (c) **Other** - Clan Macpherson Museum Trust; Fas Mor, a Gaelic-medium childcare facility in Sleat, Skye

Additionally, donations were made of:

- £350.00 to the next phase of the Dewar Project (*John Dewar's Perthshire and Loch Lomond*), which transcribes, translates, annotates and publishes the huge collection of Gaelic historical stories made by John Dewar for the Duke of Argyll in the 1860s, and stored mainly in Inveraray Castle. The donation aided the creation of the maps and supported biographical research on Dewar's sixty Perthshire and Loch Lomond informants.
- £300.00 to the children's concert at the Edinburgh International Harp Festival,
- £250.00 to Ailie Robertson to research the repertoire in the Maclean-Clephane sisters of Torloisk manuscripts; arrange and typeset a selection of the repertoire for the clarsach; and to publish them in a book and record them for release as an audio CD.

Niamh Mercer became the Royal Celtic Society's fifth Bursar at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and received a grant of £600.00.

The Society continues to seek causes to support and donation levels are kept under review by the Council in the light of feedback received from recipients.

Accounts

There was a deficit of expenditure over receipts of £3,576 (2024: Surplus £4,479) on the General Fund.

This is mainly due to investment in the website this year.

Investment Policy

The investments are held in accordance with the Council's powers. The investment policy, which is reviewed by the Council from time to time, through professional advice is aimed at maintaining the real value of the general fund over a period of years and thereby providing a reasonable level of income for donation making purposes.

The market value on 31 December 2025 was approximately £156,549 (the corresponding figure for 31 December 2024 was £130,679).

Reserves

In the light of the above, the Society held unrestricted general funds of £202,313 (net) at the 31 December 2025 (2024 - £180,153).

The Council consider the income arising from these funds will permit donations to continue to be made at least at current rates for the foreseeable future.

Subscriptions and Donations

Membership of the Society is confined to those interested in Scottish culture. Admission to the Society is by invitation from the Council or by application to the Secretary. The members' life subscription rate is set by the Council and is presently £100 per individual. Donations continue to be gratefully received.

Tax Reliefs

The Gift Aid Scheme was introduced in 1990 to encourage donations to charities. Certain restrictions were imposed before relief could be obtained but since 5 April 2000, there is no longer a minimum or maximum amount that can qualify under the Scheme. A higher rate taxpayer will be able to claim relief on the donation and the value of the donation received by the Society will effectively be increased by 25%.

HM Revenue & Customs Reference

The Society's Charity Number is CR/35800.

Membership Activities

The Society continued to hold in person meetings with a lunch with Prof Hector MacQueen at the Scottish Arts Club in January. Members of council attended the National Piping Centre for the Degree Recital of our bursary students, and the Edinburgh Harp Festival. Members were emailed from time to time by the secretary with information of Gaelic cultural events.

Membership

The number of members continued to rise standing at 293 at the end of 2025.

Council (Date due for re-election in brackets)

Officers:

PRESIDENT	:	Lucilla, Lady Noble of Eilean Iarmin and Ardkinglas (2028)
VICE PRESIDENTS	:	Robin O Blair, CVO, OstJ, WS (2027)
		Dr Joseph J Morrow, CVO, CBE, KStJ, KC, FRSE (2028)
		The Rt Hon the Earl of Dalhousie GCVO DL (2028)
SECRETARY:		Dr Alastair Gordon (2028)
TREASURER:		Major Angus Macpherson of Biallid (2028)
CONVENER:		Elizabeth Roads, LVO CStJ (2030)

Members (not less than 6 not more than 12) (2025):

Dr Deborah Cameron	J Gordon Cameron
Fiona Duck	Malcolm Duck
Anne, Lady Fraser of Tain	Kevin Greig
Dr Hugh Dan MacLennan	The Hon. Lord Minginish
Shelagh Macpherson Noble	The Very Rev. Dr Emsley Nimmo

Independent Examiner: Mathew Gillies LLB (Hons) ACPA FCIE, Cowan & Partners Ltd, 60 Constitution Street, Edinburgh

The Society's Council is elected by the Members at the Annual General Meeting. The Officers other than the Secretary and Treasurer are appointed for 3 years. The remainder are elected annually.

Statements of Council's Responsibilities

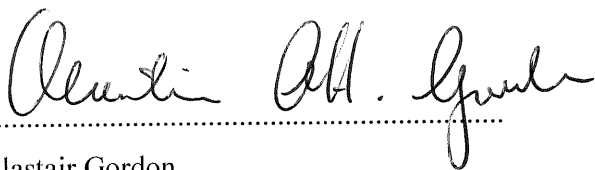
Legislation requires the Council to prepare Accounts for each financial year which give details of Receipts and Payments and a Statement of Balances.

The Council:

- shall meet at least once in each year.
- shall set the members' subscription rate.
- are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and to enable them to ensure that the Accounts comply with appropriate legislation.
- are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.
- shall have full power to expend the whole income of the Society, but no payment out of capital shall be made without the authority of a General Meeting of the Society.

The Council confirm that the Accounts comply with the above requirements.

For the Council

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Alastair A.G. Gordon', written over a dotted line.

Dr Alastair Gordon

Secretary

Independent Examiner's Report to the Council of
Royal Celtic Society Scottish Charity Number SC009877

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 set out on pages five to seven.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Society's Council 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 Society's Council consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) 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 the independent examiner's report

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 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 to 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.



Mathew Gillies LLB (Hons) ACPA FCIE
Full member of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners
Cowan & Partners Limited
60 Constitution Street
Edinburgh
EH6 6RR

Date: 26/08/2026

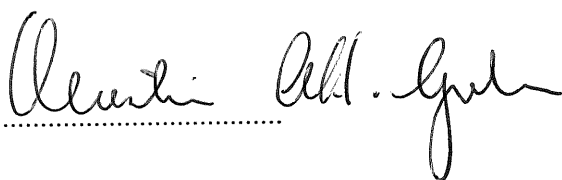
Royal Celtic Society
Scottish Charity Number SC009877
Receipts and Payments Account
Year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Receipts				
Investment Income	4,914	-	4,914	5,322
Gift Aid	90	-	90	171
Membership	300	-	300	550
Donations	295	-	295	1,689
Social Functions	1,760	-	1,760	1,660
Lectures	-	-	-	15
Sales of Letters Patent, Badges and Cufflinks	73	-	73	144
Total Receipts	7,432	-	7,432	9,551
Payments				
Charitable Grants and Donations	2,200	-	2,200	3,350
Website	6,707	-	6,707	255
Administration	106	-	106	438
Independent Examiner	630	-	630	600
Social Functions	1,365	-	1,365	333
Bank Charges	-	-	-	7
Goods for resale	-	-	-	89
Total Payments	11,008	-	11,008	5,072
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	- 3,576	- -	3,576	4,479
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Cash Funds Brought Forward	42,418	-	42,418	37,939
Cash funds carried forward	38,842	-	38,842	42,418

Royal Celtic Society
Scottish Charity Number SC009877
Statement of Balances
As at 31 December 2025

Assets	2025	2024
	£	£
Listed Securities at market value	156,549	130,679
Society Coat of Arms, at cost	1,669	1,669
Stock of Letters Patent, Badges, Books and Cufflinks	5,913	6,017
Bank	38,842	42,418
Total Assets	<u>202,973</u>	<u>180,783</u>
Liabilities		
Independent Examination Fee	660	630
Total Liabilities	<u>660</u>	<u>630</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Committee Members and authorised for issue on
 ..22.12.2026... and were signed on its behalf by:

.....


Royal Celtic Society
Scottish Charity Number SC009877
Notes to the Accounts

1. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

2. Nature and Purpose of Funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day-to day running of the charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes.

3. Stock

Stock is stated at the lower of costs and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost is calculated using the first-in, first-out formula. Provision is made for damaged, obsolete and slow-moving stock where appropriate.

4. Council Members Remuneration

No Council Members have received remuneration in the period to 31 December 2025 nor 31 December 2024.