

Eyemouth Childrens Picnic and Herring Queen Association (SCO43450)

Trustees Annual Report for 2024/25, AGM on 21st Oct 2025

Prepared by Kirsten Melvin, Treasurer

The year to 21st Sept 2025 opened with many new and enthusiastic committee members bringing fresh ideas for both the fundraising efforts and the events held. Despite application submission for SBC funding, no grant was received in the year and it has yet again fallen to the EHQ committee to secure funding from local individuals and businesses to enable the events to go ahead. In general terms costs have increased which has translated into increased spend in the year.

Overall, 2024/5 sees an increase in expenditure of +£888 compared to 2023/4 with £1130 of an increase relating to increased costs of July 2024 Fireworks £460 and banner maintenance/replacement (+£670).

Decisions taken in the year have really focused on both community inclusion and cost with venues and suppliers considered to ensure they are acceptable. For example a change in the coffee morning venue to the Hippodrome which has better disabled access. Changes were also made to printing requirements, with more being carried out by the team in order to keep costs lower and the donation of a van and driver meant no van insurance incurred during EHQ week. Event costs have reduced by £325 in 24/5 compared to 23/4, some of which is also driven by changes in suppliers (eg toilet hire vendor change sees saving of £320). Although many costs are reduced through the actions of the committee, event costs increased by £650 due to boat hire for EHQ crowning day. This has previously been donated free of charge however the committee voted that this is an integral part of the tradition on crowning day and that the cost should be incurred.

A significant drive on fundraising, with formal letters requesting support from local businesses has supported a £3,788 increase in income, mainly due to additional donation income (up £4,060) although events income has reduced by £454. The increase in donations income demonstrates the support the festival has within the local community and has reduced the deficit from £1,379 in 23/4 to a surplus of £1,521 in the current year.

With no funding received from SBC again, support has been offered for 25/6 from Splash in preparing and submitting applications which is to be explored and the requests for funding support from locals is already underway in 25/6 to support the November firework display both financially and with marshalling.

The 2024/5 finances have been reviewed by Ann Sanders who has confirmed via email on the 19th October that she is happy that the records reflect the movements in the year and that the bank balance is reflected as per the statements (balance for year end is £13,974.95). There are 2 cheques which had not been taken from the balance (totalling £886) prior to the year end accounts but these have been reflected within the 2024/5 expenditure. The OSCR return will now be prepared in line with the financial report.

Kirsten Melvin (ACMA,CGMA),

Treasurer, Eyemouth Herring Queen

Date: 21/10/25

Kirsten Melvin

Signed by Trustee: Kirsten Melvin