

OSCr

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date				Period end date			
Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	
From	1	April	2025	To	31	March	2026

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

Reference and administration details

Charity name
Other names charity is known by
Registered charity number
Charity's principal address

Friends of the Music of St Giles' Cathedral

SC038128

69/2 Grange Loan

Edinburgh

Postcode: EH9 2EG

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	David Todd	President		
2	Carole Hope	Honorary Secretary		
3	Margaret Lowe	Membership Secretary		
4	Marjory Lobban	Honorary Treasurer		
5	Jack Oades	Master of the Music		St Giles' Cathedral
6	Janet Arthur	Committee Member		
7	Simon Leach	Committee Member		
8	Reverend Scott Rennie	Minister -- <i>ex officio</i> member		St Giles' Cathedral
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Reference and administration details

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The Friends of the Music of St Giles' is registered as a charity in Scotland. It is governed by its constitution. The membership elects a committee to run the organisation.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Excepting the Minister and the Master of the Music, the members of the Committee are elected by the Society's Members at the Annual General Meeting. Members of the Committee may be co-opted by the Committee.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes

The objects of the Society are the advancements of the arts and of education in and public appreciation of the arts, and in particular the art of music, through the maintenance and promotion of public musical performances in St Giles' Cathedral, High Street, Edinburgh, and elsewhere, as the Society, through its Committee, shall determine, or any other similar purpose in law.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

The Friends of the Music of St Giles' Cathedral supports the musical life of the cathedral in a variety of ways. It helps to fund the annual Celebrity Organ Recital Series in the summer months, the weekly music of St Giles' at Six on a Sunday, and the choral element of the monthly Evening Prayer services. It organises concerts and events for members, funds the recording of CDs by the cathedral choir and organists, and commissions new pieces of music to be performed in the cathedral.

Achievements and performance

The committee met three times during the year ended 31 March 2026. The meetings were held in person. The AGM was held on 17 June 2025

At the end of March 2026, membership stood at 82.

The regular newsletter to Friends has continued, produced by Jack Oades, Master of the Music at St Giles' cathedral.

During the year, the Friends provided funding for several events.

On Palm Sunday, 13 April 2025 at 6pm, our cathedral choir performed Maurice Duruflé's Requiem and Quatre Motets sur des Thèmes Grégoriens. The Friends contributed to the costs of the orchestra.

The Friends also helped to fund the now traditional engagement of a brass quintet on Easter Sunday mornings - something which enhances the hymn singing. The musical arrangements for the brass were written by members of the St Giles' music team.

Following the AGM on 17 June, there was a recital of music for tenor and guitar by the Morris McIntyre Duo, who appeared in collaboration with Live Music Now Scotland.

On Palm Sunday 29 March 2026, the cathedral choir performed the Gabriel Fauré's Requiem for which the Friends provided funding for instrumentalists. The timing of Easter in 2025 and 2026 meant that the expenditure on musicians for the Palm Sunday and Easter in both years fell within the financial period ending on 31 March 2026

During the year, a new publicity leaflet about The Friends has also been created, with the aim of widening the membership.

The series of CD recordings on the Cathedral's own Aegidius label are only possible because of the funding from The Friends; these recordings generate a significant amount of income for The Friends.

The contribution of the Friends continues to enhance the music in worship in St Giles' as well as enriching Scotland's cultural heritage, and this is possible only through the continued support of the membership.

Other optional information

The committee met three times during the year ended 31 March 2020. The meetings were held in person. The AGM was held on 17 June 2020.

At the end of March 2020, membership stood at 82.

The regular newsletter to Friends has continued, produced by Jack Oates, Master of the Music at St Giles Cathedral.

During the year, the Friends provided funding for several events.

On Palm Sunday, 12 April 2020 at 6pm, our cathedral choir performed Maurice Strakosky's Requiem and Gounod's Mass in D minor. The Friends contributed to the costs of the orchestra.

The Friends also helped to fund the new traditional engagement of a brass quintet on Easter Sunday morning, a service which enhances the hymn singing. The musical arrangements for the brass were written by members of the St Giles' music team.

Following the AGM on 17 June, there was a night of music for tenor and guitar by the Morris McIntyre Duo. Who sponsored a collaboration with Live Music Now Scotland.

On Palm Sunday, 26 March 2020, the cathedral choir performed the Gabriel Fauré's Requiem for which the Friends provided funding for instrumentalists. The timing of Easter in 2020 and 2021 meant that the expenditure on musicians for the Palm Sunday and Easter in both years fell within the financial period ending on 31 March 2020.

During the year, a new publicly listed about The Friends has also been created, with the aim of widening the membership.

The series of CD recordings on the Cathedral's own Aegidius label are only possible because of the funding from The Friends. These recordings generate a significant amount of income for The Friends.

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Financial Report

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Friends is building up reserves from donations.

Details of any deficit

There was a deficit of £2,594.28 on 31st March 2026, partly due to a drop in CD sales, and partly to a double incidence of Musicians' expenses around the Easter period which was late in 2025, but earlier in 2026. We have also, sadly lost a couple of our members who died towards the end of the 2024-2025 season

Donated facilities and services (if any)

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature(s)

Marjory A Lobban

Full name(s)

Marjory Lobban

Position (e.g. Chair)

Honorary Treasurer

Date

16/6/26