AYRSHIRE FIDDLE ORCHESTRA

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

AND

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

CHARITY NO: SC 033435

AYRSHIRE FIDDLE ORCHESTRA

CHARITY INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER:	**SC 033435**
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:	**57 Seaforth Road** **Ayr** **KA8 9BX**
HON PRESIDENT:	[redacted]
CHAIRMAN:	
MUSICAL DIRECTOR:	
ASSISTANT MUSICAL DIRECTOR:	
VICE-CHAIRPERSON:	
TREASURER:	
SECRETARY:	
MARKETING :	
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:	[redacted] **Chartered Accountant** **Arran House** **15D Skye Road** **Prestwick** **KA9 2TA**

AYRSHIRE FIDDLE ORCHESTRA

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The trustees submit their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Reference and Administrative Details
These are set out on page 1 forming part of this report.

Structure and governance
The charity is governed by a Constitution and is administered by a Management Committee of Trustees who are appointed in accordance with the Constitution.

Objectives and activities
The orchestra is established for the following charitable purposes, namely:
1. To encourage the study, performance and development of Scottish fiddle and other forms of traditional music by young people of Ayrshire and beyond,
2. To provide the opportunity to young people of Ayrshire to participate in the performing arts,
3. To participate in the social and musical development of all young people irrespective of gender, social, religious or racial background.

Main activities
The orchestra meet twice a month for rehearsals and perform at approximately 20 concerts annually.

Achievements
2024 has been another busy year for AFO!

January & February saw our rehearsals at Kingcase Church continue, with an invite once again to play at the House of Commons, Scotland Office and Number 10 Downing Street in London as well as performances at some local civic events.

Spring saw us taking part in the Ayrshire Music Festival's "Anything Goes" non-competitive class and we enjoyed concerts at Troon and Maybole Town Halls as well as entertaining at the Spirit Aerosystems Charity Ball. April brought a visit from our friends from Catalonia who stayed with AFO players for the duration of their visit and we enjoyed two joint concerts at Dean Castle in Kilmarnock and Castlehill Church in Ayr as well as some great social events with our European friends. We will catch up with them again when we visit Barcelona next July as part of our Tour. We also supported our friends once again at River Garden and Little Acorns Forest School at Auchincruive.

May's events included a return invite to play a concert at the New Laigh Kirk in Kilmarnock as well as our annual Arran weekend which was enjoyed by all. We entertained at the Rotary in Alloway 50th Charter Anniversary Dinner and at County Buildings in Ayr as part of the Ayr / Barga Friendship Agreement celebrations and we also enjoyed some social & fundraising events including a very successful Silent Auction at Kingcase Church.

In June it was great to welcome Mayor Keith Brady, his wife Katie and others from the City of Newnan, Georgia, USA and to reciprocate the wonderful hospitality that we have received during our visits to Newnan over the years. Again our social calendar was busy with a Quiz Night at Kingcase and a Summer Ceilidh at Newton Wallactown Churches.

Our wonderful Summer Concert was held on 22nd June in Ayr Town Hall, featuring the whole Orchestra on stage. The next day saw the first ever AFO 'Dogtastic Concert' – for owners and their dogs at Muirburn Farm near Mossblown. The sun shone and all enjoyed the afternoon of music whilst raising funds for various dog charities and AFO.

During the Summer we supported Prestwick's 'Prestfest' and the Fresh Ayr Folk Festival. Our new session started on 24th August with the new Leader of the AFO announced as Daniel Robinson, with Isla Allison as Leader of 2nd violins. We started the session with a 'taster rehearsal' which saw some new members welcomed into the AFO family. The following day a small group travelled to Kilmacolm where we gave an afternoon concert at a retirement home which we had played at before – back by popular demand! We also held our 24 Hour Playathon at Troon Old Parish Church – always enjoyable as well as a major fundraising event.

Our outreach campaign, this session part sponsored by the National Lottery Community Fund, allowed us to perform at some new venues during the Autumn months, including a Sunday afternoon visit to the Isle of Cumbrae with a concert in the beautiful, but small(!), Cathedral of the Isles, as well as Beith Parish Church and the Clark Memorial Church in Largs. On the social side, great fun was also had with our Beetle Drive and Bingo night at Newton Wallacetown Church.

September saw a small group performing in an unusual setting – a disused railway tunnel – part of the Alloway Railway Tunnel Project – where we will be playing again during 2025.

The end of October saw our usual Two's Company Concert with the Dalmellington Brass Academy, Heathfield and Alloway Primary Choirs at Ayr Town Hall, and then a busy November followed with AFO participating in Troon's Wintertainment, Prestwick's Lighting Up event, our own very successful Christmas Fayre which was again held at St Nicholas Church, and finishing November with events at Trump Turnberry and the village of Craigie!

December saw our rehearsals continue in preparation for our Christmas Concert and again we were pleased to take part in the Ayrshire Hospice "Light Up a Life" Reflection event at the Auld Kirk of Ayr. We held a ceilidh & buffet at Newton Wallacetown Church for all our players, friends and families on the Friday before our wonderful Christmas Concert at Ayr Town Hall which was greatly supported as always and this year joined by special guests 'LUSSA' featuring ex-AFO player Naomi Priestnall We ended the year with our usual fundraising slots at Morrisons and Sainsburys during the festive season and a group performing at the Brig o Doon Hotel in Alloway on Hogmanay.

As I have mentioned in previous years, I am sure I speak for all the directors and trustees in that we have been extremely proud of all the players for their hard work and commitment throughout the year to the Orchestra, at home and abroad, which is shown clearly by their impressive musical skills on stage.

Thank you also to those who have supported us financially this year and for the year ahead as we look forward to our Iberia Tour in July 2025 - specific mentions are due to the National Lottery Community Fund and Destination South Ayrshire.
Finally a big thank you is due to my fellows directors, the trustees, and all the parents and wider family and friends of AFO for all that they do to contribute towards the Orchestra's ongoing success and achievements.

AYRSHIRE FIDDLE ORCHESTRA

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

Financial review and reserves policy
The Orchestra generated a surplus of £7,921 on unrestricted funds during the year leaving unrestricted reserves of £28,180 at the year end. This will be used to provide musical resources for the players and is considered satisfactory to fund ongoing activity.

The Orchestra continues to seek civic, corporate and private sponsorship for its activities.

Trustees

The trustees who served during the year were as follows:

[redacted]

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

[redacted]

AYRSHIRE FIDDLE ORCHESTRA

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

THE AYRSHIRE FIDDLE ORCHESTRA

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 9.

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 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees 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 statement

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 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 audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which give 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 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and

- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 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

[redacted]
Chartered Accountant
Arran House
15D Skye Road
PRESTWICK
KA9 2TA

16 May 2025

AYRSHIRE FIDDLE ORCHESTRA

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Receipts					
Grant & Donations		**28,863**	**-**	**28,863**	54,731
Fundraising activities	4	**10,015**	**16,616**	**26,631**	35,909
Investment income		**-**	**4**	**4**	2
Loan proceeds		**-**	**-**	**-**	10,000
Charitable activities	4	**61,078**	**19,718**	**80,796**	73,739
Total Receipts		**99,956**	**36,338**	**136,294**	174,381
Payments					
Fundraising activities	5	**-**	**7,010**	**7,010**	12,868
Charitable activities	5	**20,115**	**11,407**	**31,522**	245,491
Donations made		**-**	**-**	**-**	575
Loan repaid	6	**-**	**10,000**	**10,000**	-
Governance costs	5	**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Total Payments		**20,115**	**28,417**	**48,532**	258,934
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over Payments for the year before transfers		**79,841**	**7,921**	**87,762**	(84,553)
Transfers to/(from) funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	-
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over Payments for the year		**79,841**	**7,921**	**87,762**	(84,553)

AYRSHIRE FIDDLE ORCHESTRA

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Cash, Bank & Deposit Balances					
Balance brought forward		-	20,259	20,259	104,812
Movement in year:					
Surplus/(Deficit) of receipts over payments for the year		79,841	7,921	87,762	(84,553)
Balances carried forward		79,841	28,180	108,021	20,259
Stock of merchandise		-	2,429	2,429	1,533
Stock is valued at the lower of cost and market value.					
Current liabilities					
Loans		-	-	-	10,000

The accounts were approved by the trustees on 16 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

[redacted]

AYRSHIRE FIDDLE ORCHESTRA

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Basis of Preparation of Accounts

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

2 Nature of Restricted Funds

The purpose of the Restricted Fund is to pay for the bi-annual International Tour, Outreach and Arran Projects.

3 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year one trustee received reimbursement of telephone and internet expenses totalling £553 (2023 - £494).

During the year two trustees received reimbursement of tour travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses totalling £1,678 (2023 - £2,622).

No trustee received a remuneration for services provided during the year.

4 Analysis of Receipts

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Analysis of receipts from fundraising activities				
Fundraising events	10,015	8,205	18,220	27,805
Royalities	-	2,111	2,111	50
Sale of merchandise / clothing	-	6,300	6,300	8,054
	10,015	16,616	26,631	35,909
Analysis of receipts from charitable activities				
Parental contribution to tour costs	61,078	1,250	62,328	57,930
Concert fees and tickets	-	18,468	18,468	15,809
	61,078	19,718	80,796	73,739

5 Analysis of Payments

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Analysis of payments for fundraising activites				
Fundraising events	-	1,461	1,461	1,048
Purchase of merchandise / clothing	-	5,549	5,549	11,820
	-	7,010	7,010	12,868
Analysis of payments for charitable activities				
Tour costs	20,115	970	21,085	223,937
Concert costs	-	8,529	8,529	15,768
Support costs	-	1,908	1,908	5,785
	20,115	11,407	31,522	245,491
Analysis of payments for governance costs				
Independent Examination of Accounts	-	-	-	-

6 Loan proceeds

A loan of £10,000 received from Ayr Arts Guild was repaid during the year.

7 Fundraising Income

	2024 £	2023 £	2022 £	2021 £	2020 £
40/24 Hr Play in & Ceilidh	5,048	2,715	4,363		
Prize Draw		4,929			
Swimathon		917			
Other players fundraising					
Smarties	2,168	1,439	409	143	135
Ceilidh	356	310	400		
Quiz Night	239	929			1,128
Wine Tasting		400	150		
Silent Auction	2,204				
40 Days 40 Tunes			645		
Elvis Night			385		
Beetle Drive			106		
Sponsered Walk		6,002			
American Brunch		513			
HMRC Claim		1,390	101	2,141	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	10,015	19,545	6,559	2,284	1,263
Bagpacking		2,800			
Xmas Fayre	5,072	4,730	4,562	2,807	246
Bucket collections	3,133	730	24	96	
	8,205	8,259	4,586	2,903	246
Sale of merchandise/ clothing:	6,300	8,054	3,100	1,151	596
Royalities	2,111	50			
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	16,616	16,364	7,686	4,054	842
TOTAL FUNDS	26,631	35,909	14,245	6,338	2,105