



The Hellenic Community of Edinburgh Trustees' Annual Report

1st March 2023 to 28th February 2024

Charity contact information



The Hellenic Community of Edinburgh

Scottish Charity Number: SC048115

Address: 10 Carrie Grove, Edinburgh

Postcode: EH30 9AH

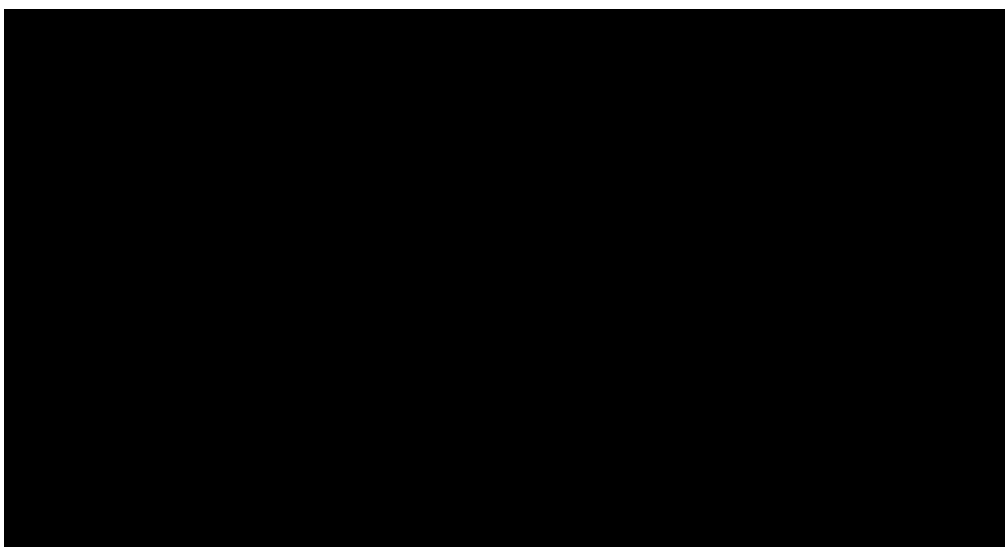
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Website: <https://edinburgh-hellenic.org.uk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/399946286841198/>

Charity Trustees



Objectives and Activities

The Hellenic Community of Edinburgh (HCE) aims:

1. To promote fellowship and strengthen the links among members of the Hellenic community residing in Edinburgh and surrounding area;
2. To foster and promote a better understanding and appreciation of the Hellenic culture by the local community;
3. To represent the Hellenic community of Edinburgh in any matter that the membership feels that is of common interest, also in cases where there is a collective view, which is deemed important to be stated. That includes communicating with the British local and national Authorities, institutions and other organisations worldwide; and
4. To not be involved in party politics i.e. the Community shall not actively participate in a campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office in any country.

In essence, HCE aspires to foster and support a reference point for Greeks, and friends of the Greek culture, within Edinburgh and the surrounding areas.

To that end, HCE plans to carry out as many of, and not exclusively, the activities shown in the table shown overleaf.

Activity Type	Activity	Summary	Frequency	Location
Hellenic Tradition Event	Vasilopita	A customary event that involves the cutting of the Vasilopita Cake (an equivalent to the western 'King Cake') to bring good luck for the new year. It's a gathering of HCE's members, their families and friends.	At the beginning of each calendar year (Jan-Feb)	In a community centre type of venue
Hellenic Tradition Event	Easter BBQ	A customary event that celebrates the resurrection of Christ at the end of Lent, following the Greek Orthodox Christian tradition. It involves a communal dinner with grilled meats, mainly lamb together with the consumption of traditional Greek accompaniments and all the trimmings. It is an open event for HCE members, their families and friends.	Once every year on Easter Sunday.	In a park or an outdoor, yet sheltered, space depending on the weather forecast
Fundraising & Sponsorship for Cultural and/or Educational Events	Variety of activities	Support of worthy causes relating to Hellenic cultural events in Edinburgh. Typical examples could be the sponsorship of the SYN festival which includes performances of Greek artists' in Edinburgh (http://www.synfestivaledinburgh.co.uk/), or the sponsorship of Edinburgh Hellenic School of St. Andrew, which promotes the Greek language and culture.	Ad hoc, depending on the frequency of such events.	Dependent on the involved event. Community members will be approached electronically.
Community Recreational Events	Variety of leisure activities	Gathering of HCE's members, their families and friends to catch up, make new friendships and generally spend quality leisure time together.	2-3 times per year.	Outdoor public places, such as parks, community centres or other suitable indoor venues.
Non-partisan Pressure Group Activities	Variety of activities	Ad hoc activities that help promote the Hellenic community's interests to the Local Authority and other Government agencies.	Ad hoc, depending on needs.	Via post/email or in person via HCE's representatives and any advocates.
Community Support	One-to-one discussion via phone/email	Responding to enquiries on regular basis either from newcomers or from people interested in immigrating in the UK, asking for information and assistance on number of issues, ranging from immigration rules, finding work, finding accommodation, access to banking system, culture and lifestyle, education, access to health care and more.	Ad hoc depending on needs.	Administered mainly by the Secretary and President of the Community.

The activities shown in the previous table satisfy the four afore-mentioned aims of HCE. More in particular:

Aim 1 can be fulfilled by the following afore-mentioned activity types:

- Hellenic tradition events
- Community recreational events
- Community support

Aim 2 will be fulfilled by the following afore-mentioned activity types:

- Hellenic tradition events
- Fundraising and sponsorship for cultural events and/or the Hellenic School of Edinburgh
- Cultural events

Aim 3 will be tackled by the following afore-mentioned activity types:

- Non-partisan pressure group activities

Aim 4 is tackled by explicitly avoiding carrying out activities that fall within the area of party politics.

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document

HCE's governing document is its constitution. The constitution is public available at:

https://edinburgh-hellenic.org.uk/files/HCE_CONSTITUTION_20232711.pdf

Achievements and Performance

The following summary presents HCE's key achievements during the reported financial period.

1. Community Meetups at McDonald Library:

HCE organized a recurring event at the Greek section of McDonald Library, providing a space for Greeks of all ages to connect, exchange news, and share book reviews. This initiative was run by a community member and fostered cultural engagement and strengthened community bonds.

2. Support for Greek National Elections:

HCE assisted the Greek Consulate in London, by disseminating information about the Greek national elections and advice on the newly established postal vote system, ensuring wider access and awareness for eligible voters.

3. Collaboration with a Greek Artist:

A Greek artist residing in Edinburgh approached HCE with a proposal for an art exhibition. HCE agreed to support the event by promoting and distributing information about it. In return, the artist generously offered to donate 50% of the ticket sales to HCE.

4. Website Domain Migration:

The HCE Council successfully migrated its website from its older domain <https://edinburgh-hellenic.org.uk> which belongs to a former council member to a new Community owned one: <https://hce.scot>. Currently, both domains are valid but all web traffic is directed to the new domain.

5. Engagement with Key Organisations and Influential people:

HCE held discussions with prominent organizations and influential figures to explore potential collaborations, including:

- The National Olympic Committee
- The "Smile of the Child" Association

6. Fundraising through the Kiltwalk:

HCE actively participated in the Kiltwalk, a charity fundraising event, further demonstrating our commitment to supporting community initiatives.

7. Support for Greek Artists at the Edinburgh Fringe

HCE offered its support to Greek artists participating in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, helping them gain visibility and recognition for their work within and beyond the Greek community.

8. Our Stegi' and establishment of weekly community meetings:

HCE sublets premises in the city centre in a weekly basis and thus created a 'Stegi'. HCE hosts weekly gatherings at Stegi and the following have been achieved:

- **Community Support:** Providing companionship and, within our capacity, addressing challenges faced by Greeks living in Edinburgh.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Facilitating connections that have already helped some individuals secure employment.
- **Seminars and Talks:** Organizing informative sessions and discussions on topics of interest to our members.
- **Cultural Events:** Hosting a successful poetry night that was well attended and celebrated Greek literary heritage.
- **Live music gatherings:** The live music gatherings were well-attended and praised for their vibrant atmosphere, with attendees dancing, singing, and celebrating Greek culture.

Financial Review

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

HCE's Council has not yet made any decision regarding a policy on holding reserves. This may be reviewed in the next accounting year.

Details of surplus funds during this period

The available funds (cash, Paypal and bank balances) by the end (28/02/2024) of this financial period is £1005.

Details of any deficit

There is no deficit for the accounting period presented in this report.

Donated facilities and services

HCE does not have any donated facilities and services. The Council is keen to explore opportunities to that end.

Future plans

HCE's plans for the next year revolve around the activities shown within Table 1, as previously presented. Aside from that and more in particular, effort towards the following activities will be particularly amplified.

- Ensure the Greek library running effectively and organise a renewal of its collection;
- Cultivate and deepen relationships with other Greek communities in Scotland and beyond;
- Increase membership and engagement of our members with the Community.
- Further forge HCE's working relationship with the Greek Authorities and push for more efficient consulate services in Edinburgh. Arrange meetings and discussions with the Consulate and Embassy representatives and organise a meeting with the Greek Ambassador of the UK in order to:
 - Strengthen Relationships
 - Advocate for Community Needs
 - Enhance Community Events
 - Advance Strategic Goals

- **Additional information**

HCE is keen to hear from organisations or persons interested to support, in kind or through financial support.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Print name

[Redacted]

Designation

Council Secretary

Date

06.11.2024

The Hellenic Community of Edinburgh

SC048115



Receipts and payments accounts													
For the period from	Period start date						to	Period end date					
	Day		Month		Year			Day		Month		Year	
	01		03		2023			28		02		2024	

Section A Statement of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds current period to nearest £	Total funds last period to nearest £
A1 Receipts						
Donations	535				535	25
Legacies						
Grants						
Receipts from fundraising activities	1.248				1.248	655
Gross trading receipts						
Income from investments other than land and buildings						
Rents from land & buildings						
Gross receipts from other charitable activities						
Membership Fees	340				340	305
A1 Sub total	2.123				2.123	985
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets						
Proceeds from sale of investments						
A2 Sub total						-
Total receipts	2.123				2.123	985
A3 Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities	1.083				1.083	410
Gross trading payments						
Investment management costs						
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	26				26	11
Grants and donations	886				886	92
Governance costs:						
Audit / independent examination						
Preparation of annual accounts						
Legal costs						
Other	53				53	110
A3 Sub total	2.048				2.048	623
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets						
Purchase of investments						
A4 Sub total						-
Total payments	2.048				2.048	623
Net receipts / (payments)					75	362
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds						
Surplus / (deficit) for year	75				75	362

Section B Statement of balances

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total current period	Total last period
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash and bank balances at start of year	930				930	568
	Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	75				75	362
						-	
						-	
	Cash and bank balances at end of year	1.005	-	-	-	1.005	930
	(Agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	-	-	-	-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Market valuation	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £
B2 Investments				
		Total	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (if available)	Current value (if available)	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B3 Other assets					
		Total	-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £
B4 Liabilities				
		Total	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (estimate)	Last year
			to nearest £	to nearest £
B5 Contingent liabilities				
		Total	-	-

Signed by one or two trustees
on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

	05 November 2024
	05 November 2024

Section C Notes to the Accounts

C1 Nature and purpose of funds (may be stated on analysis of funds worksheets)

The funds of the Hellenic Community of Edinburgh are all unrestricted, to be used in furtherance of its charitable purposes.

C2 Grants

Type of activity or project supported	Individual / institution	Number of grants made	£
Total			-

C3a Trustee remuneration

If no remuneration was paid during the period to any charity trustee or person connected to a trustee cross this box (otherwise complete section 3b)	X
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Authority under which paid £

C3b Trustee remuneration - details

C4a Trustee expenses

If no expenses were paid to any charity trustee during the period then cross this box (otherwise complete section 4b)	X
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C4b Trustee expenses - details

	Number of trustees	£

C5 Transactions with trustees and connected persons

Nature of relationship	Nature of transaction	Transaction amount (£)	Balance outstanding at period end (£)

C6 Other information

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APPENDIX 3



		Independent examiner's report on the accounts						v2	
Report to the trustees/members of		The Hellenic Community Edinburgh							
Registered charity number		SC048115							
On the accounts of the charity for the period		Period start date				Period end date			
		Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	
		01	03	2023	to	28	02	2024	
Set out on pages								(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)	
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) 2005 Act 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 accounts.							
Independent examiner's statement		In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than that disclosed on the attached page*] 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 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.							
Signed:								Date:	10/11/2024
Name:									
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):									
Address:									

*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

APPENDIX 3

Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

**Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose**

The accounts were received by me on the 10 November. I do not have the expertise or knowledge to undertake an audit of the accounts, but I did not find any item that would concern me, given the circumstances in which I have had the opportunity to read them. This does not mean that the accounts comply with the 2006 Accounts Regulations.