

Clan Donnachaidh Society

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report) (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2019 Achievements and performance

The Society's principal new achievement in 2019 was its active participation and highly visible presence, in the form of loans of historical Clan Donnachaidh artefacts from our own Clan museum, to the extremely impressive Jacobite exhibition held over the summer months in Perth Museum. Our Clan's role in one of the best-known eras of Scottish history was written up and illustrated in considerable detail, in what was the first of the exhibits on the leading individual Clans supporting the continuation of the Stuart monarchy which greeted visitors from all over the world at the entrance to the Exhibition.

During the year the Charity continued its overall and especially financial support of Struan Kirk, making further substantial donations to the Struan Kirk Trust towards the cost of putting the building, the Clan's spiritual home over many centuries, into sound structural condition for the longer term. Repair and remediation work was close to completion by year end. Members and other visitors to the Clan Centre and Museum at Bruar from both the United Kingdom and overseas were encouraged to visit the site.

We also continued our close cooperation with our tenants and neighbours House of Bruar.

The Clan Donnachaidh Youth Award, launched a year earlier to mark Scotland's Year of Young People, again this year found a worthy local recipient nominated by his peers for exceptional courage and determination in overcoming adversity. The award and the Charity itself were featured in an interview on the leading local radio station. The winner of the award again attended our annual Clan Gathering and Chief's dinner, at which the award was presented to great acclamation. The Charity continued its support of local schools, from whose pupil ranks both award winners so far have come.

The Clan Gathering was once again well attended by members from a number of countries whose enthusiasm for visiting the Highlands and resulting contribution to the regional economy was as strong as ever. The Charity's 2019 Clan Annual was well received by members and included an increased number of advertisements by businesses.

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Financial review

The year saw a renewed outflow of cash from the Charity's unrestricted funds, balanced however by the strong inflow of donations from members into our restricted funds for the support of Struan Kirk. The Trustees face a continuing challenge both to continue to increase membership and related subscriptions and to minimise administrative expenditure.

Stock market investments showed a significant increase in book value to £160,490 compared with £136,972 at the prior year end.

Membership subscriptions attributable to the year, along with contributions received from branches towards the cost of the Clan Annual, amounted to £15,792 (2018: £11,601.) These continue to be the main source of regular income in addition to that received from renting out part of the Charity's property which amounted to £18,976 (2018: £17,496.)

Donations at £51,218 (2018: £64,824) included £47,804 for the restricted Struan Kirk fund. Certain donors to the restricted fund authorised the transfer of £11,250 of their donations to be used for the general support of the Clan's general activities. The main expense continued to be staff costs at £23,696 (2018: £22,392.)

The Charity's assets at year end totalled £658,729 (2018: £635,025). Of these funds, £74,188 remains ring-fenced for defined purposes including both Struan Kirk Trust support and long-established educational purposes.

Plans for future periods

The Charity is in early but active discussions with a considerable number of public and private bodies in an attempt to create a long-term "Jacobite Trail" for visitors to Scotland, following the success of the Perth Museum's 2019 Jacobite exhibition and other elements of growing international interest in Scottish history. It is hoped that this may in due course incorporate, among many other elements contributing to the number, the interest level and the historical and cultural education of overseas and domestic visitors to Scotland, our own museum at Bruar.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report (incorporating the directors' report) was approved on 21 August 2020 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Mr G P A G Robertson (Chairman) Trustee