

## Friends of Geilston Treasurer's Report

The 1 February 2022 – 31 January 2023 accounts were drawn up on a receipts and payments basis under OSCR guidelines, meaning that they are a record of bank account transactions during the period, and, therefore, do not necessarily show revenue and expenditure exactly attributable to the period. 2022-23 is also not a good comparison with the prior year, which has only three months of transactions for the new SCIO bank account, with most of the income being a transfer of the balance from the 2017 Friends of Geilston bank account.

Under income, subscriptions are around average for the last few years, and donations are much higher, with one single donation of more than £900. Events income is a sum of all events with the exception of 'cake and teas'. Grant income represents two awards from the MEB Trust received during the period.

Looking at expenditure, it's fair to say that, taken together, and except for 'cake and teas', events did not make a huge profit. But we've always said that making money is not the main point of holding these events – more important is encouraging use of the garden in as many ways as possible. This year we also made a deliberate decision not to charge for activities at our events to keep costs down for people attending. Miscellaneous expenses comprise mostly the £1,340 cost of the gazebos.

OSCR rules require that reserved or restricted funds in the balance sheet are highlighted. In our case these are funds from MEB Trust grants, and the situation here is shown in notes 1, 2, and 3. They also require that the situation with any remuneration or expenses paid to trustees is shown in the accounts. This is shown in notes 4 and 5.

There is about £1,500 remaining of the grant funding for community visits to the garden, and we are planning to continue with this very successful activity while funds last.

The other restricted and non-restricted funds held on the balance sheet are available for projects to support the garden, and in the longer term, to fund adaptation or fitting out of any areas of the house that are made available for community use. There are a number of improvement projects planned or underway for the garden, either initiated by the NTS, or by us in collaboration with the head gardener, where FoG funding might be welcomed.